

Striving in Ramadan

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ. الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالْعَاقِبَةُ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ
خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّينَ وَعَلَى جَمِيعِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمُرْسَلِينَ.

All Praise is due to Allah, we praise Him and we seek help from Him. We ask forgiveness from Him. We repent to Him; and we seek refuge in Him from our own evils and our own bad deeds. Anyone who is guided by Allah, he is indeed guided; and anyone who has been left astray, will find no one to guide him. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, the Only One without any partner; and I bear witness that Muhammad, peace and blessings on him, is His servant, and His messenger.

Dear Brothers and Sisters ...

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Ramadan is Allah's blessed month in which the Prophet ﷺ would congratulate the companions upon its arrival. He ﷺ would say: This is Ramadan it has come upon you. [Sunan an-Nasa'i 2105]

And Rasool Allah ﷺ said: There has come to you Ramadan, a blessed month, which Allah, the Mighty and Sublime, has enjoined you to fast. In it the gates of heaven are opened, and the doors of Hell are closed, and every rebellious devil is chained. In it Allah has a night which is better than a thousand months, whoever is deprived of its goodness is indeed deprived. (Mishkat 1956)

<https://sunnah.com/mishkat:1956>

And the Prophet's ﷺ words "There has come to you Ramadan, a blessed month" is an indication of the glad tidings that the Prophet ﷺ gave his companions of the arrival of this great month.

Narrated Abu Huraira: Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said, "Whoever observes fasts during the month of Ramadan out of sincere faith, and hoping to attain Allah's rewards, then all his past sins will be forgiven." Sahih al-Bukhari 38

<https://sunnah.com/bukhari:38>

Importance of Ramadan

Kaab Bin Ujra relates Allah's Messenger commanded his companions to arrange the pulpit. When the companions arranged the pulpit. Allah's Messenger while ascending the first step recited "amin". Similarly, when he ascended the second step, he recited "Amin". When he ascended the third step, he recited Amin. Then Allah's Messenger descended from the pulpit. We enquired, "O Messenger of Allah, today we heard something from you that we never been heard before. The Prophet (ﷺ) said:

Verily, Gabriel came to me and he said: Whoever reaches the month of Ramadan and he is not forgiven, May he suffer doom (then he will enter Hellfire and Allah will cast him far away). **I SAID AMEEN.**

When I climb the second step Gabriel said, may the person suffer doom (then he will enter Hellfire and Allah will cast him far away) when your name recited before him, who does not send blessings upon you, in answer **I SAID AMEEN.**

When I climbed the third step, Gabriel said may the person suffer doom (then he will enter Hellfire and Allah will cast him far away) when he finds both or either of his old parents and does not earn paradise by serving them in reply, **I SAID AMEEN.**

(Ṣaḥīḥ Ibn Targheeb al bani 1333 vol 1, 985).

Brothers & Sisters this is the season of forgiveness. So let us seek forgiveness plentifully. For seeking forgiveness is a great matter. And especially in this noble season. And the Prophet ﷺ sought repentance the most.

Abu Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) said: I have not seen anyone say, I seek the forgiveness of Allah and repent to Him, more than the Messenger of Allah ﷺ. [Sahih Ibn Haban 928].

The Prophet ﷺ said: Glad tidings to those who find a lot of seeking forgiveness in the record of their deeds. [Sunan Ibn Majah 3818]

<https://sunnah.com/ibnmajah:3818>

So turn to Allah Almighty in repentance to Him, seeking forgiveness from every sin and misdeed. Such that Allah Almighty may cover us all with His mercy and increase upon us His favors, grace and giving.

We ask Allah Almighty for wellbeing and forgiveness. And that He grants us all a genuine repentance. And that He liberates us all from the fire. And that He gives us success in taking advantage of the seasons of goodness. And that he guides us all to the straight path. Indeed, Allah is All Hearing, Responding.

I conclude with this and send prayers of blessings and peace upon our Prophet as your Lord commanded:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا ﴿٥٦﴾

Allahumma Sallai Al'a Muahmmad'n wa'aila Muhammad

Remember Allah, the Great – He will remember you. Thank Him for His favours – He will increase you therein. And seek forgiveness from Him – He will forgive you. And be conscious of Him – He will provide you a way out of difficult matters. And, establish the prayer.