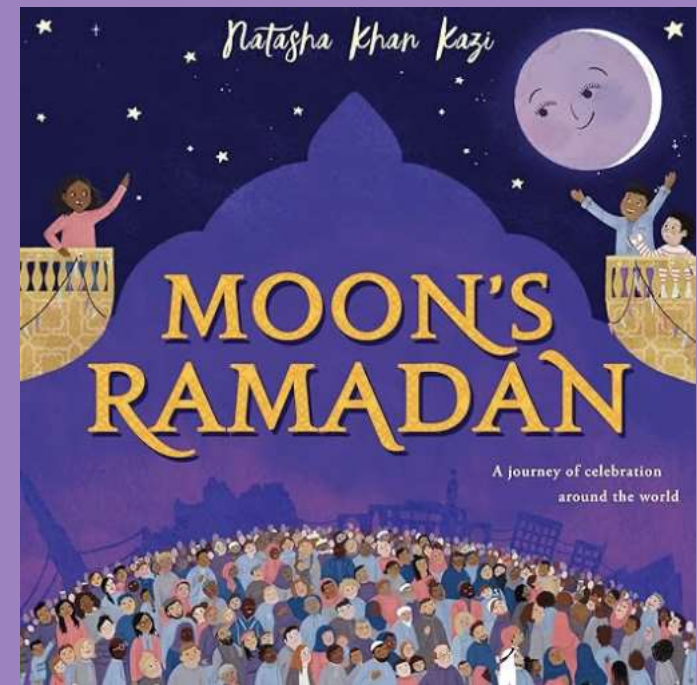
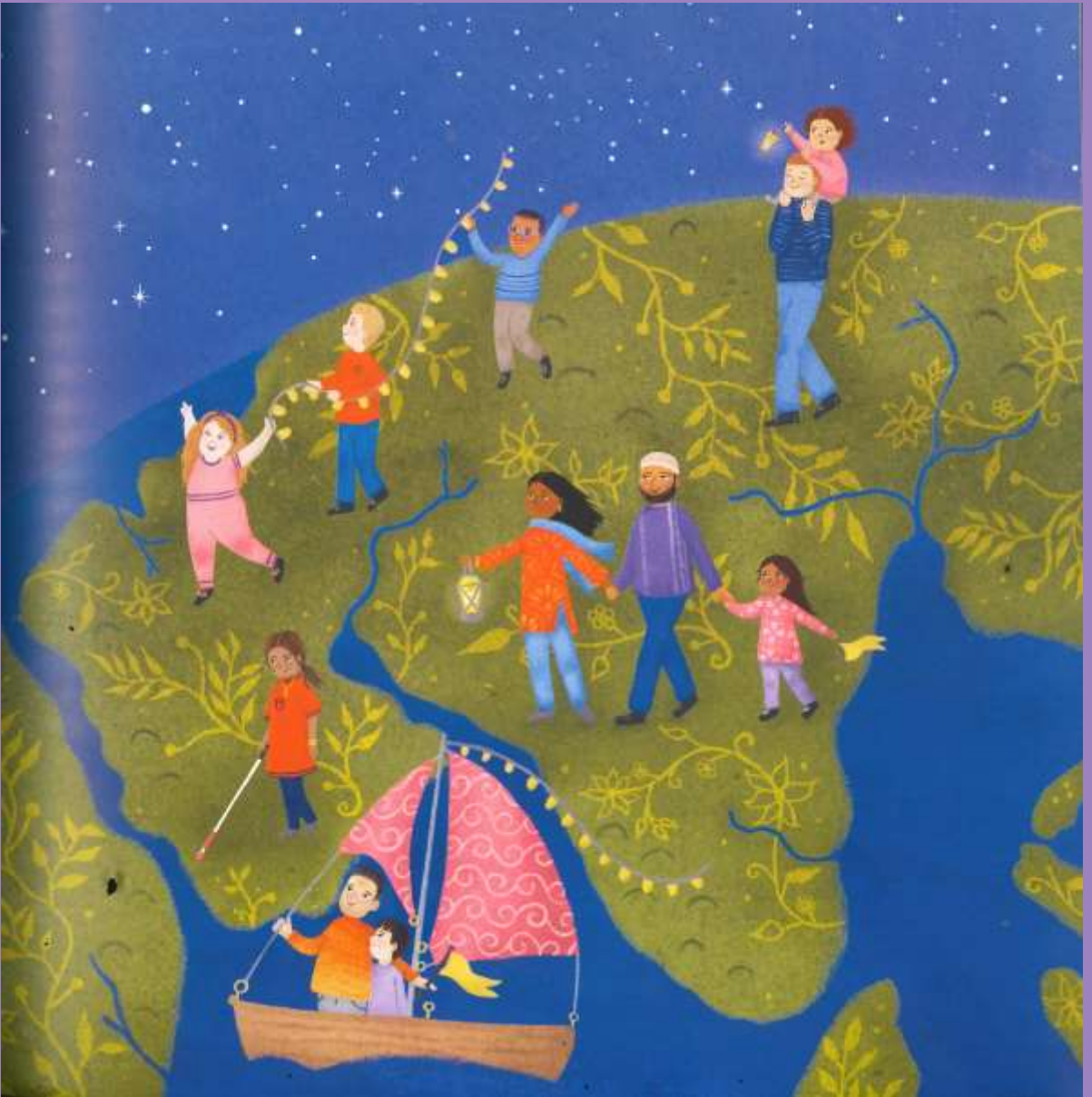
