

RAMADAN

In the heart of the divine

LIFE can be very unpredictable. Ups and downs witness to our joys and despondencies on a daily basis. Yet amidst both the joy and the pain, there is the secret link which enables both joy and pain to blend together and vanish in oblivion.

The heart is a treasure both vital to the physical and spiritual body of man. The physical heart is the Managing Director of the whole body, yet even that superior has a Superior to control it, and He is none other than the Creator of the Heavens and Earth. He is the Originator, the Blissful Companion which the both physical and spiritual hearts need to remain alive, be it in this world and the hereafter.

The heart is an ocean of divine light, which if we let

ourselves free to plunge in will prove to be the most soothing of feelings. Emotions of the purest state shall flow in to make way like a river drifting slowly but surely towards the ocean. But this time, that ocean is none other than the heart which contains the most precious of jewels, that is divine love.

When Allah opens His heart to one of His chosen servants, He makes an exquisite love penetrate that heart which beholds His remembrance night and day for the quest of eternal salvation. This salvation which is sought is to be in complete peace with the Maker. Therein flow divine love, mercy, compassion and forgiveness. That heart is indeed one with the Heart of Allah. Neither Allah nor that servant of His can bear

separation from each other. All is one, and one is all. Unity and submission, both blend together to make the perfect state between man and Allah, and at the end of the day, even the "between" is removed to let both merge in unity.

As a Muslim on a mission; yes, a mission to be fulfilled every year, in the most diligent way possible, in order to seek the Beholder of Destiny, each of us has the duty to make our lives a piece of terrestrial paradise so that the niche we have conceived may find its way to the eternal abode safe and sound. The life of the Mus-

lim holds many blessed opportunities offered by the Almighty to pave the way towards that objective, and one of them is invariably the holy month of Ramadan.

BLESSED GUEST

Ramadan comes every year, for the duration of only one month, yet no Muslim can safely say that he shall be able to receive that blessed guest and divine gift each and every year, for the Beholder of Destiny is He who chooses who are to be alive every year to witness such blessings which guarantee both the

material and spiritual prosperity of man if only he is loyal to the Divine: Allah, and His divine teachings, messengers, path and daily guidance among others.

Ramadan comes as a reminder for the Muslim believer to erase his un-Islamic ways and to return back to the fold of His faith like a little bird returning back to the nest and its mother before taking the plunge into thin air. Likewise, if our earthly body needs daily nourishment, but each Muslim has a duty to make a retrospective of his life and to reform and purify himself, his soul, in preparation for the final plunge

into thin air, that is, his final seconds on earth.

Therefore Ramadan, being divinely ordained, is not a prison for the servants of Allah, but is a means to flee the golden prison which this world represents, a flimsy and temporal place before the final departure. Those who welcome it with open arms, with fear of Allah in the heart, and let their souls feast on its spiritual foods, such as the five daily prayers as well as the voluntary ones, the recitation of the Holy Quran and time spent in the remembrance of Allah, as well as keeping a positive attitude in life and helping

others, therefore they are the ones who shall benefit from such blessings which can be sufficient for them till eternity. Even if they witness even one Ramadan in this blessed condition, therefore this one Ramadan becomes sufficient for them to accede to Allah successfully even if the temporal life denies them any other Ramadan. What such people receive in return is much more, that is to say, that as detailed in the Holy Quran, the door of salvation is opened for them and they shall accede to gardens of bliss.

Therefore, my dear Muslim brothers and sisters let it be that this Ramadan be spent as our last Ramadan. May we spend it with all fervour of a true Muslim, not only for namesake or as a routine, but as a truly blessed

recipient who has received the mightiest of rewards whilst being still on earth. All is temporal, even our earthly body, but our soul is of the essence of the Supreme Being who shall call us back to Him at anytime. May each one of us realise this and maximize the divine blessings through submitting to His will and observing the rightly-guided rites which shall see to the salvation of our souls, both in this world and the hereafter. *Insha-Allah.*

I wish you from the bottom of my heart: **Ramadan Mubarak!** May this month be Mubarak for each one of you in Mauritius, as well as all our Muslim brothers and sisters around the world. *Ameen.*

Hazrat Imam Muhyi-ud-Din Munir
A. Azim