

خواتر رمضان

لليلى حمدان الفلسطينية

Ramaḍān *Reflections*

Laylā Ḥamdān al-Filastīni

Tm
P U B L I S H E R S

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Ramaḍān Reflections

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PUBLISHERS

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AUTHOR'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY



Peace be upon you, and the mercy of Allāh and His blessings!

I am a Palestinian writer. I was born and raised in the lands of emigration, between the Arab world and the West.

My Studies:

I obtained a Master's degree in Medicine, along with certifications in Journalism, Media, and Marketing. This, however, did not prevent me from being engaged in the pursuit of Islamic knowledge, da‘wah, literature, and writing on the issues of the Muslim Ummah, which is my primary occupation.

My Da‘wah Journey (1422 - 1438 AH):

I worked in the field of *da‘wah* and education in the West. I was active in delivering lectures in mosques, conducting courses, and teaching the children of the Muslim community the fundamentals of their religion, their creed, and their Arabic language.

Digital Journey (1438 AH – Present):

Articles, Books, and Research are my focus. I worked in the field of online da‘wah on forums dedicated to seeking knowledge and da‘wah. For this purpose, I studied courses in marketing and advertising design. I also worked in editorial management for websites aimed at building awareness and media.

My Hobbies:

Reading and Writing. I am passionate about reading, studying, research, and observing everything that nurtures knowledge, broadens one's cultural reserve, and builds determination—provided it serves our foremost cause: elevating the word of Allāh (*Majestic and Noble*) and then the renaissance of the Muslim Ummah, honorable and lofty through its Islam, its glory, and its progress.

Launch of My Website¹ (1443 AH):

A step towards greater giving. Finally, on this website—the effort of one with little—I ask Allāh (*Majestic and Noble*) to grant good, pleasure, success, and love to all who contributed to bringing it to light: in idea, design, programming, and support. And that He makes it a proof for me and a righteous legacy that benefits Muslims everywhere. Our final call is that all praise is due to Allāh, the Lord of the worlds, and may prayers and

¹ <https://lylahamdan.com>

peace be upon our trustworthy Prophet, Muḥammad, and upon his family and all his companions.

Launch of 'Upon the Prophetic Methodology' (1444 AH):

This was the beginning, and this shall be the end. It is merely the effort of one with little, aiming to unite upon the methodology of the Prophet (*peace be upon him*), to enjoin one another to truth, and to be patient upon the path of the believers. Our role model is the Prophet (*peace be upon him*) and the foremost, the first. We hope to enter into the saying of Allāh, the Most High:

﴿والذين اتبعوهم بإحسان﴾

{...and those who followed them in goodness...} (Surah al-Tawbah 9:100).

Preparing for the *Khilāfah* of the end times is done by enjoining what the Rightly Guided Caliphs were upon. This is what we hope to provide through this institution: to promote elevation through faith, and work in the path of Allāh (*the Most High*) to establish His law on earth.

Launch of the 'Wasl' Website (1445 AH):

For the news of the oppressed among the people of Islam. 'Wasl' began with the idea of partial coverage of the news of the oppressed among the people of Islam.

It ended as a specialized website in conveying their news from across the world. Our goal was to amplify their voice and provide updates on their news in the Arabic language, due to the weak coverage in this language and, consequently, the weak knowledge of Arabic-speaking Muslims about the conditions of their brothers and sisters.

Launch of the 'Katā'ib al-Himmah' Website (Rabi' al-Thānī 1446):

'Katā'ib al-Himmah' – A Women's Initiative. The idea of the Katā'ib was formed to channel the efforts of girls and women desiring to fortify the frontiers of knowledge, da'wah, and reform, according to the specializations available to the Muslim woman. This website is the fruit of their steadfastness on these frontiers, where they work to keep pace with the needs of Muslim families and communities. They provide the necessary educational materials and awareness to preserve the Islamic identity, carry the trust of Islam by enjoining truth and patience, and prepare Muslims for the tasks and responsibilities that await them in supporting the *Sharī'ah* and establishing the structure of Islam on earth.

INTRODUCTION



This book has gathered the reflections of the month of Ramaḍān for the year 1446 AH. So, O Allāh, let us reach the next Ramaḍān, help us to remember You, thank You, and worship You well within it, and write us among those accepted and pleased with in it and at all times.

And all praise is for Allāh, the Lord of the worlds. And may prayers and peace be upon the most noble of the messengers, our Prophet Muḥammad, and upon his family and his companions, and upon those who are guided by his guidance and follow his Sunnah until the Day of Judgment.

—Laylā Ḥamdān al-Filasṭīni

DAY 1 OF RAMADĀN



﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ...﴾

{O you who believe, fasting has been prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may become righteous...} (Surah al-Baqarah 2:183).

So that you may become righteous!

This is the great and clear purpose of a mighty race, a race where the actions of the heart and the limbs come together in harmony, in obedience to Allāh (*the Most High*) alone, with no partner for Him!

It is not to create in the soul a love for high status on earth, or for showing off and boastfulness. Rather, it is to create in it humility before the truth, righteousness, and fear of Allāh.

This is distinction in its most beautiful and attractive form. Islam makes it obligatory for believing, fast-ing hearts.

This distinction has come as a test of sincerity, so

that arrogance is broken deep within the heart, and its finest details are purified, and it prostrates to its Lord in humility and awe!

It knows that complete success and precedence in action, by obeying its Lord, in faith and seeking His reward alone, in following His commands and avoiding His prohibitions, hoping for His mercy alone and seeking His pleasure even if others are displeased—this reality is right before its eyes:

﴿إِنَّمَا يَتَقَبَّلُ اللَّهُ مِنَ الْمُتَّقِينَ﴾

{Indeed, Allāh only accepts from the righteous} (Surah al-Mā'idah 5:27).

And Allāh knows best the sincerity of the God-fearing, even if he remains hidden... even if the eyes of men do not perceive him, the spotlights do not find him, praise does not encompass him, and the crowds of sycophancy and spectacle do not applaud him!

How excellent, then, is the one of *taqwā*...

﴿إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ﴾

{Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allāh is the most righteous of you.} (Sūrah Al-Hujurāt 49:13)

DAY 2 OF RAMAḌĀN



The only closeness you must give all the details of your life and death for... is closeness to Allāh, even if every person, everyone you loved, trusted, or found comfort in, distances themselves from you!

For your living with the great meanings of *tawḥīd* and *īmān* in everything you experience, feel, and hope for—this is the closeness that enriches you. It creates within you safety and tranquility, and it drives away from you the obsessions and terror of what you fear and what is to come.

Closeness to Allāh (*the Mighty and Majestic*) creates a shield for the heart, strength in the limbs, and a certainty that supports you in the heart of devastating calamities... It is difficult for every medical prescription to give this to you! And all human forces combined are incapable of securing it for you!

