

Habibi Youth

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Fazlur Rahman Khan

(By: Grandma Jeddah)

The tallest building in the world is the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. It is a little over half a mile high!

People who visit the Burj Khalifa and many other skyscrapers in the world today, can thank a famous Muslim engineer who started a new way to build tall buildings. His name was Fazlur Rahman Khan.

Khan was born in 1929 in the country that is now called Bangladesh. After becoming an engineer, Khan became a leader in knowing how to construct buildings. He taught workers what to use to make buildings strong. He also explained to them how to make buildings lighter and not as heavy. Builders could now save money. They didn't have to buy expensive heavy metal or cement. They could use cheaper lightweight metal and cement.

Khan got his idea for lightweight buildings from his home back in Dhaka, Bangladesh. In Dhaka, a strong, tall plant grows all around. It's called bamboo. Bamboo is shaped like a tube. It can grow between 10 and 20 meters (or yards) high. That's as high as a tall tree. Bamboo stems are narrow and not very thick, but they are extremely strong.

Khan decided to use the long tube shape in the buildings he made. Today, the method is called the tube method and is used in skyscrapers across the world.

According to a hadith, the Prophet (saw) said that the best people are those who are most helpful and useful to others."

How are you useful to others? Think of ways, then begin helping your family at home.

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Burj Khalifa