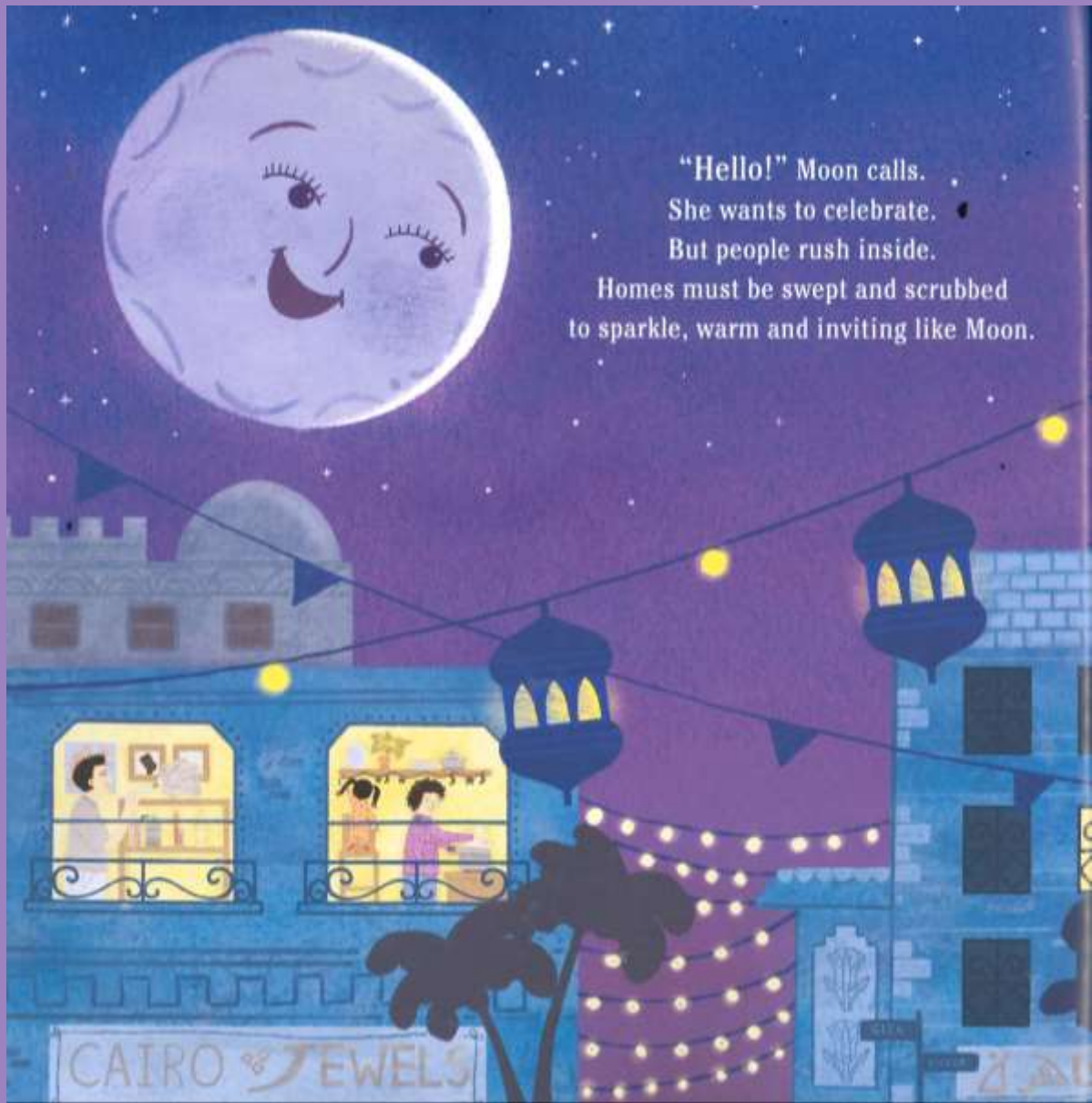