﴿وَإِذَا سَأَلَكَ عِبَادِي عَنِّي فَإِنِّي قَرِيبٌ ۖ أُجِيبُ دَعْوَةَ الدَّاعِ إِذَا دَعَانِ ۗ ط
فَلْيَسْتَجِيبُوا لِي وَلْيُؤْمِنُوا بِي لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْشُدُونَ﴾

{And when My servants ask you concerning Me, indeed I am near. I respond to the invocation of the sup-

plicant when he calls upon Me. So let them respond to Me and believe in Me that they may be guided} (Surah al-Baqarah 2:186).

He is near, Glorified is He! A nearness that demands sacrifice without any doubt!

But man wrongs himself, so he becomes transgressing and distances himself!

In Ramaḍān, fasting, racing to do good with the Qurʾān and excellence, and seeing the servants turning to Allāh (*the Most High*)—these teach you to seek closeness to Allāh (*the Most High*) and to seek His pleasure and His love (*Glorified is He*). And you are the broken, weak one who has seen his true reality as a servant to his Master, so his heart burns with fear of falling short of the stations of honor and virtue.

Do not underestimate the power of that burning. It is what raised servants to the ranks of the truthful and the martyrs... And whoever neglects it and extinguishes its light, cooling it, descends to low depths... and low depths! And whoever descends, finds it very hard to rise again!

Love Allāh, draw close to Him, call upon Him with a broken heart, for Allāh alone remains, and all besides Him perishes!

O Allāh, We seek Your closeness! Glory be to You, O Allāh, and praise be to You. Blessed is Your Name and

Exalted is Your Majesty. There is no god but You.

DAY 3 OF RAMAḌĀN



﴿يُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ﴾

{...They believe in Allāh and the Last Day...} (Surah al-Baqarah 2:62).

"...in faith and seeking His reward alone."

These are the firm, deep-rooted meanings upon which the system of belief and morality in a person's being is built. From them blossoms lasting uprightness, reverence, and fear of Allāh.

The believer advances, propelled and provisioned by his faith in Allāh, the Most High, and the Last Day. So his every movement and stillness pulsates with righteous action and vigilance...!

How would the life be of one who knows that Allāh, his Lord, sees him, and that the Day of Reckoning is coming without fail?!

How would his steps be towards the line of death when he knows that beyond it lies a meeting that will make hearts tremble and livers melt!

"In faith and seeking His reward alone"... This is how the believer walks. Believing in his Lord and the Last Day, seeking the reward from his Lord alone for all that befalls him and all that he strives for, for the pleasure of his Lord and for salvation from the Day of Reckoning.

The very essence of his existence is built on these meanings. So if they are extinguished in the depths of his heart, despised, and their living value fades away... their lights go out in the pages of his deeds... He becomes hard-hearted, indifferent, and disobeys his Lord, and so he is destroyed!

And so it is with nations. Their freedom, their excellence, and their success are built on these meanings that necessitate sovereignty and security. Every nation that believed and struggled with the Day of Reckoning before its eyes—its striving was bound to be righteous, splendid, and rightly-guided, and it deserved to gain power and triumph.

So believe, seek His reward, and strive, ever mindful of the Hereafter. You will see by a light from Allāh (*the Most High*)... whether you become a martyr or one who triumphs.

And beware of those who block the path!

He said:

﴿إِنِّي أَنَا اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنَا فَاعْبُدْنِي وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ لِذِكْرِي (14) إِنَّ السَّاعَةَ

آتِيَةً أَكَادُ أَخْفِيهَا لِتُجْزَى كُلُّ نَفْسٍ بِمَا تَسْعَى (15) فَلَا يَصُدُّكَ عَنْهَا مَنْ
لَا يُؤْمِنُ بِهَا وَاتَّبَعَ هَوَاهُ فَتَرْدَى (16) ﴿

{Indeed, I am Allāh. There is no deity except Me, so worship Me and establish prayer for My remembrance. Indeed, the Hour is coming—I almost conceal it—that every soul may be recompensed for what it strives. So do not let one who does not believe in it and follows his desire avert you from it, or you will perish} (Surah Ṭā Hā 20:14-16).

DAY 4 OF RAMAḌĀN



What is the greatest thing people can attain in this world?

What are their most beautiful wishes, their most perfect dreams, the ultimate limit of their imagination for the pleasure and bliss in this world?

What do they race for?

Glitter, adornment, and pleasures! Wealth, supremacy, and high status on earth!

All that people hope for and strive for with sincerity or deceit does not stand in the presence of the majesty and awe of "Paradise."

All attempts to describe the reward of Paradise fall short!

Even if a person gathered every idea and ambition in his mind, he would be incapable of describing Paradise!

Allāh, the Most High, said:

﴿وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤِمِّنَاتِ جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ

فِيهَا وَمَسَاكِنَ طَيِّبَةً فِي جَنَّاتِ عَدْنٍ مَّا وَّرِضُواَنَّ مِّنَ اللّٰهِ اَكْبَرُ ذٰلِكَ هُوَ
الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيْمُ ﴿ۙ﴾

{Allāh has promised the believing men and believing women gardens beneath which rivers flow, wherein they abide eternally, and pleasant dwellings in gardens of perpetual residence. But approval from Allāh is greater. That is the great attainment} (Surah al-Tawbah 9:72).

Gardens! In them is what no eye has seen, no ear has heard, and what has never crossed the heart of any human being!

And above all that... the pleasure of Allāh is greater!

So what expression can do justice to describing this majesty!

And because of this, the remembrance of Paradise is a healing and a balm for wounded hearts. The Messenger of Allāh (*peace be upon him*) would say:

وَلِكِ الْجَنَّةِ.

"For you is Paradise."

مَوْعِدِكُمُ الْجَنَّةِ.

"Your appointment is Paradise."

It is the fullest reward for every calamity that befalls

a Muslim and for every striving and sacrifice. It is an eternal rest that awaits the striving believer in his hardship!

But reaching it is not subject to human measures. Rather, it is subject to what the Lord of mankind has commanded!

DAY 5 OF RAMADĀN



The days and wishes extend in a person's life... and with them extend the tests of sincerity!

And no matter how people's ambitions differ in their pursuits, and no matter how they boast of their achievements and possessions, and act arrogantly or become heedless...

The whole matter revolves around three things...

﴿وَلِيَعْلَمَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَيَتَّخِذَ مِنْكُمْ شُهَدَاءَ ۗ وَاللَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الظَّالِمِينَ﴾

{And so that Allāh may make evident those who believe and take from among you martyrs. And Allāh does not like the wrongdoers} (Surah Āl 'Imrān 3:140).

