

**A**L Waf'a Social Voluntary Centre is an establishment that offers social services to a certain group of people with impairments. It is situated in Al Batina south region, particularly in the centre of Al Rustaq. It was opened in April, 1992. There are 24 female volunteers who are devoting themselves to provide support for 114 children with impairments. The main purpose of the centre is to provide intensive care and support for those children.

The centre has rehabilitated and qualified some children. They have been successfully encouraged to cope with other people in the society.

They have already enrolled in government schools; while, others have been registered at Omar bin Al Khatab Centre for visually challenged children.

To create a link between schools and communities, a group of student from Azza Bint Qays School organised a visit to Al Waf'a centre in order to have a general idea about provided service there. Two students interviewed the head of the centre.

At the beginning, she gave a general idea about the centre and various sections which are

# A visit to Al Wafa'a Social Voluntary Centre Rustaq



responsible for providing different services to every child such as mental hindrance section, audio hindrance section, learning centre section, handicrafts section and learning resource centre section.



and its efficiencies for communities. She welcomed all communities' members to contribute and offer as much support as they could for those children. As she said: "fortunately, there are

many schools in regions that have a good link with the centre through organising some visits and activities. These continuous visits eventually will convey for the well of special needs people".

Moreover, she added: "one of the purposes of the centre is to train and qualify disabled children in order to gain different life skills and try to make them independent and self confident people. Raising social awareness among Omani local communities on the situation of special needs children and their rights is another essential target of the centre."

About activities conducted in the centre, she said: "there are various activities organised by the centre such as drawing, competition, handicraft, sport, cooking and music."

"Children in the centre can participate in some local and international exhibitions" she continued. She wished to raise wider awareness among Omani society regarding the special

need children. She said "it is your roles now dear teachers and students to encourage more participation and cooperation involved in such social services".

At the end of the interview, she thanked us warmly and hoped to see more schools visiting the centre.

— **By Jamila Al Rujibi**  
Azza bint Qays school  
Batina South



## Sign Language



### S



### T



### U



## A letter for my mother

Dear mother,

I cannot express my grate gratitude to you because you are the one who draws the smile on my face. You are the person who gives me a treasure of information.

Mummy,

When the sun goes, you are my sun, my moon and my star. You are my life's pulse.

I know that these words are few but your place is in my hearts very big.

Finally, I love you my great mum.

Your daughter, Rehab

— By **Rehab Suliem Al-Maamari**

Grade 8/2

Al-Hajar Basic Education Girls School

Al-Dhahira Region

Dear mother,

For you I write...for you I draw...for you I do every beautiful thing. You are a big school that always teaches valuable things.

21st March is an opportunity to respect all the memories and go back to the great role that you play in our lives. It is a chance to come to you with love and respect and then to kiss your beautiful hands that had carried us years and years.

Your continuous prayers open closed doors and offers me chances of success.

May almighty Allah bless you my dear mum.

Your love, Abeer

— By **Abeer Khalifa Al-Hatmi**

Grade 12/2

Al-Hajar Basic Education Girls School



**P**ROPHET Mohammed (peace be upon him) said "Heaven is under mothers' feet" to emphasise the importance of obeying and caring for mothers. Mothers are the most wonderful and loving person in this life. She treats us with patience and tries her very best to absorb our anger and childish behaviours. Her kind heart loves without waiting for rewards or even a "thank you". She feels happy when her family is happy and sad when any one of her family is sad. She is such a marvellous person who deserves all love and respect. "Happy mother's day" to my mother and all mothers around the world.

— By **Azza Salim Al Hanai**

Grade 12-laila Bint Hakeem Al Ansaria/Ibri

Edited by/Miss Sharifa Al Hanai

## She is our MOTHER

When the sun disappears....  
And the night appears...

When the stars begin to shine  
And the world is about to hide

There is one still awake  
Her eyes are open with head

All the night she feels worried  
Sheltering you from unseen seen

Her tear drops on her cheeks  
Her eyes are like two shining pearls

As she will smile with teethes  
Her face lantern as sun beams

Her heart is nervous  
Praying with words... religious

Her sympathy is another unique  
It is escalating heap by heap

As she is holding her hand on you  
You tranquilly feel much safe sure

She is taking care of you and all of you  
And never let any disease touching you  
She is so careful and attentive for you  
She is the best human-being for you

She is our caregiver  
She is our **MOTHER**

— By **Fatma Al-Oraymi**

Maabela South School, Class 11

(Edited & proof-read by: Khalil Al-Balushi, MOE)

## To my mum

I was sinking in a sea  
I look and all what I see  
Another world as in my dream  
I hear the wind calls her name  
Writes a poem to be song for her  
Throws roses in her way  
To make her a queen in her day  
I wonder for whom all these have been prepared  
Nature refuses to give me clues  
I make her nervous by my words  
With a gloomy voice it said....  
For the one who teaches you the life values  
Your teacher.....  
Who you refer to in your neediness  
Your friends....  
Who keeps your secrets  
Then I smell her perfume  
I hear her soft voice  
I feel her cool finger on my forehead  
Then I recognise her...  
She is as the moon in her beauty  
She is as the palm in her giving  
She is incomparable in her patient  
She is my candle who lightens my way  
She is my sweet heart ....  
She is my mum  
Then I wake up and all what I find  
That I am sleeping at my mum's chest  
....

