

Letter from the Editor-In-Chief:

As-salamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuh (May Peace and Mercy and Blessings of Allah be Upon You),

Smile! Not only is it good for your spiritual and physical wellbeing but it is also sunnah (something that the Prophet Muhammad pbuh used to do). My name is Nadiyah, and I want to start off your journey with Al-Talib Newsmagazine with that reminder. There are different kinds of power in the world, and today I want to share with you the power of positivity. My journey with positivity started with trying to make sense of all the trials and hardships that I've been through. It started with challenging things that at first I thought were negative whether they be actions, thoughts, or circumstances, and trying to make sense of them in terms of where I currently am in life and where I want to be in the future. Anas ibn Maalik (may Allah be pleased with him) narrated that the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessing be upon him) said: "There will come upon the people a time when holding onto the religion will be like holding onto hot coal" (Tirmidhi), and in similar regards there will be times when we are engulfed with burdens and negativity, but we must not let them feed the fires of despair. For this reason, we chose positivity to be the theme of this year's print issue: Sunny Side Up.

Throughout this print issue you will find content that is meant to inspire self-reflection. As you flip through these pages, I hope that you feel and appreciate the dedication, hard work, and love that are poured into these words and graphics. After each article, try to make an effort to stop and reflect, because these words are meant not only to be read, but to inspire, uplift, and remind. Take the time to not only read this issue cover to cover, but make the intention to learn and gain from it. I hope whatever you read from these pages can be translated and applied to your everyday life. Everyone can improve no matter what spiritual, mental, social, or academic level they are in, so we should always strive to do better and be better. I wish you the best on what is hopefully an uplifting journey. In the end, I hope that this print issue makes you smile.

Jazaks,
Nadiyah Priasti
Editor-in-Chief
Al-Talib Newsmagazine