Everything you experience, O Muslim, of earthquakes, calamities, loss, devastation, and trials, as well as blessings, gifts, and bestowals! All this is so that Allāh may test your heart... how is your faith?

And so that He may select the martyrs! So will you reach the rank of a martyr?

And so that He may distinguish the wrongdoers.

And beware, indeed wrongdoing is great!

And as long as you are a traveler to Allāh, the Most High... be cautious as you cross through this world... of devaluing the honor of faith in yourself and in the believers. And beware that the trivialities of matters and lowly ambitions do not deprive you and make you forget the goal of martyrdom. And beware, once, twice, and three times, of wrongdoing, even if it is with a single word!

For this is the most hopeful path...

And repeat, "O Allāh, place me with the foremost, the first."

"O Allāh, place me with the Prophets, the truthful, the martyrs, and the righteous. What excellent company those are."

Then cast the world at the throats of your enemies, standing high with your faith, undefeated!

So do not think that the forgotten poor person in a corner of the world has a lesser share or is last in the race to Paradise!

How many unknown ones have reached the ranks of the truthful and the martyrs whom people have never heard of! But they are not hidden from their Master!

Perhaps there, under a tree in a barren desert, is a female devout worshipper. Her tongue is constantly

engaged in remembering Allāh, with the Qurʾān, and with sincere striving and humility before her Lord. She may have preceded the most famous names on the screens!

For this rank is connected to the purity of the heart and righteousness! Not to the cleverness of the mind and fame!

O people, true precedence and the right to precedence lie in truthfulness and righteousness, not in the ranks of worldly crumbs. So do not look down upon a believer, and do not be deceived!

The only thing that matters is the endings!

O Allāh, we ask for a solace in Your Paradise that makes us forget the wounds of this world endured in Your path.

DAY 6 OF RAMAḌĀN



Mūsā seized Hārūn by the head and his beard, dragging him in anger and reproach. So Hārūn said:

﴿يَا ابْنَ أُمَّ﴾

{O son of my mother.}

Softening his tone with him, even though he was his brother.

﴿لَا تَأْخُذْ بِلِحْيَتِي وَلَا بِرَأْسِي ۖ إِنِّي خَشِيتُ أَنْ تَقُولَ فَرَّقْتَ بَيْنَ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَلَمْ تَرْقُبْ قَوْلِي﴾

{Do not seize me by my beard or by my head. Indeed, I feared that you would say, 'You caused division among the Children of Israel, and you did not observe my order.'}

For you commanded me to take your place among them. So if I had followed you, I would have abandoned what you ordered me to adhere to, and I feared your rebuke.

And *{that you would say, 'You caused division*

among the Children of Israel'} because you left them without a shepherd or a successor. For this would divide them and scatter their unity. So do not count me among the wrongdoing people, and do not let the enemies rejoice over us. So Mūsā regretted what he had done to his brother, who did not deserve it. So:

﴿قَالَ رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِإِخِي وَأَدْخِلْنَا فِي رَحْمَتِكَ وَأَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّاحِمِينَ﴾

{He said, 'My Lord, forgive me and my brother and admit us into Your mercy. And You are the most merciful of the merciful'} (Surah al-A'rāf 7:150-151).

Every time I stand before this great verse... *{He said, "O son of my mother, do not seize me by my beard or by my head. Indeed, I feared that you would say, 'You caused division among the Children of Israel, and you did not observe my order.'"}}*

I grasp the vastness of the message! And the essence of the message!

And I grasp the reality of brotherhood and the greatness of this brotherhood!

This great religion brings its clear blessings to whoever revives people with it! And that is the most hopeful rank in this journey: that people are revived by Islam and are not deprived of it.

O Allāh, hearts that fear You and are mindful of You... that hope for Your mercy and are merciful to

Your servants... that reform and do not corrupt, and unite people upon guidance and do not cause division...

O Allāh, make Your law prevail... and free the nation of Your Prophet (*peace be upon him*)... and heal the hearts from all hardness, harshness, heedlessness, and misguidance.

DAY 7 OF RAMADĀN



Those verses you cannot get past, as if they were directed specifically at you. Those meanings that lighten your heart, heal your chest, and embrace your anxieties and hopes!

Those verses that, no matter how many times you read them in each completion of the Qurʾān, do not cease to fill you with certainty and reinforce your determination to remain steadfast!

These are the spoils that cannot be matched or bought. This is from the favor of Allāh, the Most High, upon you.

Some have submitted to Islam because of a single verse that struck the heart, so it cracked open and the springs of faith burst forth within it. And another has risen to become a martyr due to the beauty and sincerity of his response!

The ultimate wishes and dreams may lie in fulfilling the command of a verse, or in attaining the glad tidings of a verse!

No inheritance can match the great Qurʾān in reflec-

tion and reverence.

And if people truly recognized the Qur'ān according to its true status with sincerity and trustworthiness, and responded to it with the full response it deserves, and fulfilled its covenants with a spirit of sacrifice, they would rule the earth as kings and kingdoms of honor and empowerment. And all other nations would submit to them, paying the *jizyah* out of hand while in a state of humility.

DAY 8 OF RAMADĀN



A great consolation is carried by the stories of the Prophets for the believer.

For in them are the clear lessons in repentance and striving, from which the heart takes provision, gains strength, and draws inspiration from the stories of the best of Allāh's creation and the bearers of His message to mankind (*peace and blessings be upon them all*).

The story of Ādam creates awareness of Satan's guile and directs the heart to the majesty of the rank of repentance.

﴿فَتَلَقَّى آدَمُ مِنْ رَبِّهِ كَلِمَاتٍ فَتَابَ عَلَيْهِ ۗ إِنَّهُ هُوَ التَّوَّابُ الرَّحِيمُ﴾

{Then Adam received from his Lord words, and He accepted his repentance. Indeed, it is He who is the Accepting of Repentance, the Merciful} (Surah al-Baqarah 2:37).

And the Most High said:

﴿يَا بَنِي آدَمَ لَا يَفْتِنَنَّكُمُ الشَّيْطَانُ كَمَا أَخْرَجَ أَبَوَيْكُم مِّنَ الْجَنَّةِ يَنزِعُ عَنْهُمَا لِبَاسَهُمَا لِيُرِيَهُمَا سَوْآتِهِمَا ۗ إِنَّهُ يَرَآكُمْ هُوَ وَقَبِيلُهُ مِنْ حَيْثُ لَا

تَرَوْنَهُمْ ^{قُل} إِنَّا جَعَلْنَا الشَّيَاطِينَ أَوْلِيَاءَ لِلَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿

{O children of Adam, let not Satan tempt you as he removed your parents from Paradise, stripping them of their clothing to show them their private parts. Indeed, he sees you, he and his tribe, from where you do not see them. Indeed, We have made the devils allies to those who do not believe} (Surah al-A'raf 7:27).