Yesterday was the first day of a
very special time for many
Muslims...



In the purple veil of twilight, Moon smiles at Earth.
Her sliver of silver signals the start of Ramadan, a month of peace.
Moon peeks through paper pennants and tin-plated fawanees.
Hands point towards her new crescent.
Moon is excited too.

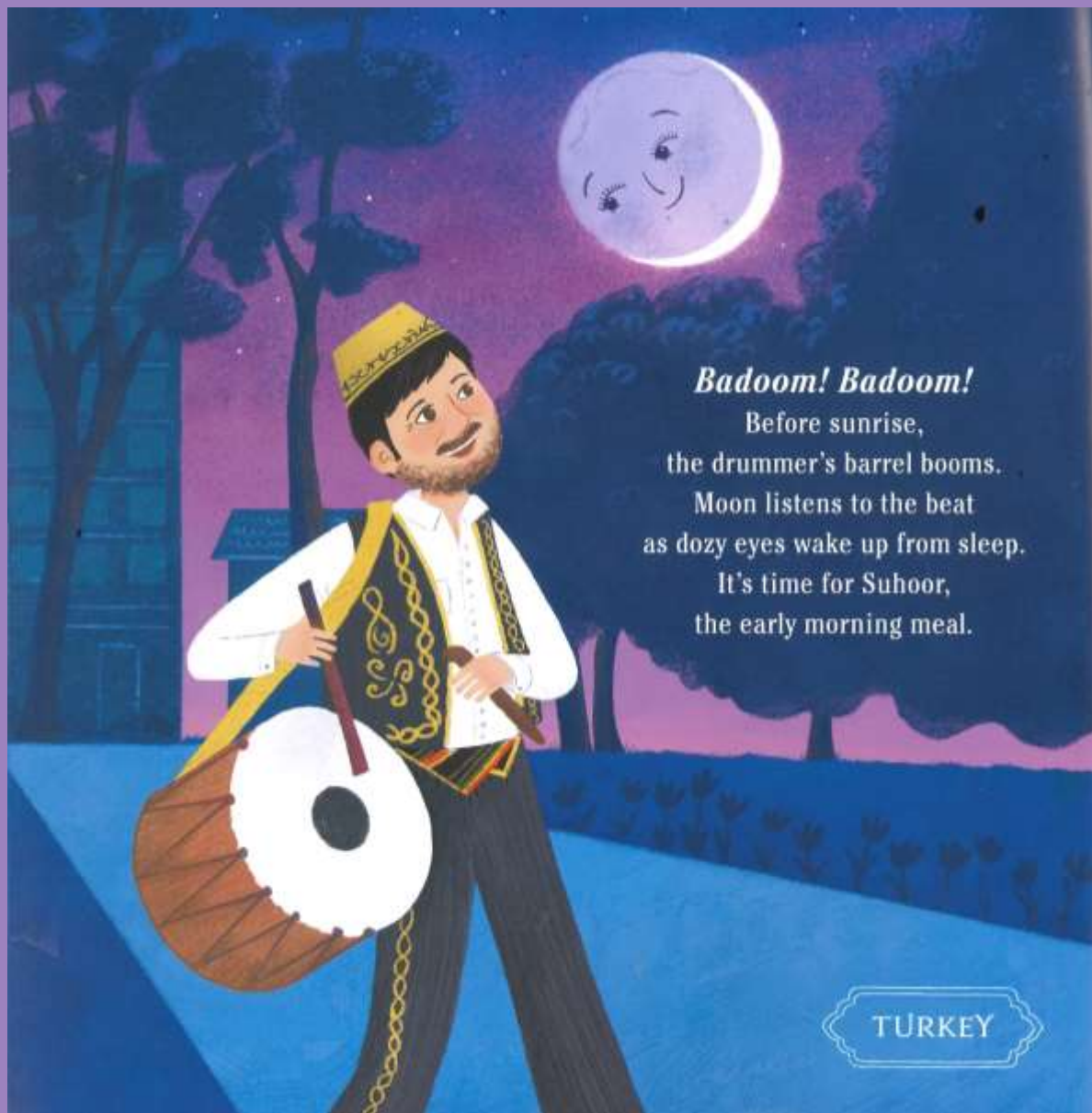




"Hello!" Moon calls.
She wants to celebrate.
But people rush inside.
Homes must be swept and scrubbed
to sparkle, warm and inviting like Moon.



EGYPT



Badoom! Badoom!
Before sunrise,
the drummer's barrel booms.
Moon listens to the beat
as dozy eyes wake up from sleep.
It's time for Suhoor,
the early morning meal.

