

## **Ramadan 2011**

O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you, that you may (learn) Takwaa/shield from the anger of Allah and hell fire.

And that you fast, is better for you if only you know

Ramadan is like a vaccine it helps our soul fight sins and bad actions for 11 months.

For 11 months work, families are our priorities, can't we in the month of Ramadan make Allah (SWT) our priority. This Ramadan, worship Allah as if it is your last Ramadan ever.

The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) , delivered a sermon on the last day of Sha'ban: "O People! There comes upon you now a great and most blessed month, wherein lies a night greater in worth than a thousand months. The fasting during this month is made compulsory and the extra prayers by night are optional. Whosoever tries drawing near to Allah by performing any good deed in this month, for him shall be such reward as if he had performed any obligatory duty at any other time of the year. And whosoever performs any obligatory duty, for him shall be the reward of 70 times such duty at any other time of the year. This is indeed the month of patience and the reward for true patience is Paradise. It is the month of sympathy with one's fellow men. It is a month wherein a true believer's livelihood is increased. Whosoever feeds a fasting person in order to break the fast at iftar, for him there will be forgiveness of his sins and will be freed from the hell fire and he will receive the reward equal to the fasting person, without that person's reward being diminished in the least."

Some of the companions then said: "Not all of us possess the means whereby we can provide enough for a fasting person to break his fast."

The Prophet (pbuh), replied:

"Allah grants the same reward to him who gives a fasting person a single date or a sip of milk or drink of water to break the fast. This is a month the first part of which brings Allah's mercy, the middle of which brings His forgiveness and the last part of which brings freedom from the fire of Hell.

The Prophet (pbuh) said: "When the month of Ramadan starts, the gates of the heaven are opened (8) and the gates of Hell are closed and the devils are chained."

Ramadan Plan (ambitious and achievable): Write it down: Be moderate. Do'aa, Salat Al-Taraweeh, Reading Quran, Zakat and Charity, Characters and Manners, Family/Relatives/Friends.

### **Do'aa:**

And when My servants ask you concerning Me, then surely I am very near; I answer the prayer of the suppliant when he calls on Me, so they should answer My call and believe in Me that they may walk in the right way.

The Prophet (pbuh) said: A person fasting has at the time he breaks his fast a Daawa (request form Allah) that will never be turned down (unfulfilled).

The Prophet (pbuh) said: Three their Doo'a will never turned down (unfulfilled): A person fasting until he breaks his fast, a just ruler and an oppressed.

Have a list prepared during the day, before breaking fast, after every salat, at night. First on the list, repent and ask Allah (SWT) for forgiveness.

The Prophet (pbuh) said: "During the month of Ramadan, Allah has people that he will free from hell fire, and that is every night."

### **Salat Al-Tarweeh:**

The Prophet (pbuh) said: Whoever prayed at night during the month of Ramadan out of sincere Faith and hoping for a reward from Allah, all his previous sins will be forgiven"

If you can everyday in the masjid 20 or 8 rakaats. If not in the masjid at home. If not 20 any number but you must do it everyday. Moderate in eating.

### **Beginning of the month and the Eid. Unity start/break fasting**

#### **Reading Quran:**

The Prophet (pbuh) said: "Whoever recites a letter from the Book of Allah, he will be credited with a good deed, and a good deed gets a ten-fold reward. I do not say that Alif-Lam-Mim is one letter, but Alif is a letter, Lam is a letter and Mim is a letter."

In Ramadan every letter will get 700 rewards.

Transliteration, more rewards. If you can't, try to recite every night whatever you have memorized:

The Prophet (pbuh) said: He who recites the Qur'an and finds it difficult to recite, doing his best to recite it, will have a double reward.

The Prophet (pbuh) said: Fasting and Quran will intercede to the servant of Allah on the Day of Judgment and it will be granted.

**Zakat and charity:** Pay it in Ramadan.

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The likeness of those who spend their wealth in the Way of Allâh, is as the likeness of a grain, it grows seven spikes, and each ear/spike has a hundred grains. And Allah multiplies for whom He pleases;

The Prophet (pbuh) said: The wealth of a man will not diminish by Sadaqah (charity).

**Character/Manners Improvement:**

The Prophet (pbuh) said: “When anyone of you is observing fast, he should neither indulge in obscene language nor should he raise his voice; and if anyone tries to quarrel with him, he should say: `I am fasting.’”

During fasting we abstain from food, drink and intercourse, but we should make sure that our senses are fasting from doing bad actions.

Make a commitment of controlling one of your bad habits. Bad temper, lying, smoking. Manners/Character/change us to the better.

**Family/Relatives/Friends/Non Muslim co-workers/neighbors:**

Forgive, call, and start with the one you don't like the most.

Biggest Reward: Take the hand of a fellow Muslim and guide him to be a better Muslim this Ramadan.

As a community every year to start Ramadan, some people follow moon sighting and some follow calculations. We have to learn as a Muslim community to respect each other and not fight and argue with each other. After all, we are all fasting for Allah (SWT) and not to impress each other. What is more important is that we remain a united community and not to focus on issues that breaks us apart.