

Yawm-ul-Akhirah, Yawm-ul-Qiyamah, and The River **Al-Kawthar**

By Amaan Bapoo (Grade 3)

Imagine a day where the big, vast universe will come to an end. Well, you may think that this is impossible but, believe it or not, it is going to happen someday. We call this the Last Day, or Yawm-ul-Akhirah. On this day, Angel Israfil will blow a huge trumpet, and the whole entire universe will shatter. Then Allah (Subhanahu Wata'ala) will recreate the whole universe again. After that we will be raised from our graves.

We call the day we are going to be raised back to life Yawm-ul-Qiyamah, or The Day of Judgment. On that day, everyone will be judged based on their deeds in the Dunya. Rasulallah (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) will ask Allah (Subhanahu Wata'ala) for Shafa'ah, or forgiveness, for his Ummah. We will then have to cross the bridge As-Sirat. It is as thin as a strand of hair, as sharp as a knife, and built over Jahannam. The believers will cross the bridge easily but the disbelievers will fall into Jahannam.

After that we, the believers, will meet Rasulallah (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) at the River Al-Kawthar. The water from River Al-Kawthar is sweeter than honey, whiter than milk, and its scent is better than perfume. Allah (SWT) gave the river of Al-Kawthar to Muhammad (SAW) as a gift. It is mentioned in Al-Bukhari that when the Prophet (SAW) was walking in Paradise, he (SAW) saw a river whose banks were domes of beautiful pearls. He (SAW) asked, "What is this, Jibreel?" Jibreel said: "This is al-Kawthar, a river which your Lord, Allah (SWT) has given to you." The Prophet (SAW) promised us that he (SAW) will meet his followers at the river of Al-Kawthar on the day of resurrection. Once the believers drink from it, they will never ever be thirsty again. Rasulallah (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) will give the believers some of the water from his own hands! Then the believers will go to Jannah. But some of the people from his Ummah will get to the river but will be pushed away from it by angels due to their certain wrongdoings. So we pray to be one of the blessed ones to drink Al-Kawthar's water from Rasulallah's (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam) hands, Insha'Allah!

Source: We Are Muslim, 3rd Grade, Iqra International Education Foundation