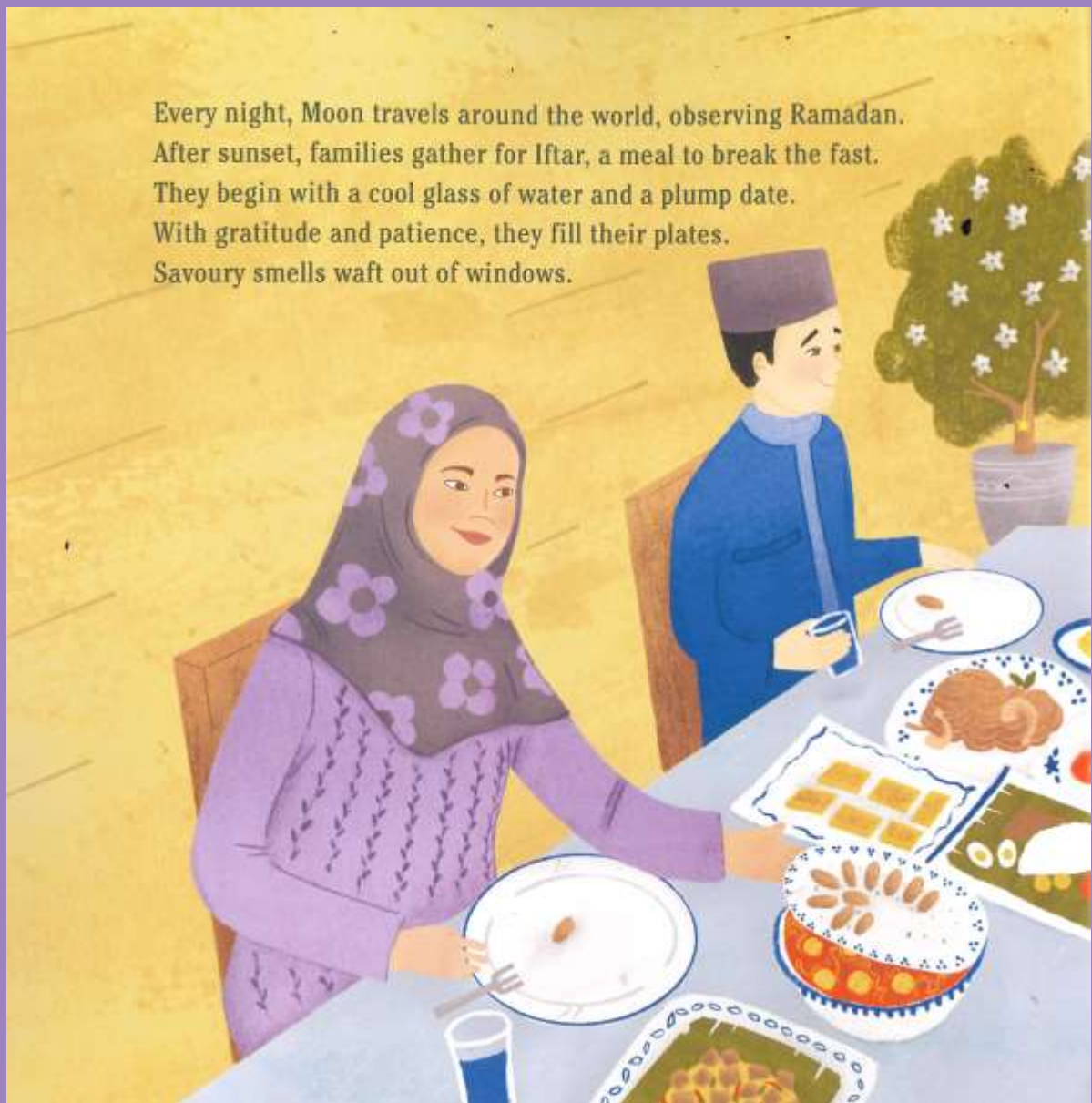
TURKEY

Those of the right age and health will fast.
During daylight, no food or drink will pass their lips.



Their hands will only do good deeds.
Their mouths will only speak kind words.
Always thinking of those who have less.

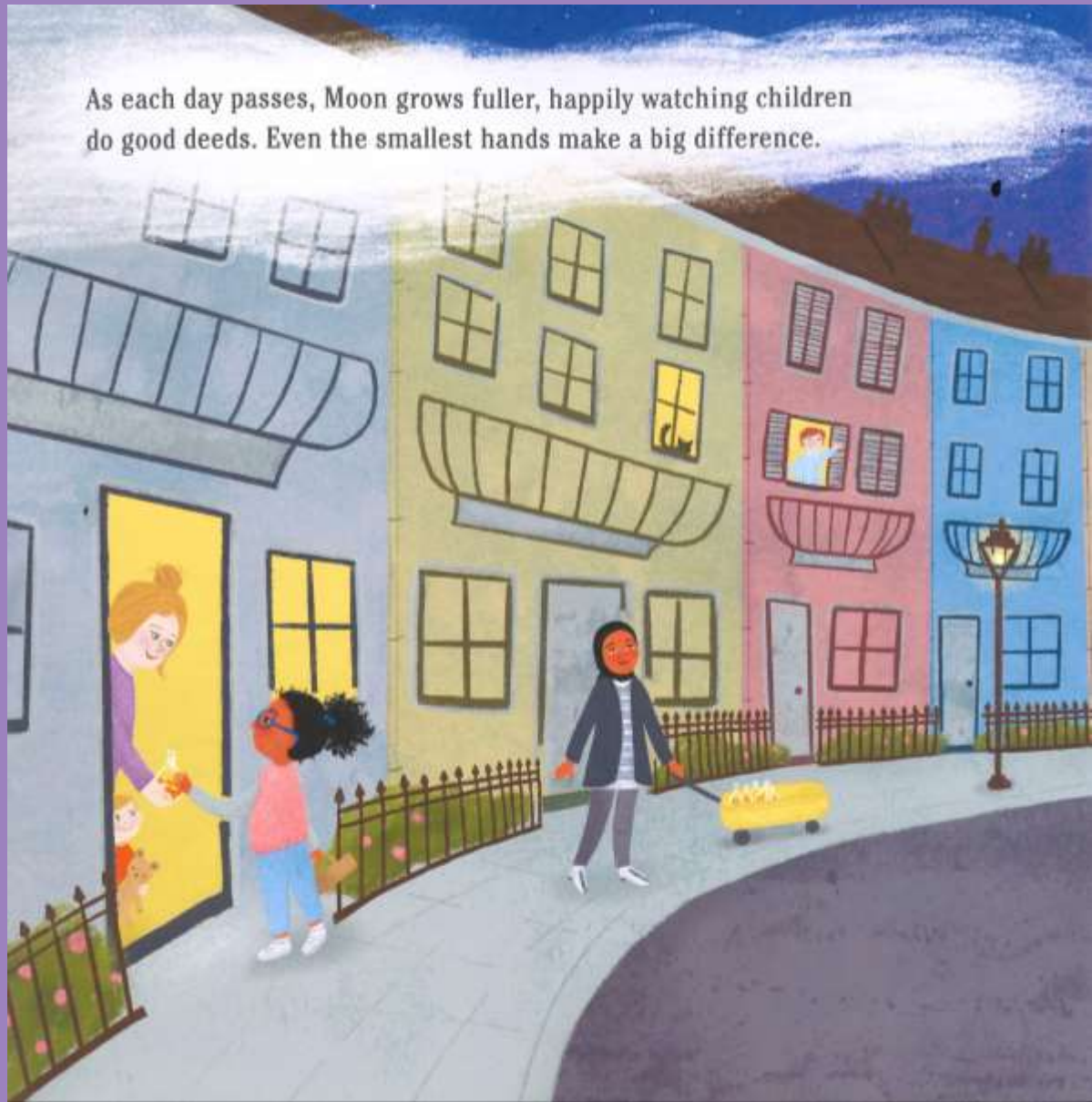
Every night, Moon travels around the world, observing Ramadan. After sunset, families gather for Iftar, a meal to break the fast. They begin with a cool glass of water and a plump date. With gratitude and patience, they fill their plates. Savoury smells waft out of windows.



Moon shares a greeting:
"Ramadan Kareem!"



As each day passes, Moon grows fuller, happily watching children do good deeds. Even the smallest hands make a big difference.



They deliver baskets filled with sweet dried fruit and honey-soaked pastries. Moon spies half-moon cookies, black and white, too. "I will light your way," Moon says.



UNITED KINGDOM

In the purple veil of twilight,
Moon smiles at Earth.

