

The gift of giving

By Yusairah Mahomed

Liyana put on her hijab. Her mouth was dry and her tummy was growling with hunger. It seemed like the longest day of the month of Ramadhan, but the end was near and the sun would soon set.

Suddenly the doorbell rang ...

When Liyana opened the door, she saw an old man in a wheelchair. He said he was very hungry and asked Liyana for any extra food she might have. Liyana remembered that her teacher at madressa had said that those who share their food with others will receive a very special reward. So, Liyana happily gave the old man a loaf of bread and a plate of samosas that she had been frying.

Liyana walked into the kitchen and opened the refrigerator. There were no more samosas to fry – she had given all her samosas away. Now Liyana felt very worried. What would she serve her family when they came home from work?

The time of breaking fast was close. The entire family had been fasting since sunrise and it was almost sunset. “Allah will provide for my family. I just know it,” Liyana thought.

A few minutes before sunset, the doorbell rang again. This time it was Liyana’s neighbour, Faheema. In her hands she held two plates set out beautifully with delicious food.

Liyana was overwhelmed. She had given her food to a homeless man, but now she had twice as much to put on her table. Her mum had always taught her to share because Allah rewards tenfold, but that day, Liyana experienced it first-hand.