How much solace and steadfastness are carried by the story of Yūsuf (*peace be upon him*), and how much guidance is in His statement:

﴿كَذَلِكَ لِنَصْرِفَ عَنْهُ السُّوءَ وَالْفَحْشَاءَ ^{أِنَّهُ} مِنْ عِبَادِنَا الْمُخْلَصِينَ﴾

{...And thus, to avert from him evil and immorality. Indeed, he was of Our chosen servants} (Surah Yūsuf 12:24).

And in the story of Yūnus, and the story of Dāwūd and Sulaymān, and the stories of Ayyūb and Mūsā and Hārūn, and every Prophet from the Prophets of Allāh—exemplary models and clear biographies for the believer. From them he takes provision, follows their example, and corrects his course. He realizes the place of repentance in the life of a believer, and sees its virtue and its causes in the stations of servitude to Allāh (*the Most High*)...

And with meanings like these, the heart prepares for the journey of the Last Ten Nights. Resolve and turning to Allāh intensify, even for the one who

wronged himself, or the one who fell short, or the one with many sins and stumbles! For it is the most hopeful journey in the nights of the year. In it is a night better than a thousand months. So let it be for renewing repentance, washing away every sin, misdeed, and transgression, and for the most righteous and firmest start on the path of the great believers.

So let it be with the turning of one bidding farewell, and with the repentance of one certain and well-mannered!

DAY 9 OF RAMAḌĀN



Every day of Ramaḍān that has passed, in which you did not gain your most hoped-for share of striving and giving—through which you would mend your weakness and repentance (to the best of your ability)—is your loss, which you should weep over and firmly resolve to make up for.

Then, organization and resolve are two qualities that will never fail you in your journey through the rest of the blessed month. For both together are the spirit of achievement and steadfastness.

So gather your affairs and your scattered heart, and exhaust your effort in achieving your goals that elevate you in the ranks of faith and virtue.

Draw up your schedule with realism, and with knowledge of yourself, your circumstances, and your capabilities. And seek help from Allāh and do not be incapable.

Firmly resolve to accomplish your tasks without slackness or excuse. Before your eyes are the hands of the clock, and the day, and the month! Before your eyes are the prerequisites for openings, grace, and

love!

You will feel a great pleasure upon completing this schedule and finishing your tasks in it. You will realize that the time which was held over your neck like a sword has become a sword in your hand! You are the commander, and it is your servant!

The best thing you can offer yourself in what remains of the blessed month is your good use of time—of the minutes and seconds—always mindful of the virtue of worship in these blessed nights, always mindful of the virtue of a single glorification uttered with sincerity and perseverance.

Even in your moments of stillness, keep your heart and tongue moving with the remembrance of Allāh, the Most High. For in every situation, there is an act of worship for the servant!

The Messenger of Allāh (*peace be upon him*) said:

"سبق المُفَرِّدُونَ" قالوا: يا رسولَ اللهِ ما المُفَرِّدُونَ؟ قال: "الذَّاكِرُونَ اللهُ
كثيْرًا والذَّاكِرَاتُ".

"The Mufarridūn have won precedence." They asked: "O Messenger of Allāh, who are the Mufarridūn?" He said: "The men who remember Allāh much and the women who remember Allāh much."

Strive to offer what you can, hoping that Allāh grants you the attainment of the virtue of Laylat al-

Qadr! For your state and the state of this awesome appointment are like the description of the clear verse:

﴿وَلَوْ أَرَادُوا الْخُرُوجَ لَأَعَدُّوا لَهُ عُدَّةً وَلَكِن كَرِهَ اللَّهُ انبِعَاثَهُمْ فَثَبَّطَهُمْ وَقِيلَ أَفْعُدُوا مَعَ الْقَاعِدِينَ﴾

{And if they had intended to go forth, they would have prepared for it preparation. But Allāh disliked their being sent, so He held them back, and it was said, "Remain with those who remain behind"} (Surah al-Tawbah 9:46).

The one who flees to Allāh is ransomed!

DAY 10 OF RAMAḌĀN



Prayer in RamaḌān, in our time... all virtues are gathered in it!

It is an appointment of healing, tranquility, and a feeling of safety. In it, the believer is alone with his Lord. He recites His clear verses, and says Allāhu Akbar, and glorifies, and seeks forgiveness, and bows, and prostrates, and supplicates, and is humbled! So he finds in every movement and stillness an act of worship... through which the soul is purified and elevated, free, united with Allāh, and noble!

It is the refuge of the believer, a stranger in a time of loneliness and war against the religion. In it, he pours out to his Master his sorrow, his complaint, his weakness, the trials of the age, and its ignorance. And he asks Him to be used to break the tyranny of the disbelievers. So his heart is mended, his weakness is repaired, he gains strength, and he receives good tidings!

When the believer performs prayer in faith and seeking His reward alone, it is a station from the stations of *tawḥīd* and victory. After it, he rises light, hav-

ing cast off burdens from upon his shoulders from the very first *takbīrah*! And he prepares for the next stage with an expanded chest, increased reliance, and more patience and fortitude. The whole world has become small in his eyes and obstacles have shrunk! How could it not be so, when he is praying to Allāh, the Lord of the heavens and the earth, in Whose hand is all command and the entire universe—and what no human mind can adequately describe?

And here the meanings of the great verse are made clear:

﴿وَأَسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ ۚ وَإِنَّهَا لَكَبِيرَةٌ إِلَّا عَلَى الْخَاشِعِينَ﴾

{And seek help through patience and prayer. And indeed, it is difficult except for the humble} (Surah al-Baqarah 2:45).

So how can a believer remain steadfast today in the shadow of successive calamities, disasters, and plots against the people of Islam, without striving against his own soul for humility in prayer, reflection upon the Qurʾān, and consistency in the details of his prayer with a present heart and a living experience of its meanings?

How can he withstand the battles of ascension when he has not taken provision of patience and prayer and the understanding of:

﴿إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ﴾

{It is You we worship and You we ask for help} (*Surah al-Fātiḥah 1:5*)?!

Before us are trials and hardships that require hearts filled with certainty and resolve, inclined towards being used and ranked with sacrifice!

The first gateway to the great openings... is to glorify Allāh and recognize Him according to His true status, and to have patience and prayer with humility. And if you were to ask about the perfection of achievement in this world, then know that it lies in realizing the stations of servitude to Allāh (*the Most High*)—and the first of them are patience and prayer... and in establishing the structure of Islam on earth by establishing His law on earth.

Two goals. Whoever gives his life to achieve them, he becomes the master and the king. So what if Allāh (*the Most High*) favors him by letting him see the fruits of his striving—that the religion in its entirety is for Allāh!

That is the most hopeful achievement, and all besides it serves it!