Leaders wax lyrical, speaking
warmly about Zakat, charity
during Ramadan.

NEW ZEALAND



Moon waxes too, growing larger every night,
as families share their wealth with those in need.

Clink, clank, clunk!

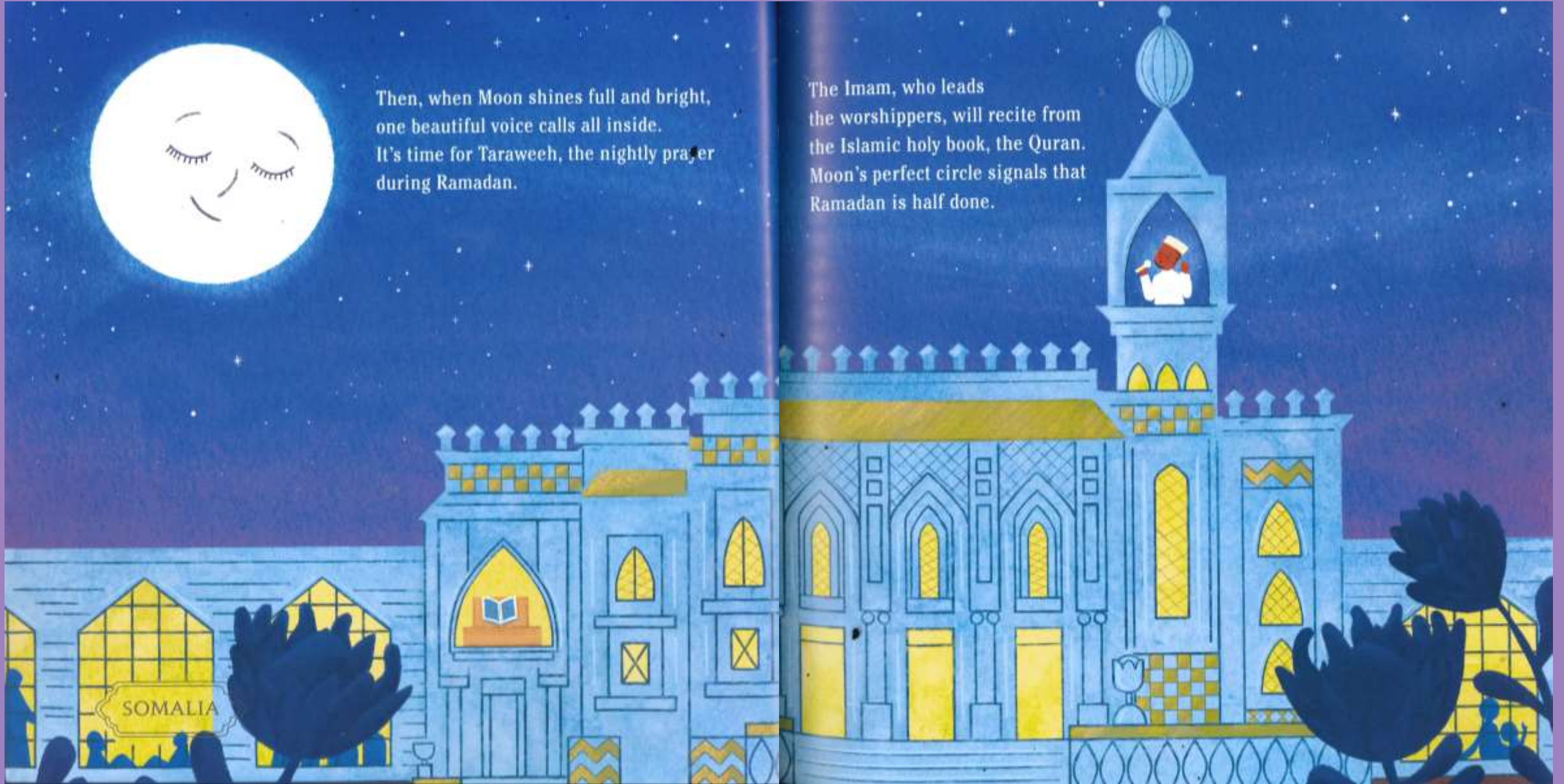
Children drop coins into Sadaqah jars.
Moon wishes she could share
her shiny moon rocks.





Then, when Moon shines full and bright,
one beautiful voice calls all inside.
It's time for Taraweeh, the nightly prayer
during Ramadan.

The Imam, who leads
the worshippers, will recite from
the Islamic holy book, the Quran.
Moon's perfect circle signals that
Ramadan is half done.



Moon marvels as friends of different faiths enjoy
a meal to celebrate. Together, they rise like bread.
Tonight, neighbours share biscuits, challah, naan and pita.
The half-circle slices are the shape of Moon's last quarter



UNITED STATES

The scent of muddy, silky henna drifts upwards.
Moon spins happily to see the swoop of
her waning crescent painted on palms
as a row of hands waits.

“How do I look?” Moon asks.
Little hands are busy drying.
Smiles mirror Moon’s crescent.



In the purple veil of twilight,
Moon magically melts into mulberry and lavender hues.
Below her, people search the sky.

"I'm here!" Moon calls.
But there is no answer.
Feet shuffle back inside.

ARGENTINA

"You can't see me, but I am always here for you."
Her lunar month is ending.

