

Islamia

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A Letter to You

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How you long for him, the person that you saw off at the airport years ago for his flight to a far-off land. There's never any opportunity or means for you to go and visit him where he now lives.

The only means for you to keep the line of affection open is through the occasional letters, emails whenever he can access a cyber-net café and some short text messages that you know are costing him dearly.

So your heart skips a beat whenever you glimpse the postman at the gate, ready to drop into the post box one thick envelope bulging with what you believe can only be the latest pictures of your beloved.

So your blood rushes whenever you hear the sound of *ding* that accompanies the arrival of a new email. You impatiently press the *Inbox* open, see his name in the list of senders and you click it open.

With all your heart, all your longing, and sometimes with warm tears pouring down your face, you pore over every word written.

You read his message over and over, and you commit it into your memory. And you lie there in your bed in the evening, pondering each word, and how much you love the person who sent it.

Best

The e-mails, snail-mails and SMS are the media of messages from your beloved. You embrace them because you are certain of the affection contained in the messages.

But to you, there has arrived the most beautiful mail sent

by Somebody who loves you best; Somebody who will be with you when you remember Him.

Whoever you are, there has arrived for you a *risalah* (message) from the One who is the most eager to be with you.

He is the One who, when you approach Him by one span, approaches you one cubit; One who, when you go closer to Him one cubit, will go to you a distance of two outstretched arms, and One who will come running to you when you try and go to Him walking.

The sender of the message is Allah the Exalted, Who Created you and the rest of the world. His message is the Noble Quran.

When you pick up that *risalah* and start reading, the angels gather around you and listen. Peace and tranquillity will descend upon you.

For every word that you read from that message, a good deed is recorded in your credit and a good deed gets a tenfold divine reward (narrated by At-Tirmizi).

How could you not be enthusiastic about reading something that brings you a clear guidance about your life and your death, even if you have to falter and stumble over words because it is written in the language that you were not born into?

The Messenger who brought you the mail, may the blessing of Allah be upon him, said, "On the Day of Judgment, it will be said to those who recite the Quran, 'Go on reciting and continue ascending the storey of *Jannah* and in measure you had been reading in worldly life. Your final abode will be the place that you reach at the time of the last *ayat* (verse) of your recitation.'" (narrated by Ahmad and At-Tirmizi)

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