



## استقبال رمضان بقلب سليم

## WELCOMING RAMADAN WITH A SOUND HEART

All praises are due to Allah. Anything good is from Allah and any mistakes are from ourselves and the shaitan. May Allah forgive us.



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

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### INTRODUCTION

- We cannot handle surprises and sudden changes, and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is so gentle in preparing us and taking care of our hearts.
- The Companions used to ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for six months to accept their Ramadan and the next six months to make them reach Ramadan.
- And for the past two years, we did not have onsite Ramadan classes and we are so grateful to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to be able to reach.

- Allah is Rabb Al Falaq and He is the Lord to open for us. We may look right and left, but the best is when we do not know anything because in this state, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will show us Who He is and the highlight will be Him.
- But when we know what we have to do in Ramadan and this is our schedule for Ramadan, then we will only fall into the same routine.
- We do not want to make Ramadan a routine or fall into the trap of being in “boxes and timetables” because all this time Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is teaching us about Him so that nothing distracts us from the bigger picture which is “Who is Allah?” May Allah make us and our preparation for Ramadan different.
- We all want to start empty of expectations.

## SURAH AL QASAS 10

وَأَصْبَحَ فُؤَادُ أُمِّ مُوسَىٰ فَارِغًاۖ

And the heart of Moses' mother became empty  
[of all else].

- We want Ramadan to return to us as “coolness of the eyes”; We do not want anything to be “copy and paste” as the previous years.
- One of the issues is people expect so much from their past experience, so we put so much emphasis on ourselves and what we used to do, so the return will not be the best return.
- If we want the best return, we need to be empty and pure-hearted.
- If children are not exposed to anything, then their heart is very tender. They do not have any doubts, painful memories, experiences or knots in their life, so anything we tell them will be

accepted and taken. And when they accept it, they will quickly flourish and go.

- Before, we used to come to Ramadan as sinners and that we need to be purified, but now we want to come with an empty heart, not knowing anything.
- In Surah Al Qasas, the mother of Musa (عليه السلام) could not enjoy Musa (عليه السلام) despite him being with her, why? Because she was in fear.
- If we have any opportunity, but are restless, can we enjoy? No because our heart is filled with fear, anxiety and panic.
- People before Ramadan feel very anxious and pressured. And then suddenly it hits us that Ramadan is coming near. Though we just want to relax and remove any stress from believing in ourselves or what we do.

- Musa's mother could not enjoy being with her child because she was filled with fear of Firaoun. And how can we enjoy Ramadan if we are filled with fear and anxiety.
- But we want our heart to be stress-free and relaxed with no tension. Every Ramadan is different, we can have guests one year, or children or just married, but Ramadan is not about emptying our life and being isolated or closing our mobile. This is not practical because something will always come up along the way.
- Ramadan is about emptying our heart and receiving Ramadan with coolness of eyes. Then we will enjoy our fasting, our iftar and prayer.

- The stress and worry we have will only feed ourselves and we will not rely on Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) tied the heart of Musa (عليه السلام) so that she became among the believers.

### SURAH AL QASAS 10

إِنْ كَادَتْ لَتُبْدِي بِهِ لَوْلَا أَنْ رَبَّنَا عَلَىٰ قَلْبِهَا لِتَكُونَ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

She was about to disclose [the matter concerning] him had We not bound fast her heart that she would be of the believers.

- We want to come to Ramadan as a newborn with no stress. We want to welcome the month of Ramadan with coolness and no stress.
- Belief is very important and to not believe in ourselves or our power. Allah Al Hayy Al Qayyoom will take care of us and make our heart alive so there is no need for stress.

- This time of preparation for Ramadan is different from other times. We should never think the topic of Ramadan is separate from our life.
- We need to make Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) our highlight, take the Qur'an as our guide and follow the Prophet (ﷺ). It is important to remember Allah's favor on us to teach us "Live with Allah", "Live with the Qur'an", and "Live with the Prophet's Way".
- We went through many trials these past two years and how many times did Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) save us. And alhamdulillah we can come back after two years so the highlight is Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).



- Some people only remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) when it is Ramadan, but do not have feelings for Him. Rather, they have feelings for their worship, prayer, fasting and taraweeh. Though the highlight is Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), more than our fast and prayer.

### SURAH AL 'ANKABOOT 45

وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ

and the remembrance of Allah is greater

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) loves His slaves and we need to feel He is the Beloved One. He is At Tawwaab and loves for people to return to Him. He is Ar Rafeeq Al Lateef and is so subtle.
- Ramadan is a breeze and coolness of eyes and we want to increase our connection to Him. We want our quality of worship to be the

best and we do not want Ramadan to be separate from our feelings.