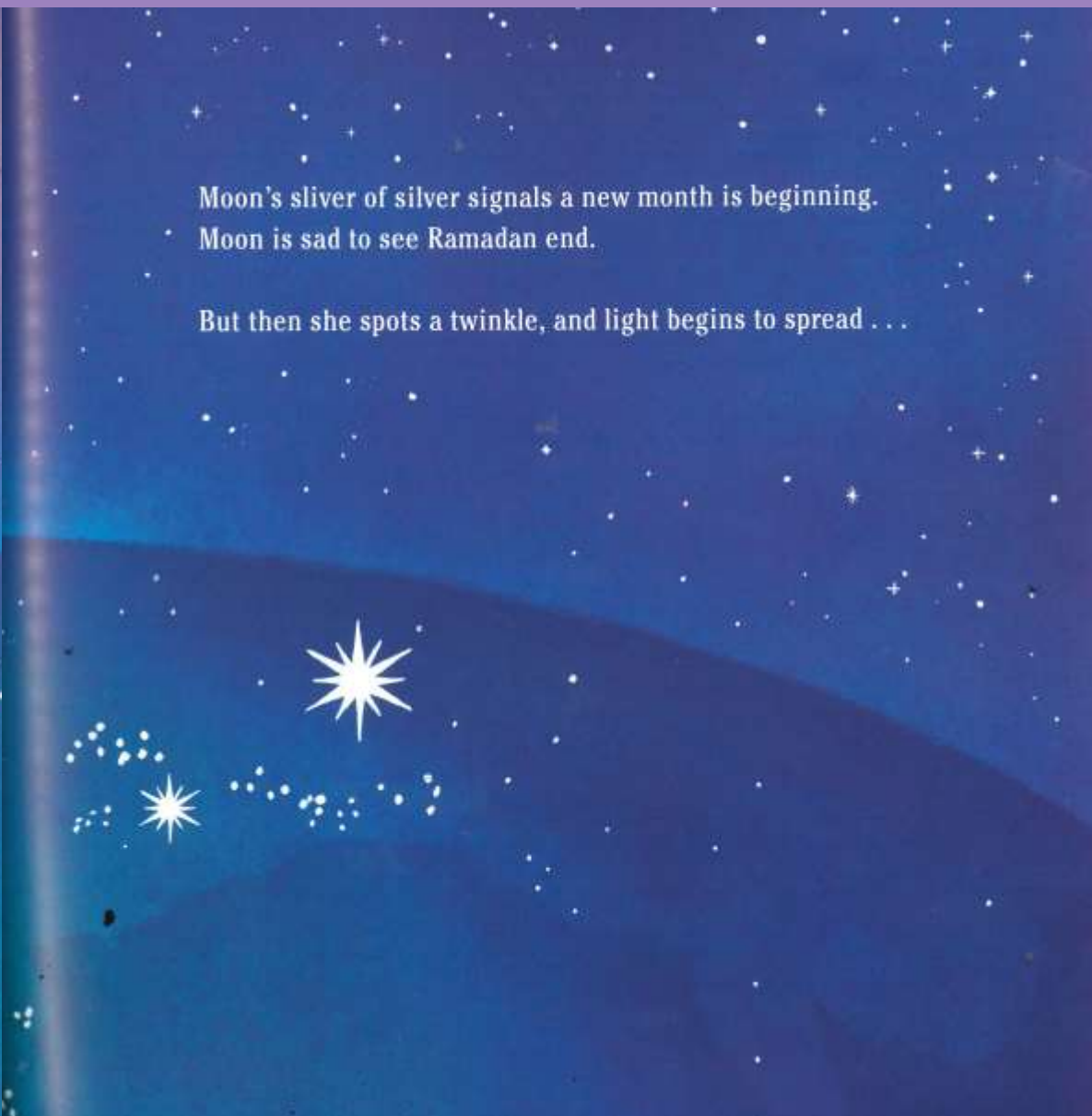
Moon is new.





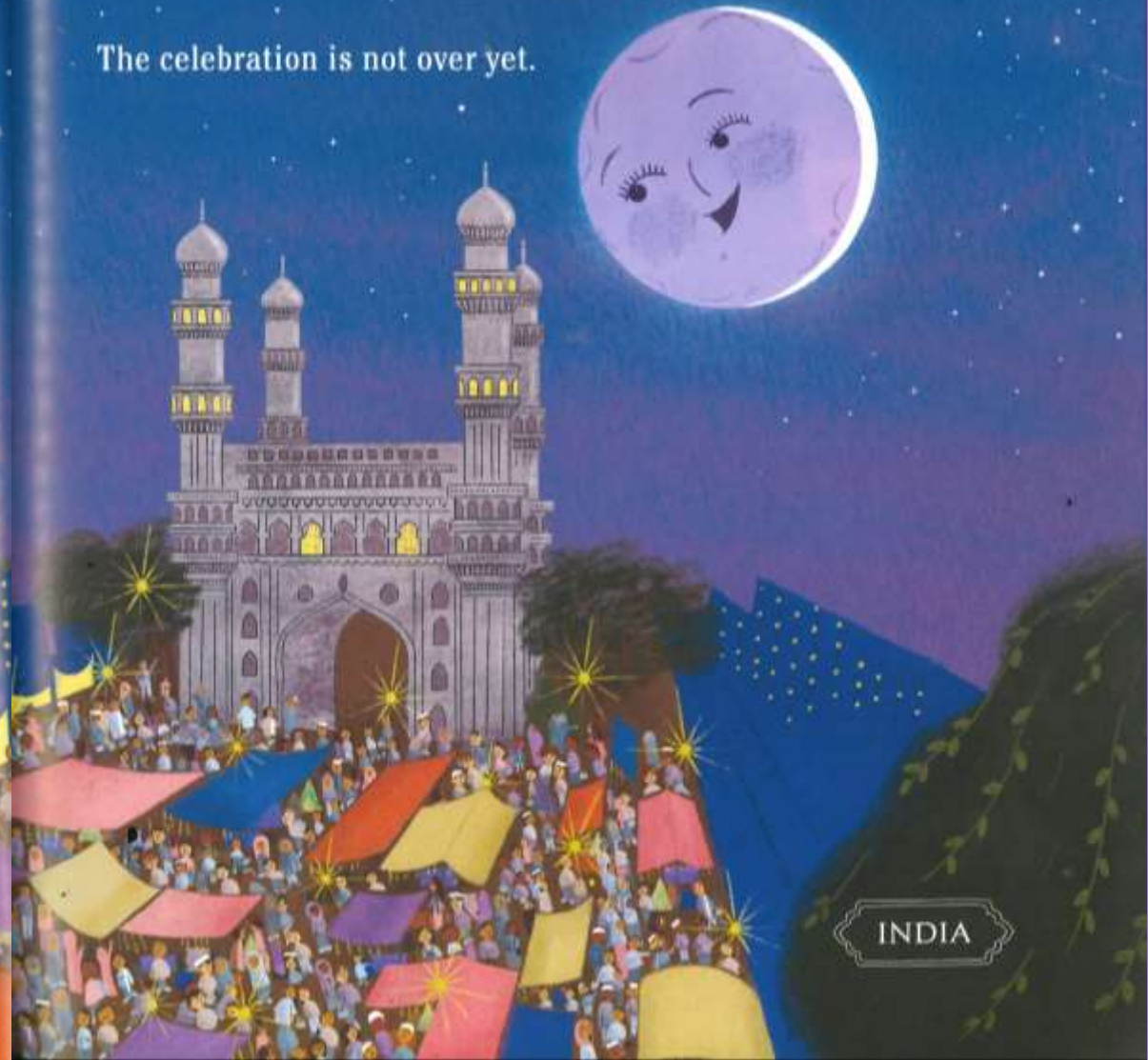
Moon's sliver of silver signals a new month is beginning.
Moon is sad to see Ramadan end.

