

Ramadan 4 – Deeds in Ramadan

In the name of Allah Most Gracious most merciful.

Peace and prayers be upon the most honorable messenger.

I recommend to you and to myself to fear Allah. He says: {O' believers, fear Allah as He ought to be feared, and only die as Muslims} 3-102.

For days pass as clouds do, and years come to end pretty quickly. We often forget to think and reflect. Allah says: {It is He who made the night and the day's successions for whoever wishes to remember or wants to be thankful} Forqan-62.

The Muslim in his/her short life and numbered days is compensated by Allah with seasons of goodness. Allah also gave the Muslim the honor of time and place in order to fix and put right the wrongful part of his/her life. One of those seasons is the holy month of Ramadan. Allah says: {you who believe, fasting has been written upon you; just as it was written upon those before you. So you may fear} 2-183

One of the factors affecting the happiness of a one's self is the return of good times and good days. Allah has graced his slaves with a whole month of mercies and goodness. Here the days of this month quickly pass; and in each day a caller calls: "you, who want goodness, come. Satans are shackled, and the gates to hell are closed, and the gates to mercy and forgiveness are wide open.

During Ramadan the force of desires is lightened off, and the hands are raised up to Allah, one asks for a slip up to be forgotten, and another asks for his fidelity to be successful. Another is asking to be helped with his/her punishment, and a forth asks for the best reward. A fifth was kept busy through speaking of Allah's from asking Him. Praise be to Allah; who guided them to this while others are not as successful. The fruits and results of fasting are graces that are so many that can not be counted nor accounted for by a lazy, distracted

individual who spends his month sleeping at day and killing time at night.

Fasting is a shield from hell fire. The messenger (PPBU) said: {Fasting is a shield the slave uses to shield him/her self from fire}. Fasting is also a shield from desires. The messenger (PPBU) said: {All you youth, this who can afford marriage let them get married. And if you can't let them fast for fasting renews fear}. Fasting is also a route to paradise. Abi-Aumamah asked the messenger (PPBU): "Messenger of Allah, tell me something because of it, Allah will benefit me", The messenger (PPBU) said: {take up fasting, there is nothing like it}. The messenger also said: {Paradise has a door that is called Rayanne (the word means the well watered one, or the opposite of thirsty, or the thirst quencher), only those who fast will enter through this door. After they enter; it is closed and no one else can use it to enter paradise.

The messenger PPBU said: {fasting and the Quran intermediate for the individual on the day of resurrection. Fasting speaks and says: My Lord, I held him/her off food and desires during the day, let me mediate for him/her. And the Koran speaks and says: I held him/her from sleep at night; let me mediate on his/her behalf. The messenger said: and their mediation is accepted}.

The messenger said: {whoever fasts in faith and expectation, his/her past sins are forgiven}. The messenger also said: {whoever fasts has two delights. They are the delightfulness during breaking of the fast, and the delightfulness when meeting his Lord. And the smell of the mouth of a fasting person is better with Allah than the scent of the Musk}

With all those mercies in fasting, then a Muslim ought to take as much of such mercies as possible. So, the Muslim will have better chance in clearing his/her sins, and achieving the pardon from Hell fire. There is no excuse for not achieving such goals. For those who work for that, this is the time to do more and enjoy it more. And for those who have not been paying attention to this matter, this is the

time to wake up. How wonderful it is to apostrophize to Allah at early dawn; and how quick prayers at the time of breaking-of-fast are answered. How wonderful are those times of fasting, staying up the nights, supplications and asking for forgiveness. Those who suffer the hunger and thirst during fasting in this life, on the day of resurrection they are told: {Eat and drink wholesome, for what you did in days gone by}.

Dear brothers and sisters, take the opportunity of Ramadan to make a true repentance. Repenting is not limited to Ramadan, but during Ramadan repentance is certain. And who knows? You may be reborn again in the month of Ramadan. A person can be born twice: one, is when he/she comes out of the darkness of the womb to the light of this life, and the second is when he/she comes out of the darkness of disobedience to the light of obedience. And what a delight it is for the heart to come back to its Lord repentant, regretful and remorseful, and rejoins the good people.

Ramadan is a chance to put life into one's heart, wake it up from its sleep and feed it with the God fearing sensation. For fear of Allah is an goal of all worships. Ramadan is an occasion to strengthen ties with Allah and break ties with this worldly life. Staying up at nights in worship is one of the means to put life into the heart. The messenger said: {take up staying up at nights; it was the custom of the good people before you, and it is a way of getting closer to your Lord, and it is a way to compensate and clear sins, and a deterrent from doing wrong}.

Staying up at nights in worship implants faith into the heart. When one stays with Allah alone, and the heart makes that contact with Allah, the heart becomes purified and gains goodness.

Ramadan is the month of the Koran. It is a great mean of enlightenment and guidance of the heart. Allah says: {"A blessed book we brought down upon you, to think and reflect on to its miracles or verses"}. Have we given thoughts and time to the Koran?

And its verses? Did that change anything with in us? Where is its effect in our behaviour, our families and homes?

Koran recitation is a multi organ task where the tongue, the mind and the heart all take part. The tongue has the job of perfecting pronunciation, and the mind has the job of interpreting and fathoming the meaning, the heart has the job of picking up the lesson and be effected.

Allah says: {Take from their monies a charity to purify and cleanses them} Tawba-103. For the one who benefits most from giving a charity is the donor him/her self. Because it reds them from being stingy, clears them from sins. Continuous donations for charity do also red the heart from the love for money.

Charity has benefits in this life and in the life after. With charity the sick can be treated, and it guards against the afflictions and against bad aimed at a person. It makes daily life matters easier, it brings more money, it turns off the anger of God, and it removes the effects of sins, and it shades the donor on the Day of Judgment, it hides him from the fire, and fights off the torment.

Charity has a relationship with going towards Allah. Allah says: {bring the kin their rights, and the destitute, the one which is on the road, that is better to those who seek Allah's face} Room-38.

For charity to give its fruits it needs to be continuous. Allah says: {Those who spend their money by night and by day, in secrecy and in public, their rewards are with their Lord, and there is no worry about them and they need never be saddened} 2-274.

Dear brothers, remember and speak of Allah. Allah says: {This who remembers and speaks of Allah and this that does not; are like one who is alive and one who is dead}.

In order for remembering and speaking of Allah to be useful; and in order to connect between the tongue and the heart; it must be

connected with the worship of reflection and thinking. Allah says: {in the creation of heavens and earth, and the difference in night and day are miracles for those with brains. Those who remember and speak of Allah when standing, sitting and on their sides, and they reflect on the creation of the heavens and earth, Our Lord, you did not create all this in vain, Praise be to you. Protect us against the torment of fire} 3-190/191.

Slaves of Allah, pray upon the messenger, for Allah ordered us to do so when He says: {Allah and his angels do pray upon the prophet, You believers, pray upon him and give him greetings for peace} Ahzab-56.

Dear Allah, bless us with the great Koran, and may He make us benefit with its verses and miracles. And forgive our sins. Ask your God for forgiveness, He is the most forgiving, the most merciful.