



الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ  
**CONGRATS!**



## 1st Place - Grades 6-8

### Student Name

Hibah Khan

### School

Islamic Sunday School (ICGM)

### School City & State

Miami Gardens, FL

### Grade

7th

About a third of the global population suffers without access to basic hygiene and unsoiled water. Their reality consists of water that is polluted with chemicals and filtered through waste and mud. Humans are perishing from thirst daily, and there is a significant portion of society that remains unaware of and unbothered by these immense difficulties. The essential tenants of Islam command us to participate in sadaqah (charity), which even includes the simple undertaking of conserving water. As Muslims, we need to urgently address the lack of clean water millions of people are facing due to our responsibilities as humans and as our duty to Allah.

Three-quarters of the Earth is composed of water, which lulls many people into the assumption that we have excessive stores of water in reserve. However, only 1% of that water is clean and available to humans. At our current rate, clean water is a non-renewable resource and it is of utmost importance that we take the steps to guarantee fresh water for upcoming generations. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) commanded us not to waste water, "even if you are at a flowing river."

As young members of the community, one can often be overwhelmed on how to help with water shortage. Nonetheless, even mundane steps can add to great effects. Conserving water is as convenient as taking shorter showers and closing the faucet in between tasks. You could also ensure that only full loads of either clothes or dishes are being washed so less washes will be done. Most importantly, we can also take the initiative to involve others and contact local political leaders to change policy that will solve the root of the problem. Every drop of water is a blessing from Allah and should not be taken for granted.