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Baltimore, Maryland, USA

www.ad-duha.org

support@ad-duha.org

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Ad-Duha Institute

Storytime Series | Book 4

Maha Makes

Du'aa

Dear little reader,

In this book, you will meet Maha, a young girl who learns about the importance of having patience when making du'aa to Allah. As Rasulullah ﷺ taught us in this hadith*...

“The du'aa of anyone of you is granted (by Allah) if he does not show impatience.”

(Sahih Al-Bukhari)**

**Du'aa: A spoken prayer to Allah (God).
Rasulullah ﷺ: A respectful title meaning 'The Messenger of Allah, may peace be upon him' that is used to refer to Muhammed, the last prophet of Islaam. Hadith: A saying or story from Rasulullah ﷺ that teaches an important lesson.
** Sahih Al-Bukhari is one of the most authentic and widely accepted written collections of hadith in Islaam.*



One day, Maha and her parents were driving through town to go visit her grandparents. Little Maha watched excitedly as all the stores and people passed by.

Suddenly, she saw the most amazing doll set displayed in one of the shop windows. It had a glittery pink stroller and matching bag, clothes, bottles, and diapers, too!

“Ummi¹, Ummi!” Maha squealed with delight, “Look at that set! Can we get it, please?”

Ummi smiled kindly and said, “We don’t have money to buy new toys right now, but if you make du’aa to Allah² and are patient, maybe He will give it to you someday.”

“What is du’aa?” asked Maha.

Ummi replied, “Du’aa is when you praise Allah, thank Him for what you have, and ask Him for what you need.”

¹ Arabic name for “Mother.”

² Allah is the name of the one unique God in Islaam without any partners, spouse, or children.



When they got to her grandparents' house, Maha climbed onto Grandpa Mahmoud's lap and said, "Grandpa, I saw the prettiest baby doll set in the world, and I would love to have it. If I got it, I would never want anything else."

Grandpa Mahmoud smiled, "Then perhaps you should make du'aa to Allah. He can give you what you want, if it is best. But remember, there are parts to making du'aa that you need to know. I will teach you a poem to help you remember,

*"First, make du'aa regularly throughout the day,
To thank Allah for every blessing in the very best way.*

*"Second, ask Allah for what you want or need,
And wait to get it, don't show impatience or greed..."*

Maha didn't even let him finish. She hopped off his lap and ran off to play, waving and saying as she went, "Thank you Grandpa! I will do just that!"

So, when she returned home in the evening, Maha sat on her rug after prayer and made a quick du'aa. She was sure Allah would answer her du'aa right away.



When Maha woke up the next morning, her aunt and uncle had arrived for a visit. She ran to meet them.

“We have missed you so much!” said Auntie Jameelah, as she hugged Maha tight and handed her a large gift box with a shiny ribbon on top.

Maha lifted the lid of the box and squealed, “It’s the doll set I made du’aa for last night! Allah gave me what I wanted right away!”

Ummi said, “Allah did answer your du’aa right away this time, but remember patience is part of du’aa like Grandpa taught you,

*“First, make du’aa regularly throughout the day,
To thank Allah for every blessing in the very best way.*

*“Second, ask Allah for what you want or need,
And wait to get it, don’t show impatience or greed...”*

Maha smiled and nodded, but she didn’t really hear what her mother said. She was too busy unpacking her new toy.



The very next morning Maha was sitting on her bed playing with her tea set thinking about more things she wanted Allah to give her right away without even thanking Allah for what she had already gotten.

“Hmm,” Maha thought, “This is so easy! I can ask for anything I want, and this time I want cake!”

So, she made a quick du’aa again, “Hello Allah, it’s me, Maha. I need something else today. I want a chocolate cake, Ameen³.”

No sooner had she finished, then Ummi called her to come downstairs. Maha ran to the kitchen and saw a delicious chocolate cake sitting on the counter.

Ummi said, “Doesn’t it look yummy, Masha-Allah⁴! Our neighbor just brought it over to thank us for helping her with her garden last week. Wasn’t that nice of her, Maha?”

³ Arabic word often said at the end of making du’aa that indicates the hope that Allah will accept the du’aa.

⁴ Arabic phrase meaning, “*It is as Allah (God) wills,*” said to express thanks for a blessing.



“Ummi, Ummi!” Maha said excitedly, “Allah answered my du’aa right away again! Yippee!”

Ummi frowned and said, “Yippee? Maha, now is a good time for you to learn the next part of the poem that Grandpa and I were teaching you about making du’aa,

*“Third, do a little work to make your du’aa come true,
And thank Allah right away when He gives it to you...”*

Maha realized saying ‘Yippee’ was not really thanking Allah. But then she thought for a moment and said, “Ummi, thanking Allah is easy, but I did not have to do any work for the cake. I just asked for it and got it right away.”

Ummi replied, “You did do work. You helped the neighbor with her garden. So, when you asked Allah for cake, He brought it to you through her.”

“Oh!” said Maha, “I get it!” But after dinner, as Maha enjoyed her cake for dessert, she continued to think of things she wanted Allah to give her right away without even thanking Allah for what she had already gotten.