- We should not think we will reach Allah (سبحانه) with our fast, prayer or Qur'an, if we do not make Him the highlight and love Him.
- We should never think Ramadan is only for a few, but it is an open invitation for all, even for the one who transgressed against themselves because Ramadan is a breeze and opening for them.
- The month of Ramadan is an opportunity for all, even the non-Muslim who can feel a joy.

## UNIVERSAL CHANGES IN RAMADAN

- Universal changes take place from the first night of Ramadan.

### UNIVERSAL CHANGES IN RAMADAN

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " إِذَا كَانَ أَوَّلُ لَيْلَةٍ مِنْ شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ صُفِّدَتِ الشَّيَاطِينُ وَمَرَدَةُ الْجِنِّ وَغُلِّقَتْ أَبْوَابُ النَّارِ فَلَمْ يُفْتَحْ مِنْهَا بَابٌ. وَفُتِّحَتْ أَبْوَابُ الْجَنَّةِ فَلَمْ يُغْلَقْ مِنْهَا بَابٌ وَيُنَادِي مُنَادٍ يَا بَاغِيَ الْخَيْرِ أَقْبِلْ وَيَا بَاغِيَ الشَّرِّ أَقْصِرْ وَلِلَّهِ عِتْقَاءُ مِنَ النَّارِ وَذَلِكَ كُلُّ لَيْلَةٍ "

)Abu Hurairah narrated that the Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said: "On the first night of the month of Ramadan, the Shayatin are shackled, the jinns are restrained, the gates of the Fires are shut such that no gate among them would be opened. The gates of Paradise are opened such that no gate among them would be closed, and a caller calls: 'O seeker of the good; come forward!' and 'O seeker of evil;

stop! For there are those whom Allah frees from the Fire.' And that is every night"<sup>1</sup>

### DEVILS WILL BE CHAINED

- The devils and head of the devils will be chained so a person can easily change, can repent and be kinder.
- Someone who is impatient will be less impatient, someone grateful will be more grateful. Someone not reciting Qur'an will recite Qur'an, so we should never discourage anyone who only recites in Ramadan. It is a start. We should not show-off or put down anyone, but encourage, motivate and inspire.
- When the devils are chained, their whispers will be less and we can reform ourselves for the

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<sup>1</sup> Jami` at-Tirmidhi 682

better. Thus it will be easier to leave bad habits and improve our good manners.

- Outside Ramadan, we may recite the Qur'an, but can recite more in Ramadan. Outside Ramadan we may pray the witr prayer and quickly sleep, but in Ramadan, we pray taraweeh or stay the whole night, and this is because the devils are chained who hinder us from good.

## SURAH AN NAAS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

1

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ

Say, "I seek refuge in the Lord of mankind,

2

مَلِكِ النَّاسِ

The Sovereign of mankind.

3

إِلَهِ النَّاسِ

The God of mankind,

4

مِنْ شَرِّ الْوَسْوَاسِ الْخَنَّاسِ

From the evil of the retreating whisperer -

5

الَّذِي يُوسْوِسُ فِي صُدُورِ النَّاسِ

Who whispers [evil] into the breasts of mankind-

O you who have believed, obey Allah and  
obey the Messenger and those in authority  
among you.

- Surah An Naas is protection from the shaitan at all times.
- Surah Al Ikhlaas is to keep our relationship pure with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Surah Al Falaq is protection from outer evils and Surah An Naas is to protect us from the whispers of the shaitan.

We will notice the following Names of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) mentioned in Surah An Naas:

1. Rabb An Naas (رَبِّ النَّاسِ): The Lord and Reformer of the people
  2. Malik An Naas (مَلِكِ النَّاسِ): King of the People. We are facing an invisible enemy and the head of enmity which is the shaitan.
  3. Ilaah An Naas (إِلَهِ النَّاسِ): The One Worthy of being attached to.
- Our quality of worship can be less during Ramadan and the shaitan will make a “discount” with our worships. Instead of reciting 20 pages of Qur'an, he will make us recite one page.

○ And should never underestimate how much we need Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to protect us from the shaitan. The evil and influence of the shaitan is more than the evils mentioned in Surah Al Falaq. It is more than:

1. Evil of the creation
  2. When darkness envelops
  3. Blowers into knots
  4. Envier when he envies
- The shaitan is the main evil for all other evils, thus we need to understand the enmity of the shaitan.
- If the shayateen are chained, then:
1. We can quickly repent. With the devils around, we can delay our repentance.
  2. We feel our heart wants to do good deeds.