DAY 11 OF RAMADĀN



The nights pass just as lifetimes pass... nothing remains... except the memory and the best of traces!

Those souls you met on your path to Allāh teach you much... of good and evil! They teach you gratitude and pain! They engrave in your soul lessons about the human self—how faith shapes it, and how doubt shapes it!

The most precious moments of a believer with other believers are those that increased his closeness to his Lord. And the harshest on his own soul are those for which his heart became hard.

And if there is an act of worship you should never neglect, to see its effect on yourself and those around you... it is the act of mending the hearts of the believers.

So if you cannot benefit them, do not harm them. And that is from the fruits of loyalty and love for the sake of Allāh (*the Most High*).

DAY 12 OF RAMADĀN



Harshness spreads and indecency becomes notably widespread in the speech and dealings of Muslims!

A characteristic that is always present, in homes as on streets, in reality as in communication, in peace as in argument, between two people as between three!

And the one who contemplates the great guidance of the *Shari'ah* sees the virtue of lowering one's wing of humility to the believers, which brings about the love of Allāh (the Most High). And it brings about the soundness and cohesion of the Muslim rank. For souls are created to love kindness, to associate with goodness, and to be pleased by a good word!

Just as they are created to accept advice when it comes in the mold of gentleness, and to reject it when it comes in the mold of harshness and arrogance. And indeed, the guidance of the Prophet (*peace be upon him*) was the guidance of the great Qur'ān in this matter.

Allāh, the Most High, said, addressing His Prophet (*peace be upon him*):

﴿فَبِمَا رَحْمَةٍ مِّنَ اللَّهِ لِنْتَ لَهُمْ ۗ وَلَوْ كُنْتَ فَظًّا غَلِيظَ الْقَلْبِ لَانفَضُّوا مِن حَوْلِكَ ۗ فَاعْفُ عَنْهُمْ وَاسْتَغْفِرْ لَهُمْ وَشَاوِرْهُمْ فِي الْأَمْرِ﴾

{So by mercy from Allāh, you were lenient with them. And if you had been rude and harsh in heart, they would have disbanded from about you. So pardon them and ask forgiveness for them and consult them in the matter} (Surah Āl ‘Imrān 3:159).

And he is the Prophet of Allāh (*peace be upon him*), with his lofty station and awe-inspiring rank!

And today, the germ of harshness, cruelty, and arrogance has spread among Muslims, between those most closely related, those living closest as neighbors, and those sharing the same reference and school!

So relationships have lost their most prominent trait: "Mutual affection and mercy!"

And all of this is a reflection of the ideological and moral backwardness for which we are still paying the price with every attempt to free ourselves from the shackles of tyrannical rule. And it is a result of the disconnection that accompanies theorizing divorced from action!

The might against the disbelievers must be accompanied—in understanding, insight, and manners—by lowering one's wing to the believers.

For both together create strength in the heart. Who-

ever fails in one fails in the other, no matter how clever he thinks he is. For they are acts of worship that complement and support each other.

And might born of faith is not the same as might born of stubbornness!

And softness born of faith is not the same as softness born of humiliation!

And faith refines the soul and polishes it, so it reforms and does not corrupt. So that every single aspect of a person's life is subject to the command of the Most Merciful.

And there is no hope for reform without a love for reform, and without dedicating sincerity and uprightness to it. Otherwise, how easy it is to disavow responsibility!

Mūsā and Hārūn softened their speech to the most arrogant tyrant on earth—to Pharaoh, the accursed! And Shu‘ayb softened his speech to his people despite their bad manners towards him! The arrogance of a disbeliever did not harm a Prophet. So what about a monotheistic Muslim, who prostrates to his Lord, fasts, and gives charity?

Preserve the honor of faith, Islam, and excellence in your dealings. For perhaps a supplication from a believer, or perhaps an intercession, is better than a rupture that cannot be mended and a bitterness in hearts and harm that ceaselessly creates deprivation!

DAY 13 OF RAMAḌĀN



Do not think that worship is limited to performing the obligations, acts of nearness, and good deeds in the path of Allāh, and that you have now been saved!

Rather, in the combination of responding to the obligations and racing to do good deeds, there is also the worship of defiance, patience, and fortitude in the face of life's temptations and the doors of trials. This is done by restraining the soul from the forbidden, blocking the means to evil, and thwarting the paths of Satan, even if this is during intense need, deprivation, and the ease of transgression and evasion.

And the worship of abstinence is extremely great. It raises the servant, honored, in the ranks of faith, and earns him awe, dignity, and the love of the truthful without affectation. And sufficient is it as a quality that Allāh, the Most High, testified to for the *Muhājirūn*—those who are the true believers!

While what destroys this awe, this dignity, and likewise this love, is defeat by desires, following the footsteps of Satan, and scheming to fulfill temporary wishes and whims.

Glory be to the One who honors His servants through sincere uprightness and steadfastness, and glory be to the One who humiliates them through their opposing His command and turning away from Him like the Children of Israel.

And people are not known in times of ease and moments of claim. For how easy it is to put on a show! But they are known through companionship, the tests of sincerity, and the place of belief, truthfulness, and covenants in their lives, their choices, and their methods.

So know that your abstinence is a measure of sincerity within you. And your turning away from the forbidden, even if its doors are opened upon you, is a station of heroism and honor... and that sincerity is speech, action, and steadfastness in the battles of ascension.

Then, abstinence is among the prerequisites for steadfastness in jihād, just like selflessness!

So advance yourself, do not fall behind!

DAY 14 OF RAMADĀN



In the midst of calamities and crushing worries that burden the hearts of the believers in our time, a majestic detail appears, creating pride, strength, and good tidings.

Those hearts that have gathered from the far ends of the earth and the corners of the map, on the space of communication, and have harmonized in love for the sake of Allāh, in brotherhood and loyalty!

Despite the scale of loss and the widespread harshness in reality, the gentle kindness of Allāh, the Most High, comes to His estranged servants with love for His sake. It strengthens their arms, dispels their sorrow, and gathers them in the family of those who love each other for the sake of Allāh. And what will make you understand what love for the sake of Allāh is!

Allāh (*the Mighty and Majestic*) said:

وَجَبَّتْ مَحَبَّتِي لِلْمُتَحَابِّينَ فِيَّ، وَالْمُتَجَالِسِينَ فِيَّ، وَالْمُتَزَاوِرِينَ فِيَّ،
وَالْمُتَبَادِلِينَ فِيَّ".

"My love has become obligatory for those who love

each other for My sake, and for those who sit together for My sake, and for those who visit each other for My sake, and for those who give to each other for My sake."

And this is from the clear virtues of faith and its unique prerequisites, which are countless and beyond enumeration!

