

# Ramadan 2 – Doing Business with Allah

Translated by: Dr. Faheem Bukhatwa.

## **In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful.**

I advice you people and my self to fear Allah (May He be exulted). Fear Him by doing what he commanded to be done, and refrain from what he ordered to be avoided. Fear Him correctly such that you would not be missed where He ordered you to be, and you would not be seen where he ordered you not to be. Take your provisions from this life for the next. Take up what will get you nearer to your creator, for He is close, and He answers when you call. He gives when he is asked.

Imagine two who intend to embark on a journey. The trip is far through wilderness, the journey is hard and difficult. They took some fuel and set off towards their destination. Along the way, one started getting distracted by what he sees. His mind is occupied by what the trip throws his way. He is busy watching others in their comings and goings. He did not know until his ride was out of fuel in a place with no fuel and no supplies. He remained still expecting to parish unless some other traveler passes by and be kind to him. Or fate may bring some old friend to his rescue.

The other traveler kept a watch on his fuel gauge. When ever the fuel level is a little low, he would stop at the next general purpose station. He gets fuel, rests, get water and other supplies. And so he continues his trip with care, and attention to rest stations along the way. Stopping at each and getting all the supplies until he reached the final destination.

What do you think of the two travelers? Who is the wiser? and the one with the better logic? Most likely your reply would be that the one who took precautions and took better care of the situation is the

wiser. The other; he himself put himself in danger in ignoring the critical situation he was at.

Dear brothers, the state of those two travelers, if we think for a moment, is almost the same as your state, and mine and each and every one of us with the seasons of goodwill, goodness and blessings which Allah (may He be exalted) provided for us every now and again. Those holy and spiritual resting station from which we can refresh with the true fuel and the supplies which are really needed for the life after. The wise ones of us have taken those opportunities and they have been saved and they have won. Some others have ignored those opportunities and they have lost and failed miserably.

Some of Allah's mercies on our blessed nation are: that He made our lives' spans short and our hour of death is defined. He provided us with numerous goodness and blessed seasons. He was nice to make many of our actions deserve rewards from Him, and rewards are counted in many folds. We can do so little and get rewarded greatly. We spend a little and get repaid hugely. Allah says: **{That is Allah's tiding He brings it upon who wishes. And Allah is one with the great tidings}** 57:21.

One of the great seasons, one of the great golden opportunities is the one which we about to embark upon in a few days, A season of blessed days and wonderful nights. That is the holy month of Ramadan. The month which Allah has made fasting of its days one of the pillars of Islam. And the prophet (ppbu) has made it a Sunnah during the nights to do *Tabajjud* and *Quiam* prayers. Allah says: **{you believers, it was written that you are to fast; just as it was written for those before you, so you may fear. A number of days, but those of you who are sick or traveling the same number of other days, and those who can stand it a replacement of feeding a needy, this who voluntarily donates is better for him and if you fast it is better for you all if you knew. The month of Ramadan is the month during which the Quran was brought**

down as guidance to people and clear points of guidance and differentiations. Those of you see or attend the start of the month do fast while he who is sick or on travel a number of other days will do. Allah wants easiness for you and He does not want difficulties, and complete (fasting) to the full count of the month and say Allah is great for guiding you that you may be thankful}

What a market for business which is sure to profit with Allah to take supplies from, And what a racing track where those with great ambitions can compete. How happy he who in his business transactions with his God was truthful. How profitable is he who was in an agreement with the guidance of his prophet. The prophet (ppbu) said: {**He who fasts Ramadan in faith and expectations, then his/her past sins are forgiven**}. And He also said: {He who does Quiam (Night prayers) Ramadan in faith and expectations, then his past sins are forgiven}. He also said: { He who does Quiam in the *Qadr Night* in faith and expectations, then his past sins are forgiven }

The closer the month of Ramadan becomes the more the believer's heart become humbled and anxious. For one does not know whether one will make it (alive) to this month or not. If one knew that they will live till the month of Ramadan, then one can congratulate him or her self. On the other hand if one's soul departs (in other words one's life will end) before the start of Ramadan then one can feel sorry for him or her self. Also one does not know even if he or she will make it to and through the holy month, if a person is going to be one of the successful ones or one of the disappointed distanced ones. Of what we know and see is that all go and get ready when this guest month arrives. A person with a lost soul is either going to save his soul or send it into a worse state.

