

## **Forgiving in Ramadan**

Forgiving is giving up your right to hate or hurt the person who hurt you.

Hate hurts you physically, mentally and emotionally. Forgiveness gives you peace, tranquility and happiness.

Allah described the believers and said:

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Ad when they are angry, they forgive" (2:37)

The Prophet (pbuh) said: "It is not permissible for a Muslim to abandon his brother for more than three days, each of them turning away when they meet. The better of them is the one who gives the greeting of salaam first."

The Prophet (pbuh) said: "The gates of Paradise will be opened on Mondays and on Thursdays, and every servant of Allah who associates nothing with Allah will be forgiven, except for the man who has a grudge against his brother. About them it will be said, 'Delay these two until they are reconciled. Delay these two until they are reconciled. Delay these two until they are reconciled.'"

The Prophet (pbuh) said: "The person who perfectly maintains the ties of kinship is not the one who does it because he gets recompensed by his relatives (for being kind and good to them), but the one who truly maintains the bonds of kinship is the one who persists in doing so even though the latter has severed the ties of kinship with him".

The Prophet (pbuh), while sitting in the mosque with the Companions, pointed out a person who entered the mosque as being of those who would enter Jannah. He did this for 3 days, and every time, it was the same person who entered the mosque. Abdullah bin Amr (RA) wanted to know what quality this man possessed that made the Prophet (pbuh) say that about him, so he spent three nights with that man. He did not notice that the man prayed the optional night prayers during any of these nights, but if he woke up during the night, he would simply mention Allah. So before he left, he had to ask him what he did that was so special that the Prophet (pbuh) identified him as a man of Jannah. The man replied: what you saw". When Abdullah (RA) left, he called him back in and said: "My deeds are nothing more than what you saw, but the only thing I do is that I do not hold any grudge against any Muslim or envy anyone for what bounties Allah has granted them";

thereupon 'Abdullah Ibn Amr (RA) said to him: "This difficult quality to obtain is what granted you this rank".

When he entered the city of Makkah after the victory, the Prophet (pbuh), had in front of him some of his staunchest enemies. Those who fought him for many years, persecuted his followers and killed many of them. Now he had full power to do whatever he wanted to punish them for their crimes. It is reported that the Prophet (pbuh), asked them, "What do you think I shall do to you now?" They pleaded for mercy. 'No blame on you today. Go, you are all free.'" Soon they all came and accepted Islam at his hands.

The story of Abu Bakr (RA) and his cousin

And let not those of you who are blessed with graces and wealth swear not to give (any sort of help) to the near of kin and the poor and those who left their homes for the Cause of Allah. Let them pardon and forgive. Do you not love that Allah should forgive you? And Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.  
(24:22) Slander/evil lies.

A man said to Messenger of Allah (pbuh): "I have relatives with whom I try to keep the ties of relationship but they sever relations with me; and whom I treat kindly but they treat me badly, I am gentle with them but they are rough to me." He (PBUH) replied, "If you are as you say, it is as if you are feeding them hot ashes, and you will be with a supporter from Allah against them as long as you continue to do so".

The story of Ameneh and Majid in Iran. (the law of equality in punishment)

Forgive everyone who has hurt you. It shows strength, self confidence.  
Forgive parents, spouse, relatives, friends.

How you can raise your hands and ask Allah for forgiveness but you are not willing to forgive another human being.

Let go of the hate, anger and pain this Ramadan and forgive those who have hurt you. And in Ramadan, ten days of which are devoted to Allah's forgiveness, shouldn't we lesser beings forgive too?

Be like the Prophet (pbuh), like Abu Bakr (RA) and like Ameneh.