

TANZEEM-E-ISLAMI



Striving for the Law of Allah, on the Land of Allah

PERSPECTIVE

The online journal of Tanzeem-e-Islami

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A blend that gives Muslims an insight into the events of the past, those happenings at present and the Signs of things to come...

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From the Qur'an:

The month of Ramadan is the one in which the Qur'an was revealed as guidance for mankind, and as clear signs that show the right way and distinguish between right and wrong. So those of you who witness the month must fast in it. But the one who is sick, or is on a journey (should fast) as much from other days (as he missed). Allah intends (to provide) ease for you and does not intend (to create) hardship for you. All this is so that you may complete the number (of fasts as prescribed) and proclaim the Takbir of Allah for having guided you, and (so) that you may be grateful.

(Surah Al-Baqarah: Ayat 185)

Hadith

The Holy Prophet (ﷺ) is reported to have said:

"Every deed of the son of Adam is multiplied, a good deed receiving a tenfold to seven hundredfold reward. Allah said: 'Except for fasting, as it is for Me, and I will reward it.'"

(Sahih Bukhari: Hadith 1904)

All praise is due to Allah (SWT), and peace & blessing on his noble Messengers (AS), in particular, on the last of them all the blessed Prophet Muhammad (SAAW).

The blessed month of Ramadan has commenced, demanding that we observe it in its true essence. This sacred month should be spent as a spiritual training camp for the rest of the eleven months of the year, dedicated to sincere servitude to Allah (SWT). It should be utilized to restrain our rebellious souls, strive to connect ourselves with every aspect of the noble example of the Messenger of Allah (SAAW), and reap its immense benefits. When observed with this spirit, this great month becomes a season of abundant goodness.

According to a blessed hadith, during this sacred month, the devils are chained, an atmosphere of righteousness prevails, and acts of virtue become easier for believers. We must wholeheartedly thank Allah (SWT) Almighty for granting us this springtime of goodness and for giving us another opportunity to distance ourselves from sin and wrongdoing. Many people who were with us last year have passed away, and they were not blessed with this Ramadan. Therefore, we must consider this as if it were our last Ramadan, striving to absorb its blessings, accumulate virtues, seek Allah's (SWT) mercy, forgiveness, and pardon, and earn His pleasure so that we may attain success in the eternal life of the Hereafter.

According to a hadith of the Prophet (SAAW), it is a great misfortune, deprivation, and ruin for a person to witness the month of Ramadan and fail to attain his forgiveness.

The Qur'an extensively discusses the obligation of fasting in the 23rd *ruku* of Surah Al-Baqarah, where it addresses the command of fasting, its purpose, its connection with the Qur'an, its true essence, its rules, and the matters related to *I'tikaf* (spiritual retreat). Allah (SWT) commands:

"O believers! Fasting has been prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may attain piety." (Al-Baqarah: 183)

This verse highlights the obligation of fasting and, for encouragement, states that fasting was not prescribed solely upon this Ummah but was also obligatory upon previous nations. From Prophet Adam (AS) to the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAAW), the *Deen* (A complete Code of Life, that includes religion) sent by Allah (SWT) has always been one—*Tawheed* (monotheism). Among its significant pillars, fasting has always been included. However, the Arabs remained without a prophet or messenger for about two and a half thousand years, leading to their unfamiliarity with these religious obligations.

The ultimate goal of fasting, as mentioned in this verse, is *Taqwa* (God-consciousness/Fearing God). *Taqwa* holds immense significance in our faith—it is the root and foundation of all virtues and goodness. The heart is its abode, as the Prophet (SAAW) once pointed to his heart and said: "*Taqwa* is here." (Sahih Muslim)

Taqwa is the awareness that Allah (SWT) is watching over me and that one day, I will stand before Him to be held accountable for all my deeds. This realization compels a person to align their actions on the right path. If *Taqwa* is present, all deeds will be righteous—prayers will be performed with humility and sincerity,

(continued on page 2)

and the entire Shariah will be followed with genuine devotion. Otherwise, the religion will be treated as a mere plaything, as is unfortunately common today.

When we ourselves render Ramadan into a mere routine, how can we attain its virtues? How will we reap the spiritual rewards of fasting during the day? How will we benefit from the blessed hours of *Qiyam al-Layl* (night prayers)? How will we internalize the recitation and listening of the Qur'an in its true essence? How will we be inspired to do righteous deeds? How will we align our personalities with the noble example of the Prophet (SAAW)? How will we develop empathy for the oppressed and destitute Muslims in Gaza and other parts of the world? How will we shed tears for the plight of those oppressed on earth? How will we cultivate the desire to stand as a firm, united force against tyrannical and malevolent powers? How will we kindle the spirit of *jihad* and the longing for *shahadah*? How will we develop the realization that we must contribute to the establishment of the Law of Allah (SWT) on the Land of Allah (SWT)?