— By **Asia Rashid Amir Al-Hatmi**

Class: 12/2

Al-Hajar Basic Education Girls School

(5-12)

# A brave, strong mother

**O**UR great mothers and grandmothers used to have simple life and used to struggle in order to avail needs for the family beside men. However, they love such days and they wish to come again.

When they get old, nothing will be joyful to them than remembering those simple moments when they were sharing life together in the neighbourhood as one family.

I did this interview with one of those struggling mothers and grandmothers whose age is around 130 years, (may Allah bless her with good health) to know more about her perspectives towards life.

**Assalamu Alaikum, grandmother, how are you?**

Wa Alaikum Assalam my little girl, I am fine, thanks God.

**Excuse me, grandmother, could you tell me about yourself?**

Yes, definitely dear. My name is Saleema Bint Issa. I am about 130 years old I am a mother of three sons and a daughter. I was born in Zanzibar. I live in Dham, a small village in Wadi Al Ain. My husband died long time ago.

**How was life when you were in our age? I mean how did you spend your time at that age?**

Life was so simple, but it needed hard work to survive. We used to get up in the early morning and do work. For example, we went to collect wood, worked in the farms and herded the goats. At home, we did all work ourselves such as cleaning, cooking, washing and stitching our own clothes.

Though, there were no entertaining places such as schools, clubs, parks,

but we were really enjoying life with its all simplicity.

**And how about when you got married and became a mother? Did you have the same routine?**

Nothing changed but I had more responsibilities. I had to take care of my children and educated them especially that their father was always outside home busy with his own work as a trader. Beside that, I had to work at home and took care of our farms. Despite such hard times, but I was feeling satisfied once I saw my four children comfortable and happy.

**So, you wish that time to come again?**

Honestly yes. I miss that life; I miss my friends who all passed away. Remembering those days makes me feel happy and proud of my strong determi-

nation in doing my responsibilities as a mother and as a wife as well.

**People in the village show you great respect and they can still remember the days when you were very strong to overcome all difficulties you faced. What do you think?**

I will never forget people who were very helpful and co-operative. I still remember them by names and remember their stories in details. Praise be to Allah for having such good people.

**At the end of this interview, I would like to thank you grandma and I really wish you happy and healthy life.**

Thank you my dear daughter. God bless you and your family.

— By Huda Zaid Al Hanai  
Grade 12, Laila Bint Hakeem Al Ansaria/Ibri  
Edited by Miss Sharifa Al Hanai

## Eternal love

Despite all the passing years  
Despite my sadness,  
my tears  
Despite my loneliness,  
my weakness  
I never forget your humble face,  
Your quite sound,  
Your kind heart,  
Your shinny eyes,  
Your soft hands  
When touch my forehead

You are the moon  
Which erases the darkness  
Of my days  
And the sun  
Which lights my ways  
Only you mum, and no one else  
Who deserves my love  
My eternal love

— By Hanan Mohammed Al Hanai  
Grade/12-Laila Bint Hakeem Al Ansaria/Ibri  
Edited by Miss Sharifa Al Hanai



## My mum... I can't return your favour!

M: Hi Fatma, In your opinion what is the perfect gift for the greatest person in your life ?

F: Who is the greatest person in your life ? Is she your friend?

M: Who?! My friend?! Of course, No.

F: Ok, why not? Your friend deserve your love.

M: It's not my friend, its someone else.

F: So, who is he/she?!

M: Ok, the greatest person in my life is not in my school.

F: Give me one minute to think who he/she is.

M: I'm sure you can't guess who he/she is.

F: Wait a minute my friend, I knew the person you are talking about; your parents.

M: **Yes, my mother.**

F: And your father isn't he the best person in your life?

M: My parents are the best persons in my life, but in this month we celebrate Mother's Day.

F: Oh my God, I forget it.

M: So now you know about it, what will you give your mother?

F: I don't know. Have you decided what will you give your

mother?

M: From yesterday until now, I was thinking about that.

F: It is easy, a perfume.

M: A Perfume! I think you don't understand what I mean, I want a perfect gift.

F: Let us agree on something. We shall make our mothers proud of us, that is the perfect gift.

M: I totally agree. I will study well and give her a smile every day.

F: I will respect my mother and obey her.

M: We should try to return part of her favour.

F: I will try to do the same my dear friend.

M: My mother is in my heart.