We have brothers whom we met on communication platforms, and they became proof against the corrupt natures, the changing hearts, and the bad assumptions about the believers. They love for their brothers what they love for themselves, thus making this noble, good-hearted love for the sake of Allāh (*the Most High*) obligatory for these selves.

Their honor is unmatched even if miles and distances separate them. And the sincerity of their love and their presence is a prominent sign of the greatness of the brotherhood of faith and the honor of Islam, in a time of declining values and virtue and the dominance of betrayal and treachery!

On the authority of Abū Hurayrah (*may Allāh be pleased with him*), who said: The Messenger of Allāh (*peace be upon him*) said:

"إن الله يقول يوم القيامة: أين المتحابون بجلالي؟ اليوم أظلمهم في ظلي يوم لا ظلَّ إلا ظليّ."

"Indeed, Allāh will say on the Day of Resurrection: 'Where are those who loved each other for the sake of My majesty? Today I will shade them in My shade on a day when there is no shade except My shade.'"

And on the authority of Mu‘ādh ibn Jabal (*may Allāh be pleased with him*), who said: I heard the Messenger of Allāh (*peace be upon him*) say: Allāh (*the Mighty and Majestic*) said:

المتحابون في جلالي لهم منابر من نور يغبطهم النبيون والشهداء.

"Those who love each other for the sake of My majesty will have pulpits of light. The Prophets and the martyrs will envy them."

You will not find a greater reward than this for the one who loves with sincerity for the sake of Allāh!

And it is not for the one who loves a person for his own whim, or for his worldly gain, or for an immediate benefit he hopes for from him. For this is love for the sake of the soul's transient desire and its greed. It betrays, abandons, and does not come to aid.

So, O Allāh, love those who love us for Your sake, fulfill their hopes for them, and spare them distress, abandonment, and defeat! O Allāh, avert evil from them and gather us with them in the stations of honor, victory, and conquest in this world, and with the foremost, the first, on pulpits of light in Paradise.

Thanks, to the fullest extent of thanks, to those who

love each other for the sake of Allāh, the Most High. For you are a story of success in a time where failure has become widespread, and a sign of truthfulness in a time dominated by deception and lies, and glad tidings of truth and virtue!

You are the pillars of victory, conquest, and empowerment!

DAY 15 OF RAMAḌĀN



The discerning person looking at the reality of Muslims today finds the urgent and fateful need to restore the primary value of truthfulness and trustworthiness. To restore the great awe of faith-based and creedal upbringing. To firmly plant fear, reverence, and righteousness in souls as a reality, not as a luxurious theory...!

For these are the comprehensive, deep-rooted systems. These are the seatbelts on the journey. And these are the safeguards against trials, injustices, and deviations.

And we have only been afflicted due to neglecting the diseases of the heart, and due to ignorance of their true nature and their cures, and due to their poor diagnosis and underestimation!

And that is but part of the cost of living long under a rule distant from the authority of the *Shari'ah*, and the deprivation of Muslims from living a secure, independent life according to their religion and identity.

And the price has been heavy!

The value of projects is not in their launch and their publicity! Nor even in their literature and their declared goals, although that is among the first measures of soundness. Rather, their true value lies in the saving core of truthfulness, steadfastness, and safeguarding against trials, injustices, and deviations across the axis of time.

And how perilous is that axis, in which there must be tests of sincerity, and earthquakes of sifting and distinguishing. In it, one must confront the reality of:

﴿أَمْ حَسِبْتُمْ﴾

{Or do you think...}.

So whoever has a righteous supplication in these blessed nights and in every place of response, let him make it for the people of the frontiers, as an exhortation and advice!

For the righteousness of the people of the frontiers is honor, victory, and empowerment. And their corruption is humiliation, defeat, and enslavement whose seasons grow long until Allāh grants relief!

The Messenger of Allāh (*peace be upon him*) said:

«أَفْلَحَ إِنْ صَدَقَ.»

"He will prosper if he is truthful."

Allāh's commodity is exceedingly precious! And be-

fore the ranks of truthfulness are crushing trials and fierce battles!

So, O Allāh, grant us steadfastness until victory or martyrdom!

DAY 16 OF RAMADĀN



Not a day passes except that the news of death, that prominent teacher, is in it.

But souls are heedless... of their final moment... They forget that they are inevitably approaching it...!

They have leaned heavily upon the world, settled in it, firmly planted their hopes in it, and been distracted by competition for increase!

So if there is any good deed, the most hopeful one you can offer yourself in the crowded rush of events, it is that you speak to your soul about meeting Allāh... how you wish for it and how you prepare for it..!

Speak to it about the angels of death, and about an awesome meeting that makes the hearts of the believers tremble with longing and awe... no return to this world after it, only the true result of the tests within it!

Speak to it about the companionship you would love to have after crossing the line of death, about the rank that is ransomed for, even if enemies wound you severely and estrangement intensifies!

"Peace be upon you," from the Lord of the worlds at

the moment of parting from this world... is not like any peace that reaches a believer!

So make all your world a ransom for that most healing peace!

So, O Allāh, grant us a peace from You that makes us forget the sorrow, distress, and painful calamities in this world endured in Your path.

O Allāh, bestow upon us the procession of the martyr at a wedding feast that makes the former and the latter envy us.

DAY 17 OF RAMADĀN



Know that your relationship with your Lord is the only relationship that no power can sever or prevent, no matter how great its tyranny, transgression, and arrogance on earth may be.

Just as no power on earth or in heaven can prevent you from the favor of Allāh, the Most High, or His mercy. And no human being, no matter how cunning and malicious, can deprive you of the gifts of your Lord, His victory, His support, and His companionship—even if he were to ally with all the people of the earth to prevent you from what Allāh has decreed for you!

Allāh (*the Most High*) said:

﴿وَأِنْ يُرِدْكَ بِخَيْرٍ فَلَا رَادَّ لِفَضْلِهِ ۗ يُصِيبُ بِهِ مَن يَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ ۗ وَهُوَ
الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ﴾

{And if He intends for you good, then there is no preventer of His favor. He confers it upon whom He wills of His servants. And He is the Forgiving, the Merciful}

(*Surah Yūnus 10:107*).

﴿وَإِنْ يَمَسُّكَ إِخَيْرٌ فَهُوَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ﴾

{And if He touches you with good, He is over all things competent} (Surah al-An‘ām 6:17).

﴿يَنْصُرُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الرَّحِيمُ﴾

{He gives victory to whom He wills, and He is the Exalted in Might, the Merciful} (Surah al-Rūm 30:5).

﴿ذَٰلِكَ فَضْلُ اللَّهِ يُؤْتِيهِ مَن يَشَاءُ ۗ وَاللَّهُ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيمِ﴾

{That is the bounty of Allāh, which He gives to whom He wills, and Allāh is the possessor of great bounty}

(Surah al-Jumu‘ah 62:4).