If fasting is perceived as a burden, people will seek various distractions to pass the time. If Qur'anic recitation in night prayers is deemed secondary to Champions Trophy Cricket Tournament, or if participants find amusement in Ramadan TV transmissions filled with frivolous entertainment, then Ramadan's blessed moments will be wasted in mere amusement and play. If the national economy continues under an interest-based system and the media remains an instrument of spreading obscenity and immorality influenced by Western culture, then how can we expect Allah's mercy? How can we attain *Taqwa*?

Ultimately, it is *Taqwa* that keeps a person steadfast on the *Siraat e Mustaqim* (The Straight Path). It is indispensable for true success. When we study the Qur'an, we find that *Taqwa* is a defining characteristic of the people of Paradise, making it a prerequisite for salvation. For example:

- "Guidance is for the God-conscious (muttaqeen)." (*Al-Baqarah: 2*)
- "Paradise has been prepared for the God-conscious (muttaqeen)." (*Aal-e-Imran: 133*)
- "Success belongs to the God-conscious (muttaqeen)." (*An-Naba: 31*)
- "Indeed, the righteous (muttaqeen) will be in gardens (of Paradise) enjoying the blessings of Allah." (*At-Tur: 17*)
- "Indeed, the righteous (muttaqeen) will be in gardens and springs." (*Adh-Dhariyat: 15*)

To cultivate this essential trait of *Taqwa*, fasting has been made obligatory along with other forms of worship. Fasting and the Qur'an are deeply interconnected—fasting fosters *Taqwa*, and the Qur'an provides guidance for the God-conscious. As Allah says:

"This is the Book about which there is no doubt, a guidance for the God-conscious (*muttaqeen*)." (*Al-Baqarah: 2*)

Indeed, the Qur'an is potentially a guidance for all of humanity, and guidance (*hidayah*) is the most valuable treasure—one that we constantly seek in every unit of our prayers:

"(O Allah) Guide us to the Straight Path." (*Al-Fatiha: 6*)

The greatest need of humanity in this world is guidance, which Allah (SWT) has provided in the form of the Qur'an. This divine guide encompasses all aspects of life, addressing men and women, rulers and subjects, scholars and laypeople, parents and children, husbands and wives, teachers and students—everyone.

Ramadan is also a month of patience, as the Prophet (SAAW) said: "The reward for patience is nothing but Paradise." In fasting, a person endures hunger and thirst despite having access to food and drink, and refrains from fulfilling sexual desires. However, there is another form of patience—restraining from lying and all sinful acts. Without this, fasting is incomplete. According to hadith, if a fasting person does not abandon falsehood and sinful actions, Allah has no need for him to abstain from food and drink. The Prophet (SAAW) also warned:

"Many fasting people gain nothing from their fasts except hunger, and many who stand in night prayers gain nothing except sleeplessness."

Nevertheless, fasting remains an obligatory act, while night prayers (*Qiyam al-Layl*) are highly recommended. The best way to observe them is by spending a significant portion of the night in *Taraweeh* and *Tahajjud*, reciting and reflecting upon the Qur'an. The reason for *Laylatul Qadr's* immense virtue is that the Qur'an was revealed in it.

A major tragedy in Pakistan is that most Muslims do not understand Arabic, making it difficult for them to comprehend the Qur'an. Recognizing this gap, Dr. Israr Ahmad (RAA) initiated the *Daurah Tarjuma Qur'an* in 1984, integrating Qur'anic translation with Taraweeh prayers. This year, over 125 locations across Pakistan will host these sessions, including segregated (in *pardah*) arrangements for ladies.

May Allah (SWT) grant us the ability to fully benefit from the blessings of this sacred month.

Ameen!

Signing off...

Raza ul Haq (Editor)

Ramadan: A Month Of Spiritual Renewal, Discipline, And Divine Blessings

Ramadan is a sacred month of fasting, self-discipline, and spiritual renewal. It fosters piety, moral growth, and unity while offering physical and mental benefits. Its essence extends beyond fasting

By: Muhammad Mohsin Iqbal

The month of Ramadan is a divine blessing, a spiritual retreat, and a moral rehabilitation program designed by Allah Almighty to realign the lives of believers with His commandments. It serves as a sacred pause in the ceaseless distractions of the world, an opportunity to cleanse the soul, refine character, and renew faith. The act of fasting, or Roza, is not merely an abstention from food and drink; rather, it is an intensive course in self-discipline, patience, and devotion.

