

# RAMADAN MUBARAK

SPEECH OF THE KHALIFATULLAH OF THE AGE, HAZRAT MUNIR AZIM (ATBA)

30 July 2012 ~ 10 Ramadan 1433 AH

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



My dear brothers,  
sisters and children,

*Assalamoualaikum*

*Warahmatullah*

*Wabarakaatuhu.*

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى  
الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

***“Yaaa-ayyu-hallaziina aamanuu kutibaa alay-kumus  
Siyaamu kamaa kutiba alallaziina min-qablikum la-alla-  
kum tatta-quun.”***

*O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you, as it was  
prescribed for those before you, so that you may become  
righteous. (2: 184)*

We are living the days of Ramadan, a glorious and blessed  
month bestowed to us by Allah so that we can come closer to  
Him all the more. And if we were negligent to Him and His  
commandments before, therefore Ramadan comes as a  
training and a reminder for us to grip firmly to Deen

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(religion) and not to lose sight of our duty to Allah, to His Messenger Hazrat Muhammad (saw) by following his Sunnah and also to follow the Messenger of Allah, the Khalifatullah of your time.

In this present era, we are witnessing extraordinary days of Ramadan, whereby it is Ramadan everyday of our lives (that is, the believers in the Divine Manifestation) for we have got the unique opportunity to live ISLAM as in the times of the past elects of Allah, whereby Allah sends down His Holy Spirit and revelations and inspirations are spread through not only the Messenger of Allah of his time but also his pious disciples and believers who toil night and day to spread the message of Allah in all four corners of the world. *Alhamdulillah*.

Their everyday life becomes exceptional because it is not every day that a person comes to witness the presence of a Khalifatullah in his or her era and the descent of the *Ruh-il-Qoudouss* (Holy Spirit) along with him.

Surah Al-Qadr (Chapter 97) of the Holy Quran refers to this manifestation of divine glory, and I shall come back on this subject later on, *Insha-Allah*.

The month of Ramadan is a month which its first part is a mercy, its middle His (Allah's) forgiveness and last (part), the liberation from the fires of hell. Anyone who lightens the burden of His (Allah's) servants in this month, Allah will forgive him and free him of hell-fire. In this month, the believer should apply to accomplish four things excessively: two for the pleasure of His *Rab* (Lord) and two such that he

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cannot do without. Those which are for the pleasures of His *Rab* are: recite excessively the Kalima Tayyibah, that is: “*Laa Ilaaha Illallah*” and ask a lot for Allah’s forgiveness (*Istighfar*). And as for the two things that he cannot do without, these are: implore Allah for His Paradise and seek His protection against Hell.

It is reported that Hazrat Muhammad (saw) said during one of his sermons: “*O people! The Month of Allah has come to you. The month which, in the eyes of Allah is the most virtuous of the months. Its days are the best days; its nights are the best nights, and its hours (moments) the best hours (moments).*”

Fasting is thus a complete purification for the believer and a means to develop his awareness of the presence of Allah. The recognition of the presence of Allah, the fear of Allah, that is, *Taqwa*, is a protection against the Satans and suffering in this very world. Allah informs us: “***And whoever fears Allah, He (Allah) will open the path of deliverance for him. And will provide for him from where he does not expect. And whoever relies upon Allah – then He is sufficient for him. Indeed, Allah will accomplish His purpose. Without doubt Allah has kept a measure for everything.***” (Quran 65: 3-4)

Deliverance from evils and to acquire a pure heart requires also much effort from the part of the Muslim. His life should be directed in accomplishing this goal, and to enter into the sight of Allah, gaining His pleasure. Thus, the first part of the month of Ramadan becomes a first approach for him to shed himself from the grip of the attractions of this world and to go

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in search of the mercy of Allah. When he has got the attention of Allah on him through his efforts to please Allah, by performing all the licit and pure acts of worship as ordained by Allah, and by keeping away from the forbidden during his state of fasting, therefore the person gets to control his *nafs* (ego or carnal desires) and drives himself to a point of recognizing the greatness of Allah, His might and wisdom, while at the same time recognizing that he was a great sinner against his own soul. The faster therefore seeks Allah's forgiveness, pleading for this forgiveness to pervade his whole life, not only for forgiveness for past sins, but he realizes also that as man is weak and can fall prey to the temptation of the satans of this world, therefore he pleads Allah to become His mighty help against his own low desires and to forgive him for his mistakes at each step that he may take in life. After his heart has got consolation in *Istigfaar*, the state of the believer progresses to another stage whereby he earns the pleasure of Allah whereby Allah grants him his prayer and becomes his Shield both against his inner satans and those of the outside world but Allah also become his shield against the hellfire, provided that all through his life, from the moment he has made his blessed intention to reform himself to the moment of his death, he has observed the commandments of Allah and abide by his silent promises to Allah as it should have been observed. Therefore hell becomes a forbidden territory for him.