These are deals that are not sold or bought in the markets of men. These are pledges sealed with sincerity, truthfulness, and sacrifice! And none but Allāh (*the Mighty and Majestic*) judges in them.

The command is entirely for Allāh (*the Most High*). So hold fast to the Qur’ān and the Sunnah, and to the biography and teachings of the righteous predecessors. Be well-mannered with their manners, and be upright upon the path of the foremost, the first. And do not pay attention to the multitude of the deluded, the laggards, and the changers!

Let the guidance of the clear verse drive you at every moment and in every situation:

﴿يَا قَوْمِ إِنَّمَا هَذِهِ الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا مَتَاعٌ وَإِنَّ الْآخِرَةَ هِيَ دَارُ الْقَرَارِ﴾

{O my people, this worldly life is only enjoyment, and indeed, the Hereafter is the home of settlement} (Surah Ghāfir 40:39).

DAY 18 OF RAMAḌĀN



Knowledge is reverence!

And reverence is more specific than fear, because it is an attribute of those who have knowledge of Allāh. Allāh, the Most High, said:

﴿إِنَّمَا يَخْشَى اللَّهَ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ الْعُلَمَاءُ﴾

{Only those revere Allāh, from among His servants, who have knowledge} (Surah Fāṭir 35:28).

And reverence is fear combined with knowledge. Therefore, its effect is deep in the soul, so deep that it is reflected in the speech, limbs, and actions of the one who knows: with a sincerity untainted by doubt, and a preservation of the limits set by Allāh (*the Most High*) that does not accept flattery, and a preservation of the rights of the servants that does not accept injustice and diminishment.

The Prophet (*peace be upon him*) said:

«إِنِّي أَتَقَاكُمْ لِلَّهِ وَأَشَدُّكُمْ لَهُ خَشِيَّةً».

"I am the most God-conscious among you, and the

most reverent of Him among you."

And whoever loses reverence, even if he claims knowledge, is misguided.

Ibn Rajab said: "Most people think they revere Allāh openly and when seen; but the real matter is in revering Allāh in private, when absent from the eyes of people."

And with the prevalence of harshness that has afflicted hearts, and the weakness of reverence that has been devastating, and the state of delusion magnified by social media and the loss of compass and the ultimate goal... wherever you find your heart hardening, leave!

Do not remain in an environment that deprives you of the prerequisites of reverence for Allāh (*the Mighty and Majestic*)—an environment where your eyes dry up, your soul becomes transgressing, and you are deceived!

And among the causes that deprive one of reverence are: injustice, argumentation, lying, arrogance, looking down upon the believers, and concealing the truth for the sake of personal desires.

And the one to whom Allāh grants fear and reverence, even if his seeking and attainment are weak and his knowledge and understanding are little, he is better than many of those who claim knowledge on pulpits—their hearts are hard, they do not revere their

Lord. The glitter of prominence and provocation has distracted them from the stations of the most hoped-for precedence!

DAY 19 OF RAMAḌĀN



Put your schedule for the first two-thirds of Ramaḍān aside, and prepare for the journey of the last third of the blessed month.

The journey of the Final Ten, the journey of supported turning to Allāh...!

So double the rate of your acts of worship, and determine your goals with resolve. And prepare with humility, repentance, and returning to Allāh—with hope for His mercy and His pleasure, by rising above the trivialities and delusions of this world.

Prepare to lengthen your night prayer, to complete your remembrances to the utmost of your ability, to truly experience your humility, and for your eyes to flow and your heart to prostrate.

Prepare for it with reflection and contemplation, and by seizing the most hidden acts of worship and nearness!

And prepare, along with all that, your most hopeful supplications—with an unwavering certainty and a good opinion of your All-Seeing Master—to pour them

out in the last part of the night, at the time of breaking the fast, and in a moment that makes the heart tremble, at an awesome appointment, with the Lord of the worlds.

And intensify the force of your supplications against the disbelievers and the wrongdoers, and with them, strengthen the backs of the believers and the strivers.

And honor yourself, for you are asking a Generous, Great One. Do not accept for it anything lowly. Your goals are noble, they do not accept defeat!

Turn to Him with the spirit of a martyr and the intention of one bidding farewell. Turn to Him for a cleansing from which you emerge as a monotheist, fearing none but Allāh (*the Mighty and Majestic*).

Turn to Him in a race where you see countless servants striving, so your soul is alarmed at being among the laggards. And make shyness from Allāh (*the Mighty and Majestic*) the fuel of your aspiration. For the response is according to the level of sincerity, according to the burning of shyness!

Let your resolve be to exit Ramaḍān with a stronger love for Allāh, with greater purity, cleanliness, and a stronger drive to elevate the word of Allāh (*the Most High*) within yourself and on earth—for the companionship of the Prophets, the truthful, and the martyrs in the highest Paradise.

DAY 20 OF RAMAḌĀN



The odd-numbered nights of the Final Ten are very precious appointments.

And the most hopeful of them is the night of Friday.

Blessings surround the believers, with an awesome presence, to remind them of the great favor, reward, and opportunity!

Prayer, recitation of the Qurʾān, and charity are acts of worship that most people do not neglect during these precious appointments. However, remembrance... and what will make you understand what remembrance is! It is among the most noble acts of worship that must be included in your schedule for striving.

And if Allāh opens for His servant the door of remembrance, it is a great favor from Him. However, striving against one's soul to give it its due right of a present heart and attention to encompassing all types of remembrance—this is among the causes that expand the chests, strengthen the limbs, and multiply the rewards.

So prepare your list of remembrances. Do not leave any remembrance that has virtue without you mentioning it, in whatever state you are in. And keep your heart alive, for the life of your heart is your most hoped-for spoils in these greatest nights throughout the year.

And as for supplication, it is the weapon of the believer. He embraces it, certain of an answer. So he does not forget his brothers, and he does not forget the oppressed with the finest of supplications, just as he does not forget the enemies of the religion and the tyrannical oppressors with the harshest of what destroys them!

And he does not forget the *Muhājirīn* and the *Anṣār*, and every worker striving to elevate the word of Allāh (*the Most High*) sincerely for Him alone!

He does not forget his most dear and most hopeful wishes!

The mere recollection that Allāh (*the Most High*) is looking at you makes the heart melt and hope for precedence. The beloved Messenger of Allāh (*peace be upon him*) said:

"سَبَقَ الْمَفَرِّدُونَ سَبَقَ الْمُفَرِّدُونَ."

"*The Mufarridūn have won precedence, the Mufarridūn have won precedence.*"

Do not allow anyone to hold you back!

O Allāh, help us to remember You, to thank You, and to worship You well. O Allāh, indeed You are Pardon-
ing, You love to pardon, so pardon us.