Almighty Allah, in His infinite wisdom, has ordained Ramadan as a month of mercy and forgiveness, offering His servants a chance to return to Him with a purified heart. The Holy Quran states: "O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you may become righteous." (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:183). This verse underscores the true essence of fasting—attaining righteousness. It is a month that serves as a spiritual mirror, reflecting one's weaknesses and providing the means for self-correction. The temptations and distractions that veer one away from the path of piety are momentarily set aside, allowing the believer to focus entirely on seeking the pleasure of Allah and His beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: "When Ramadan enters, the gates of Paradise are opened, the gates of Hellfire are closed, and the devils are chained." (Sahih Bukhari, 1899). This Hadith highlights the unparalleled opportunity presented to believers—one where evil influences are minimised, and good deeds are multiplied. The abstention from food and drink is a symbolic exercise in self-restraint, fostering a greater awareness of one's actions, words, and intentions.

Besides Ramadan being a time of spiritual rejuvenation, fasting also helps to overhaul the entire body and provides protection and cure from many diseases, according to medical science. The process of intermittent fasting during Ramadan has been linked to improved metabolism, detoxification, and enhanced immune function. It reduces the risk of chronic illnesses such as diabetes, heart disease, and obesity while promoting mental clarity and emotional well-being. This holistic benefit of fasting further reinforces its divine wisdom, making it not only a spiritual duty but also a means of attaining physical well-being.

The moral transformation that Ramadan encourages extends beyond mere personal piety. It is a time to cultivate virtues such as patience, kindness, humility, and generosity. It teaches a lesson in empathy, allowing the privileged to experience the hunger and deprivation of the less fortunate. This moral awakening fuels acts of charity, as the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was known to be the most generous during Ramadan: "The Messenger of Allah was the most generous of people, and he was even more generous in Ramadan." (Sahih Bukhari, 6)

The collective experience of fasting, praying Taraweeh, and sharing meals with family and the needy strengthens bonds of brotherhood. It eradicates social barriers, as all—rich or poor, young or old—partake in the same spiritual journey.

Fasting serves as a means to break free from destructive habits. Whether it is dishonesty, backbiting, arrogance, or negligence in worship, Ramadan provides a structured environment to abandon these vices. The Prophet (PBUH) emphasised the importance of ethical conduct during fasting: "Whoever does not give up false speech and evil deeds while fasting, Allah does not need his leaving his food and drink." (Sahih Bukhari, 1903)

Thus, fasting is not merely a physical exercise but a comprehensive moral discipline. It is an opportunity to cleanse the heart from malice, the tongue from harmful speech, and the mind from impure thoughts. True fasting extends beyond hunger; it involves the fasting of the eyes from what is forbidden, the ears from idle gossip, and the heart from hatred and envy.

Ramadan also revitalises the relationship between the believer and the Quran. It is the month in which the Holy Quran was revealed, as Allah says: "The month of Ramadan [is that] in which was revealed the Quran, a guidance for the people and clear proofs of guidance and criterion." (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:185) The recitation of the Quran during this month strengthens faith, deepens understanding, and provides clarity in distinguishing right from wrong. It is a time for reflection, where one contemplates the deeper meanings of life and one's purpose in this world.

Moreover, Ramadan instills a deep sense of accountability. The believer becomes acutely aware of their actions, knowing that Allah is ever-watchful. This heightened consciousness extends beyond Ramadan, fostering a lifelong commitment to righteousness. When a person successfully controls their desires and refrains from sinful behavior for a month, they are better equipped to resist temptations throughout the year.

The true success of Ramadan is measured by the transformation it brings in a person's character. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) beautifully stated: "The best among you are those who have the best manners and character." (Sahih Bukhari, 3559)

This month provides an opportunity to develop patience in adversity, gratitude in abundance, and sincerity in worship. It is a training ground for humility, reminding the believer that all worldly possessions are temporary and that true success lies in the pleasure of Allah.

Ramadan also fosters unity within the Muslim Ummah. The collective experience of fasting, praying Taraweeh, and sharing meals with family and the needy strengthens bonds of brotherhood. It eradicates social barriers, as all—rich or poor, young or old—partake in the same spiritual journey.

As Ramadan comes to an end, the challenge lies in maintaining the spiritual progress achieved during this blessed month. The habits formed, such as regular prayer, Quran recitation, and acts of kindness, should not be abandoned. Rather, they should serve as a foundation for continuous self-improvement. Allah's mercy is not confined to Ramadan; His doors of forgiveness remain open throughout the year.