Therefore the three parts of the month of Ramadan are actually a representation of the life of the believer for it is a guideline as to what he should make out of his life so that he

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may earn both the pleasure of Allah and the protection against all evils and hell.

Unfortunately many Muslims today have a bad conception of fasting and the activities of the faster. They stay as in a state of hibernation and spend most of their time in bed. If they come to fear Allah, they stand only for the hours of prayers (*Salat*) and then they go to sleep again. This sleep makes them become lazy. And their (spiritual) activities decrease. Ramadan is a time of intense activity for the true believers, who will gladly deny food and drink, and make enormous efforts in the path of Allah.

Moreover, a thing of concern for us today is the innovation in the *Iftaar* of the believer, that is, the breaking of the Fast. Nowadays Muslims brothers and sisters are making the *Iftaar* become a feast, a moment of excessive rejoice and eating and drinking. The *Iftaar* of the faster should have been simple for the breaking of the fast is an act of *Ibaadat* (worship).

This practice to make a feast out of the *Iftaar* in the month of Ramadan are known to occur nowadays in the Muslim Arab countries, and it is most unfortunate that in a little island like Mauritius this practice has become widespread among the other Jamaats.

Recently on my Dawa mission, I have met Muslim brothers and it is sad to see that now they are losing their valuable time in preparation of great “Iftaari” or Iftaar party. It is a shame for the Muslims to have reached such a point that the blessed norms of the month of Ramadan are not respected at

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all. Muslims automatically fast and rejoice excessively at the breaking of the fast.

It is known that our Nabi Kareem (saw) has encouraged the believers to break the fast really quickly and to go to perform their Maghrib prayer as soon as possible after the *Iftaar*, for it is a joy for the faster to break his fast and meet with his Lord. But to make a feast out of it? This is indeed out of the question!

There is no place to eat more than usual during Ramadan. A balanced diet, even in small amounts less than normal consumption, is sufficient to keep a person healthy and in shape during this month. Eating a surplus of more varied menus; more food, rich in fat are far from the prescription of the Quran and Hadiths during Ramadan. This will fatten people who eat this way.

The Holy Prophet (saw) has said: *“A few bites, must be sufficient (for man) to stay on his feet. (If he desires eating), the best would be that he fills one-third of his stomach with food, one-third with drink (water), and the last one-third must be left empty (for air).”* (Tirmidhi, Ibn Majah)

Behind the practice of fasting, there is the question of a diet for the health of the creatures of Allah, so that they remain healthy and focus more on all forms of prayers in Islam. One must not forgo the Quran and Sunnah in order to establish his own rulings. Muslims lose their way when they deviate from the pure teachings of Allah and of His noble prophet Hazrat Muhammad (saw). If one follows the Quran and

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Sunnah, especially so in the month of Ramadan, the month of training for the rest 11 months to come, then the true Muslim shall benefit from it, be it at physical, moral and spiritual levels.

Ramadan is not a month wherein to hold feasts and to be lazy. It is actually a trial for the Muslims to test the level of his faith and obedience to Allah by complying to the commandments of Allah, in such a way that once they accomplish it as it should be done, they obtain Allah Himself as their reward. May it be so, *Insha-Allah*.

May Allah give the Muslims all round the world the *Tawfiq* to forgo Shirk and Bidah in all forms and to re-establish them on the Shahada: *Laa Ilaaha Illallah*. May Allah bring the Ummah of Hazrat Muhammad (saw) as one pure body, and may the Divine Truth be established in all glory. May this month of Ramadan bring such great lessons for the Muslims so that we all awake from our long sleep of ignorance and negligence and stick to the Rope of Allah firmly and definitely till our last breath in this world. *Insha-Allah, Ameen*.