But then she spots a twinkle, and light begins to spread . . .



Moon beams with joy as people light lanterns
to celebrate Chaand Raat, the night of the moon.
And Moon remembers, Ramadan is over, but tomorrow is Eid.

The celebration is not over yet.



INDIA



“Eid Mubarak!” “Happy Eid!”

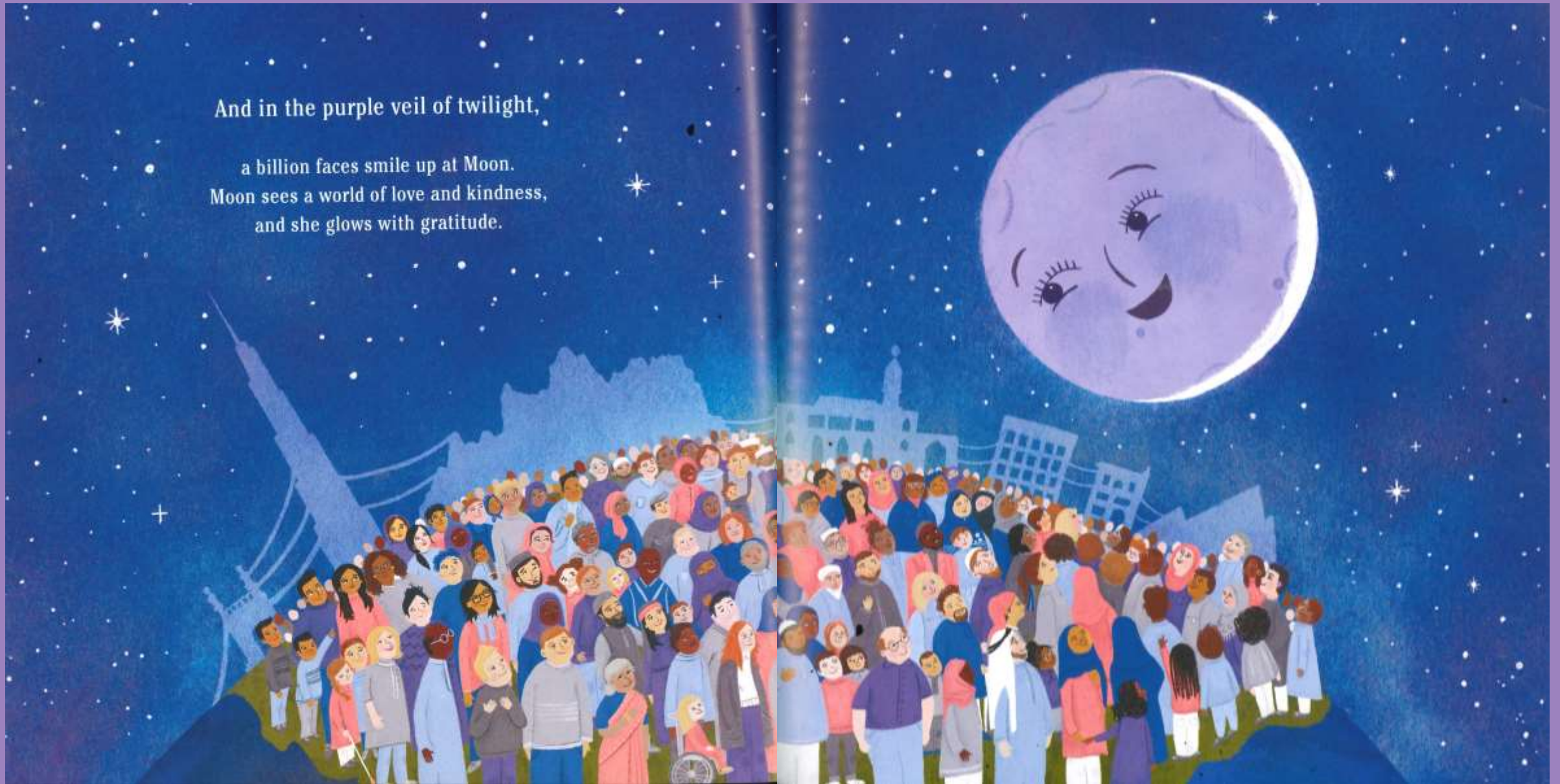
Moon hears a chorus of calls as people share warm embraces and little ones gleefully count the money in their Eidi.