The month of Ramadan is, indeed, a refresher course in a believer's life. It is a period of renewal, a time to realign one's life with the divine commands, and an opportunity to cleanse the soul of impurities. It is a gift from Allah, a means of redemption, and a path to eternal success. Let us make the most of this sacred month, not just through ritual fasting but by truly embodying the principles of Islam in our daily lives. May Allah grant us the ability to utilise Ramadan as a means to attain His pleasure and guidance. Ameen!

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Press Releases issued by Tanzeem-e-Islami

23 February 2025

PEMRA must prevent the sanctity of Ramadan from being violated on television channels.

Lahore (PR): This was said by the Ameer of Tanzeem e Islami, **Shujauddin Shaikh**, in a statement. The Ameer said that the blessed month of Ramadan, a time of divine mercy and blessings, is upon us. He emphasized that Allah (SWT) Almighty has granted Muslims an immeasurable blessing in the form of Ramadan, making fasting obligatory during the day and the practice of Qiyam-ul-Lail (night prayers) to recite, listen to, and understand the Holy Qur'an, so that believers may receive maximum divine mercy. However, for the past several years, the so-called "special Ramadan transmissions" aired by television channels have been filled with frivolity and indecency, which is highly condemnable. In such a sacred time, it is deeply regrettable—even shameful—that the Champions Trophy cricket tournament is being scheduled during these blessed nights, with its broadcasts being aired on television. The Ameer emphasized that PEMRA must enforce a strict code of conduct for all television channels, ensuring that only programs containing authentic religious discourse presented with the Islamic code of dignity and sincerity are allowed. Furthermore, individuals engaging in sectarian debates or adopting a confrontational style that spreads discord should be prohibited. He also demanded a ban on unethical and obscene advertisements and programs during the sacred hours of Sehr and Iftar. The reality is that in an Islamic ideological state, the broadcast on television channels of any content that contradicts Islamic teachings and Shariah is an open disobedience of Allah (SWT) and His Messenger (SAAW). Therefore, it is imperative that we sincerely repent at both an individual and collective level during this blessed month. Special prayers and supplications should be arranged for the sanctity of Al-Aqsa Mosque and the oppressed Palestinian Muslims, and all possible financial support should be extended to the besieged people of Gaza. He also urged the public to increase pressure on the government and other key decision-makers to take concrete actions in support of Palestinian Muslims. Concluding his address, the Ameer called upon the nation to embrace the blessings of Ramadan and make a firm commitment to transforming Pakistan into a genuine Islamic welfare state, as only then can we attain the pleasure of Allah (SWT) and be eligible for salvation in the Hereafter. In Sha Allah!

21 February 2024

The longstanding desire of the malevolent forces is to turn Pakistan's western border into a battlefield.

Lahore (PR): This was said by the Ameer of Tanzeem-e-Islami, **Shujauddin Shaikh**, in a statement. The Ameer expressed deep regret over Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister seeking assistance from the United Nations Secretary-General in New York regarding the alleged use of Afghan territory for terrorist activities in Pakistan. He questioned who is unaware that the United Nations functions as a mere slave of the U.S. and that the U.S., along with other malicious forces, has a clear agenda to further escalate tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The Ameer stated that in light of recent global developments, these malevolent forces are making concerted efforts to push Afghanistan and Pakistan into a direct conflict, thereby increasing instability between the two neighboring Muslim nations and preventing them from achieving unity and solidarity. The reality is that a recent report from a subsidiary body of the United Nations, which claims that the Afghan Taliban are supporting the Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) in cross-border terrorism and that the Afghan Taliban, TTP, a Tajik group, and Al-Qaeda are jointly running a terrorism network targeting neighboring countries, is not only fabricated but also part of a larger conspiracy to weaken the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan. He emphasized that the speech delivered by the Quaid of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam in the National Assembly should serve as a wake-up call for the government of Pakistan and the country's establishment. In particular, the unusual surge in separatist movements in certain districts of Balochistan and the waning writ of the state in the northern regions of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa should be matters of grave concern and humiliation for both civilian and military institutions. The Ameer further stated that on the economic front, it is highly alarming that another U.S. proxy, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), is interfering in Pakistan's internal affairs. He stressed the urgent need for both civilian and military leaderships to free Pakistan from American influence as soon as possible. He called for resolving all pressing issues along Pakistan's western border through negotiations and mutual understanding with Afghanistan, so that the nefarious designs of the malicious global forces regarding both Pakistan and Afghanistan can be thwarted.