Those with life in their hearts, and wisdom in their brains they sell them selves to God the Rich and the Sincere. They approach the

Generous, the Merciful the most Gracious. They fast in fear and expectation. They pray at nights with sincerity and obedience. Hope for and expect their Gods' mercy and fear his punishment. Their bodies unwillingly stay away from beds making supplications with fear and hope. And they spend of what He has given them. That's only because they knew that just making it alive to Ramadan is a great blessing and tiding from Allah deserving to be thankful to His Majesty. That's why they spend Ramadan's day fasting and Ramadan's night praying. They do not argue, do not do wrong, do not shout and give out, do not engage into awful acts nor useless conversations. They read their God's Book and enjoy uttering of its words, they praise His goodness and thank Him for his mercies. They keep their minds and bodies well, and they remember death. They have noble souls and high targets, good aims and guided heart.

Allah says: **{No soul knows what has been hidden for them with which their eyes will be contend as a reward for what they used to do}**. Those are the ones who will benefit from Ramadan, those who will find true freedom in it. For the likes of them, the doors of heavens will be opened and the doors of hell will be closed. The month leaves them after their sins have been forgiven and their wrongful acts have been cleared. With the likes of those that societies are made better and happier and nations become alive. This nation (*ummah*) needs such type of people at all times and all places.

Some people with Ramadan they are not at an agreement, and they are disassociated. Some only see it as a meaningless abstaining, or some old tradition. They intend not to fast during Ramadan secretly or declaring it clearly. They are stupid, disbelieving after believing, Stating that fasting is a limit to the so called freedoms. Which to them means fulfilling their cravings and desire and doing what one's instinct requires. An instinct with no limits and no controls. It is at such a low state as far as Allah is concerned.

Some other people are a miserable bunch. They welcome Ramadan as a month of days of starvation and nights of glutton devour. They sleep the days and stay up the nights till dawn. Ramadan to them is for great feasts of food. There are those who have jobs, they do not turn up for work, and those who abuse and badly treat and behave with other people, unfriendly faces, bad tempered and verbally abusive. They see in Ramadan a hunger which their stomachs can not stand and thirst their bodies can not put up with. How weak some people can be? They only take the crazy irresponsible side of life. They get affected and influence no effect. They live displaced and live off others. They have no belief to be proud of, and have no good behavior to hold on to. Nothing good makes them happy and they are never sincere in worship.

Ramadan is the month of repentance. So, what type of a Ramadan is yours going to be? The prophet said: **{Amen, Amen, Amen}**. Some said: “Prphet of Allah, You went up the *Member* and said Amen, Amen **amen!**”. He said: **{Gabriel (pbu) came to me and said: “Who makes it to Ramadan and does not get forgiveness, then may he be gone to hell fire, may Allah put him at a distance. Say amen” So, I said amen}**.

Slave of Allah, this is the time for hard work if you are serious. This is the time for worship if you are ready. This is the breeze of acceptance, and the flood of goodness. Satan is dropped and the goodness door is opened to those who want. This is the time of return to Allah, cool cleansing and drink, mercy from the Most Gracious and the Most Generous. Hurry up and repent before the door is closed. Take the opportunity and be warned against putting it off or postponement. And don't be with the ones who refused and came out of Ramadan with no forgiveness and no reward.

Those who have so many sins and so much wrong doings, if they do not repent during the month of Ramadan, then when shall they

repent? And if they do not return to Allah during this month of mercy and forgiveness, then when will they ever do?

Do return to Allah, knock his door, ask a plenty for forgiveness, and take the opportunity of the profitable times. For the days of this season are a few. The times of good deeds are witnessed. In Ramadan there are precious joules. Do not waist it by messing and playing and doing what has no real value. For you do not know when you will be returned to Allah. And you do not know if you will make it to next Ramadan or not. The wise one is that who looks at his own situation, thinks out of his or her short comings, correct him self before he is surprised by the sudden death. That's when his work is terminated and he is transported to the life of veil then the life of judgment.

May Allah make our fasting a true and an accepted fast. May Allah makes our fasting be in faith and expectation, faith in what He has, and expectation of His reward. We ask Allah to make us and you and all Muslims with those who fast the month, receive the full reward, and win the night of *Qadr*. I also ask Him to make us amongst those who will fast and do *quiam* night prayers in faith and expectation. Allah, make our fasting be counted with those who fast and our Quiam with those who do Quiam. And all thanks be to Allah.