

## Arab Traditions and Literature Gate

#### Worksheet

- Cut the text below into strips and place them on the table.
- مدرستی ...والزلزال In pairs, match them to the Arabic text

From inside, she heard a voice say: "Come in." Immediately, the principal's assistant asked her, "Which neighbourhood are you from?"

Our house, in the eastern neighbourhood, was destroyed by the earthquake. Dr. Abdul Jalil was kind enough to offer us that building to live in. My son Emad's school was destroyed.

The mother said: "All the schools were destroyed, and all the houses were either destroyed or damaged. I know the eastern neighbourhood of the city better than you.

I don't know. Last night was my first night in this neighbourhood. I'm still in shock from the earthquake. The walls swayed, cracked, and the ground beneath us shook.

The assistant tapped her finger on the globe, spinning it, then said: "Look, God's earth is vast. If your son's school was destroyed, there are many schools in the old neighbourhood that were not destroyed. However, at the gate, he and his mother were stopped by the gatekeeper. His mother said to him: "I want to speak with the principal."

I lived there. The homes of the poor are the ones that were destroyed. The homes of the rich were not destroyed. Do you know why?"





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#### Worksheet

I am a displaced person, living here in the villa of Dr. Abdul Jalil, the paediatrician. In the villa's garden, there is a separate annex where he has hosted us. My husband works as a nurse in his clinic in the city.

Go and look there for a school that the earthquake did not strike and take him there."

The sound of rumbling filled our ears and hearts, louder than thunder, like giant stones being hurled by a massive truck, like the sound of volcanic eruptions.

Emad was overjoyed when he saw the gate of his new school. It was a wide, broad gate, topped with a decorated stone arch with the words "Al-Amal School" written in clear, beautiful handwriting.

The mother climbed the stairs to the headteacher's office and knocked lightly on the door with her fingers.

## Yalla Arabi



# بقَ ابَهُ التَّقَالَيْكُ العَنبَّية يَا اللَّهُ كَا الْعَربَيلة عَلَى الْعَربَيد

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# مَدْرَسَتِي... وَالزَّلْزَالُ

فَرِحَ عِمَادٌ أَشَدُ الْفَرَحِ عِنْدَمَا رَأَى بَابَ مَدْرَسَتِهِ الْجَدِيدَةِ، هُوَ بَابٌ وَاسِعٌ عَرِيضٌ، تَعْلُوهُ قَنْطَرَةٌ حَجَرِيَّةٌ مُزَخْرَفَةٌ، كُتِبَ

عَلَيْهَا بِخَطِّ واضِحٍ جَمِيلٍ: "مَدْرَسَةُ الْأَمَلِ". وَلَكِنْ، عِنْدَ الْبَابِ استوقَفَهَ وَأُمَّهُ الْبَوّابُ. قَالَتْ لَهُ الْأُمُّ: أُرِيدُ مُزاجَعَةَ الْمُدِيرةِ.

صَعَدَتِ الْأُمُّ الدَّرَجَاتِ إِلَى غُرْفَةِ الْإِدَارَةِ، نَقَرَتْ عَلَى الْبَابِ بِأَصَابِعِهَا نَقَرَاتٍ خَفِيفَةً، ثُمَّ سَمِعَتْ مِنَ الدَّاخِلِ صَوْتًا يَقُولُ: تَفَضَّلُ. وَعَلَى الْفَوْرِ سَأَلَتُهَا مُعَاوِنَةُ الْمُدِيرَةِ: مِنْ أَيِّ حَيٍّ أَنْتِ جِئْتِ؟

عَبْدِ الْجَلِيلِ، فِي حَدِيقَةِ الْفِيْلَا مَبْنَى مُلْحَقٌ مُسْتَقِلٌ، اسْتَضَافَنَا فِيْهِ، زَوْجِي يَعْمَلُ مُمَرِّضًا فِي عِنَادَتِهِ فِي الْمَدِينَةِ، بَيْتَنَا هُنَاكَ، فِي الْمَدِينَةِ، بَيْتَنَا هُنَاكَ، فِي الْمَدِينَةِ، الْمُلَاقِلُ، اسْتَضَافَنَا الدُّكُتورُ عَبْدُ الْجَلِيلِ، وَأَعْطَانَا ذَلِكَ الْمَبْنَى لِنَسْكُنَ فِيهِ، حِجَارَةً تَرْمِيهَا شَاحِنَةً عِمْلَاقَةً، كَأَنَّهَا أَصْواتُ انْفِجَارَاتِ بُرْكَانٍ، أَنَا نَازِحَةً، أَسْكُنُ هُنَا فِي فِيْلًا طَبِيبِ الْأَطْفَالِ الدُّكْتورِ لَا أَعْرَفُ، لَيْلَةَ أَمْسِ كانت أَوَّلَ لَيْلَةٍ لِي فِي هَذَا الْحَيِّ، وَمَا أَزَالُ مَصْدُومَةً مِنْ هَوْلِ الزِّلْزَالِ، الْحِيطَانُ تَمَايَلَتُ، وَتَشَعَّقَتُ، وَلَا أَعْرَفُ، لَذَانِنَا وَقُلُوبِنَا، أَقْوَى مِنْ قَعْقَعَاتِ الرَّعْدِ، كَأَنَّ وَتَشَعَّقَتُ، وَالْأَرْضُ مِنْ تَحْتِنَا رَاحَتُ وَجَاءَتُ، وَأَصْواتُ قَعْقَعَاتٍ صَكَّتُ آذَانِنَا وَقُلُوبِنَا، أَقْوَى مِنْ قَعْقَعَاتِ الرَّعْدِ، كَأَنَّ مَدْرَسَةُ اِبْنِي عِمَادٍ تَهَدَّمَتْ.

نَقَرَتْ مُعَاوِنَةُ الْمُدِيرةِ بِإِصْبَعِهَا عَلَى الْكُرَةِ الْأَرْضِيَّةِ، تَأَمَّلَتْهَا، وَهِي تَدُولُ، ثُمَّ قَالَتْ: أَنْظُرِي، أَرْضُ اللهِ وَاسِعَةً، إِذَا كَانتُ مَدْرَسَةُ اِبْنِكِ قَدْ تَهَدَّمَتْ، فَهُنَالِكَ مُدَارِسُ كَثِيرَةً فِي الْأَحْيَاءِ الْقَدِيمَةِ لَمْ تَتَهَدَّمْ، اِذْهَبِي، وَابْحَثِي هُنَاكَ عَنْ مَدْرَسَةٍ لَمْ يَصْرِبْهَا الزِّلْزَالُ، أَنْقُلِيهِ إِلَيْهَا.

وَتَكَلَّمَتِ الْأُمُّ الْمَدَارِسُ كُلِّهَا تَهَدَّمَتُ، وَالْبُيُوتُ كُلُّهَا تَهَدَّمَتُ، أَوْ تَضَرَّرَتْ. أَنَا أَعْرِفُ الْحَيّ الشَّرْقِيّ مِنَ الْمَدِينَةِ أَكْثَرَ مِنْكِ، أَنَا عِشْتُ هُنَاكَ، بُيُوتُ الْفَقَرَاءِ هِي الَّتِي تَهَدَّمَتْ، بُيُوتُ الْأَغْنِيَاءِ لَمْ تَتَهَدَّمْ، هَلْ تَعْرِفِينَ السَّبَب؟