3. We feel happy and not down because the devils want us sad and miserable.
  4. We feel lighter because the devil is heavy and incessant.
- o The shaitan is made of fire and his ideas are always like fire. But our body is made of earth and our nafs is from above, so there is so much hope that our nafs can be tender.
  - o As humans we can easily be molded and adjusted, so when the devils are chained:
    1. The sinners will be less sinful
    2. The one who wants to quit sins can quit
    3. The one who prays, can pray better
    4. The one who is kind to others, will be kinder

- If the devils are not there, then who will be there instead? The angels, so there is mercy, kindness and goodness.

### EIGHT DOORS OF PARADISE WILL BE OPENED

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) wants us to be softer and kinder to feel paradise. The opportunities are not only to do good deeds, but to have feelings of the people of paradise.
- The people of paradise feel relaxed, content, loved and satisfied. We even enjoy our food in Ramadan more than any other time. Families gather, there are special foods for Ramadan and there is always excitement when eating and drinking in paradise.
- The impact of the opening of the doors of paradise is:

1. To be encouraged to perform deeds as the people of paradise
  2. To behave as the people of paradise
  3. To have feelings similar to the people of paradise.
- Is there worship, prayer or fasting in paradise? No, but worship is found in paradise? The remembrance of Allah. Whether it is to say subhan Allah, alhamdulillah or any good talk with each other.
  - The doors of paradise will be open so the opportunity to do good deeds will be more, but more than this is to remember Allah (سبحانه) while we are fasting, and this is like paradise.
  - Someone can be fasting without remembering Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), how will it be? It will be very

difficult because a person just remembers the time for iftar or what to eat. Or to pray without remembering Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) which is very burdensome.

- When the doors of paradise are open, is not only to make the worships easy, but to make Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) the highlight in any worship we may be performing.
- The best who fast are those who remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) the most.

## REMEMBER ALLAH MUCH IN RAMADAN

The Prophet (ﷺ) said:

(قَالَ فَأَيُّ الصَّائِمِينَ أَعْظَمُ أَجْرًا؟ قَالَ أَكْثَرُهُمْ لِلَّهِ ذِكْرًا)

Which of those who fast are greatest in reward?  
He said: 'those who remember Allah much'<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> رواه الإمام أحمد في المسند (15553) والطبراني في الدعاء (1887) واللفظ له

- We think fasting is only to not eat or drink, but to remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) while fasting is paradise.
- When we fast, pray and give charity while remembering Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), then what will happen?

### SURAH AL BAQARAH 152

فَاذْكُرُونِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لِي وَلَا تَكْفُرُونِ

So remember Me; I will remember you. And be grateful to Me and do not deny Me.

- When we remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and He remembers us then we will have the feelings of paradise which is being close to Him.
- The month of Ramadan is a great opportunity and we want to enjoy it as a newborn. We do not want copy and paste; we want to rely on

Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and not ourselves. We want to believe that all devils will be chained and all doors of paradise will be opened so that we can draw closer to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and feel we are entering paradise.

- The worship we never want to forget is to remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) because remembering Him is greater. We do not want to be distracted with any worships or problems, but to remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Ramadan is not only about outer rituals, but Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) wants our heart to always be alive, attached and remembering Him. Ramadan will come and go, but remembering Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) does not go away.

- It is important to be grateful to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for prolonging our life, for reuniting us again and alhamdulillah for finishing Surah Al Baqarah, to doing the Names of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) starting Surah Aal Imraan.

MAY ALLAH MAKE US REACH RAMADAN WITH  
REMEMBERING HIM MUCH. AMEEN

## DIVINE NURTURING LESSONS

- *One of the issues is people expect so much from their past experience, so we put so much emphasis on ourselves and what we used to do, so the return will not be the best return.*
- *If we have any opportunity, but are restless, can we enjoy? No because our heart is filled with fear, anxiety and panic.*

- People before Ramadan feel very anxious and pressured. And then suddenly it hits us that Ramadan is coming near. Though we just want to relax and remove any stress from believing in ourselves or what we do.
- Every Ramadan is different, we can have guests one year, or children or just married, but Ramadan is not about emptying our life and being isolated or closing our mobile. This is not practical because something will always come up along the way.
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## REFERENCES

1. الجامع أسماء الله الحسنى - ماهر مقدم
2. فقه الأسماء الحسنى - عبد الرزاق البدر
3. النهج الأسنى - د. محمد النجدي



## RELATED RESOURCES

1. REMEMBRANCE AND HEEDLESSNESS IN RAMADAN

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

PAST CLASS NOTES AND NEW POSTS ON TELEGRAM

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