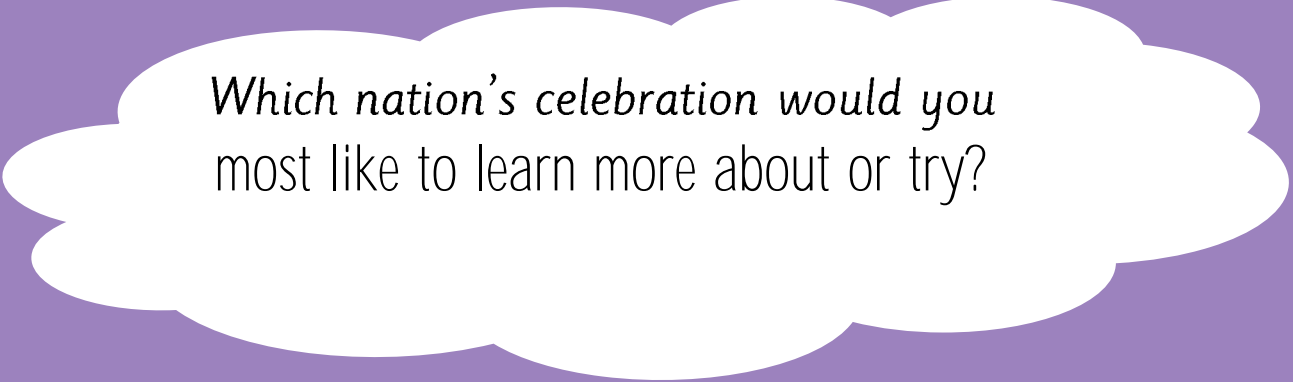
“Eid Mubarak! Happy Eid!” Moon calls.

EGYPT

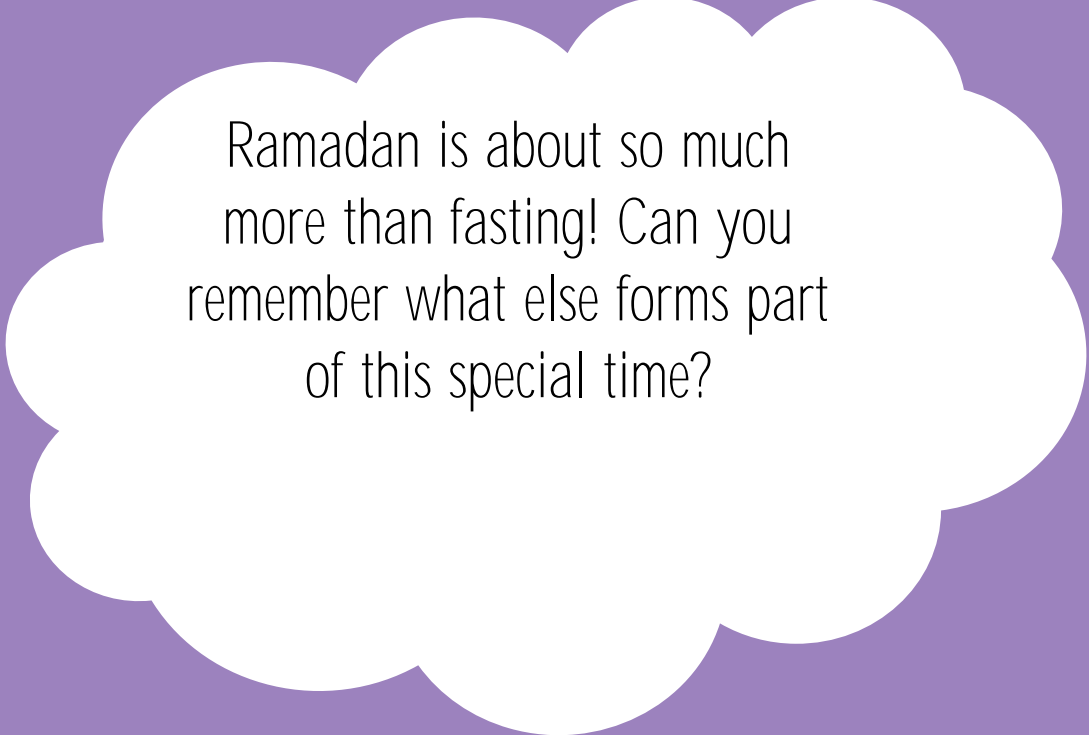
And in the purple veil of twilight,

a billion faces smile up at Moon.
Moon sees a world of love and kindness,
and she glows with gratitude.





Which nation's celebration would you most like to learn more about or try?



Ramadan is about so much more than fasting! Can you remember what else forms part of this special time?





School Reflection

This is our school,
Let peace dwell here,
Let the rooms be full of contentment.

Let love abide here,
Love of one another,
Love of mankind,
Love of life itself.

Let us remember
That as many hands build a house,
So many hearts make a school
Help us to learn, play and share together.

We hope our school will be a place of great discovery, adventure and creativity.

May it be a place where we love to learn and where we learn to love,
A place where everyone is respected, and all are deeply valued.