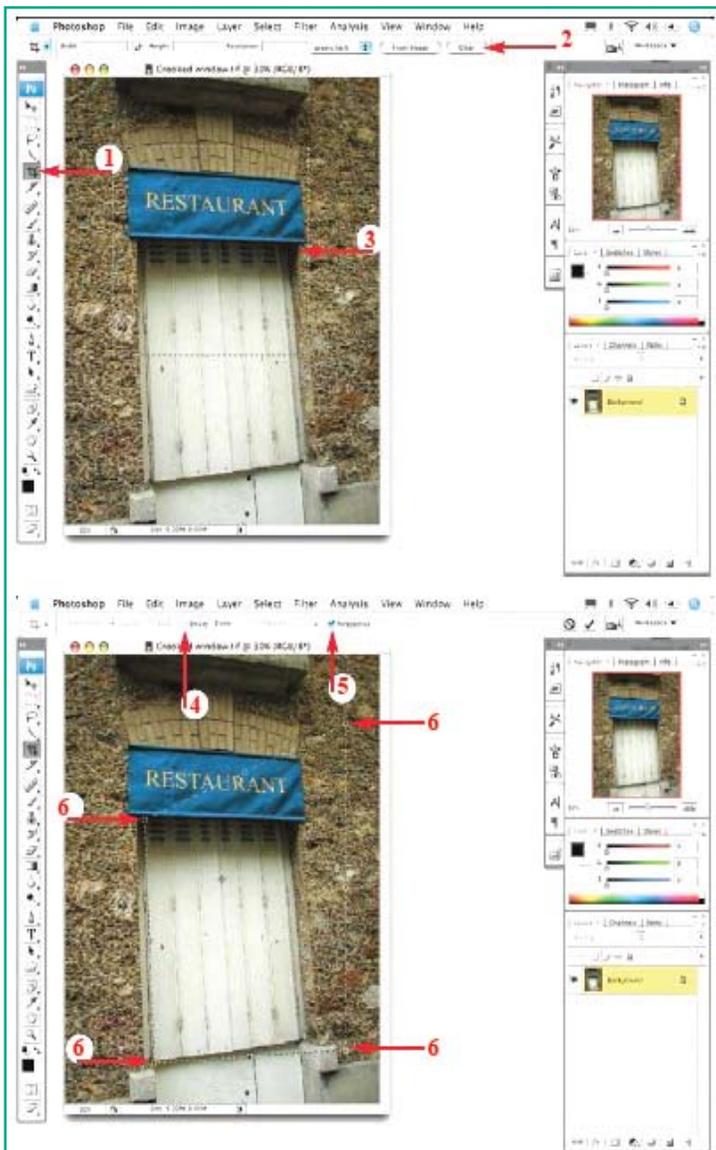
F: I will give my mother my eyes if she wants.

God bless all mothers... Ameen

— By Fatma Mohammed Al-M'mari and Marwa Hamood Al-Sumari

Teacher: Azza Al-Muqrashi  
Al-Hajar Basic Education School, (5-12)  
Al Dahirah Region, Ibri

# Change your perspective with the Crop tool



- 1 In a photo containing a distorted rectangular object, click the Crop tool.
- 2 Click Clear in the Options bar to remove any previous settings.
- 3 Click and drag a cropping marquee in the image.

The selected area is light, and the area that you want to crop away is dimmed.

- 4 Click here to deselect Shield to remove the dimming effect.
- 5 Click here to select Perspective.
- 6 Click each corner anchor of the cropping marquee and align it with a corner on a normally rectangular object.

*Note: To zoom in with the crop marquee showing, press  $\text{O}+\text{spacebar}$  ( $\text{Ctrl}+\text{spacebar}$ ) and click in the image. Press  $\text{Option}+\text{spacebar}$  ( $\text{Alt}+\text{spacebar}$ ) and click in the image to zoom out.*

**W**HEN you photograph an object from an angle rather than from a straight-on view, the object appears out of perspective, displaying keystone distortion. The top edges of a tall building photographed from ground level appear closer to each other at the top than they do at the bottom.

If you photograph a window and cannot get directly in front of it to take the shot, the window appears more like a trapezoid. Depending on the photograph, you can correct this type of distortion with a number of Photoshop's tools.

The Crop tool in Photoshop CS3 has a special option that enables you to transform the perspective in an image and quickly adjust the keystone distortion.

Your image must have an object that was rectangular in the original scene for the Crop tool's perspective function to work properly. You first adjust the cropping marquee to match the rectangular object's edges and then extend the marquee to fit your image. When you click the Commit button, Photoshop crops the image as large as possible while maintaining the angles of the rectangular object.

#### TIPS

##### Caution!

Photoshop's Crop tool will not work to correct keystone on all images. The Crop tool may not fix the perspective distortion if it is applied to an image that has already been cropped for size.

##### Keyboard Shortcuts!

Press C to access the Crop tool. Press Return (Enter) to commit the perspective crop or Esc to cancel it. Or press  $\text{Control}+\text{click}$  (right-click) in the image and select Crop or Cancel from the menu.

##### Attention!

If Photoshop shows an error, you may not have placed the corner handles correctly. Click the Cancel button in the Options bar and adjust the cropping marquee before clicking the Commit button and committing the crop.



- 7 Click and drag out each of the center anchor points to fit the edges of the entire image.

- 8 Click the Commit button in the Options bar to commit the crop.

Photoshop realigns the image and changes the perspective.