O Allāh, the companionship of the Messenger of Al-
lāh (*peace be upon him*) and his noble Companions (*may Allāh
be pleased with them and with their pleasure*); **we seek no substi-
tute for that.**

DAY 21 OF RAMADĀN



Exhortations and good reminders reinforce each other in the great nights of the Final Ten. They urge the believers towards acts of worship, deeds of nearness, and all that strengthens support—good deeds and doors of excellence. But all of this, even though it is required and great, is not enough!

It is necessary to preserve all of it with vigilance and awareness... from the tools of its demolition, from the tools that unravel the weaving and threaten it, even if one's intention and aim are sincere. For there is the danger of self-admiration, arrogance, and the self-purification that destroys.

Allāh (*the Most High*) says:

﴿أَلَمْ تَرَ إِلَى الَّذِينَ يُزَكُّونَ أَنفُسَهُمْ بَلِ اللَّهُ يُزَكِّي مَن يَشَاءُ وَلَا يُظْلَمُونَ فَتِيلًا﴾

{Have you not considered those who claim purity for themselves? Rather, Allāh purifies whom He wills, and they are not wronged even as much as a thread} (Surah

*al-Nisā*³ 4:49).

And He (*Glorified is He*) says:

﴿فَلَا تُزَكُّوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَنِ اتَّقَى﴾

{So do not claim purity for yourselves. He is most knowing of those who fear Him} (Surah al-Najm 53:32).

So there is no way to destroy the soul after apostasy like the path of arrogance, self-admiration, and tyrannical self-purifications, and the love of exclusive fame—which was considered a trait of hypocrisy by the predecessors.

How many misguided people think they are doing well, when they are merely misguided! And the most dangerous thing about the misguided person is that he does not see his errors, nor does he see his flaws and deviations. For he is the self-purified one, the supported saint—so his own soul has deceived him!

O people, beware of those who beautify for you exhorting towards misleading self-purifications, and cooperating in sin and aggression under its name. So the misguided person walks—his sight and insight have become blind—arrogant and proud. He looks down upon the believers and arrogantly elevates himself above them, and he does not preserve any honor for a servant from the servants of Allāh except if he is from his own tribe and partisanship! He has monopolized virtue and goodness exclusively for a faction of igno-

rance!

And if his speech amazes you, he will embellish and polish it. His self-praise is enough for you to know he has fallen in a way that warrants pity!

O Allāh, do not give these people authority over the believers. O Allāh, suffice us against their evil however You will.

DAY 22 OF RAMADĀN



The believer who hopes for the mercy of Allāh (the Most High) realizes the place of truthfulness in every scene and detail. He knows that the pledges that bring about elevation must pulsate with truthfulness and sincerity that do not accept bargaining, diminishment, or delay, no matter how much blackmail, transgression, and harm he is exposed to.

He has learned the prerequisites of victory, so he does not pay attention to anything but the pleasure of his Lord (*the Mighty and Majestic*). Calling to Allāh, reforming, striving, and opening hearts. And this is a path that requires much patience, firmness, steadfastness, and righteousness.

And whenever truthfulness and sincerity grow stronger, the truth grows stronger in the hearts, and it refuses to be belittled in the soul to a point where it is thrown into the embrace of death while the truth is not humiliated or erased!

For every moment of steadfastness in the path of Allāh, the Most High... obligates for you support and companionship that enriches you over all of mankind

on this earth. Even if you go forth alone, a stranger, displaced, you are the noble one, and you are the believer who is aided and supported.

For in the victory of Islam and the elevation of the word of Allāh (*the Most High*), there is an honor that is not cheapened. It does not accept being traded for the whims of souls, the diseases of hearts, and the desire for high status on earth. Rather, before it lies giving and sacrifice.

It is drawn from the models of precedence of the unique generation. For that is the most faithful companionship, and that is the most hoped-for victory.

And Allāh (*the Most High*) does not wrong anyone. So be upright as you have been commanded, and do not follow the whims of people. For they will not avail you against Allāh at all at the moment of certainty and judgment!

Lā ilāha illallāh, Muḥammadun Rasūlullāh (*There is no god but Allāh, Muḥammad is the Messenger of Allāh*) is not ink on paper, nor a claim that is copied and pasted. Rather, it is belief, striving, defiance, reverence, awe, and protection from injustice and trials. It is dedicating the religion sincerely to Allāh, the One, the Unique, not to any of His servants even if they attain all the fame on earth.

O Allāh, make use of us and do not replace us. O Allāh, grant us martyrdom in Your path, and the rank of

pleasure and the greatest virtue, even if its price is that everyone on earth opposes us, and even if its price is the intensification of estrangement and the tyranny of injustice.

For the commodity of Allāh (*the Most High*) is precious, and very precious. It does not accept gambling!

And whoever sees the light and tastes the sweetness of honor, his soul will reject the darkness and a life of humiliation.

There is no life except the life of the Hereafter. So, O Allāh, gather us with the *Anṣār* and the *Muhājirūn*.

DAY 23 OF RAMAḌĀN



You may feel sad, as the great nights of Ramaḍān pass by swiftly, and you are the one lagging behind...

Your own soul grieves you and your heart is distressed... how could I not manage to achieve all my goals in these nights that have passed while people are racing?!

You may feel frustrated. How can you compete with that one who completed many recitations of the Qurʾān, and that one who remembered Allāh much, spent, and gave charity!

Ease your soul!

For the race is for Allāh. Distances we cover with our hearts, with awe and righteousness, with love, hope, and reverence in all acts of worship... distances. Your capital in it is the sincerity of tawḥīd and following the Sunnah, and the hope for the mercy of Allāh (*the Most High*) and His love and awe!

It is not by quantity, but by truthfulness, by the state of the heart, by how you emerge from Ramaḍān as a righteous person.

And because of this, the moments of truthfulness in the stations of servitude to Allāh, which you experience during these nights with a feeling of humility—the moments in which you feel the presence of your heart, even if your effort is relatively little—these are the most precious moments of your life. They are the water of life for your heart and the revival for your spirit!

Then Allāh (*the Most High*) looks at the hearts and the deeds. So what if Allāh were to look at you in a moment when your heart has cracked open with awe?! Then in that would be your salvation!

Do not grieve over what has passed. You still have very awesome nights ahead. And if you win with worship on *Laylat al-Qadr*, then that is the richest spoils.

Prepare your heart, noble one, and your resolve, tenacious one! Do not be defeated.

And repeat: O Allāh, I have loved You, so love me! O Allāh, I have come to You with my meager goods, so forgive me, mend my weakness and my misstep!

Increase in truthfulness, increase in pouring out your heart! For Allāh is near, responsive, all-aware, all-seeing of your heart. He, glorified is He, does not reject a truthful, humble one from you!

Take care of your heart in these great nights... take care of it with truthfulness, for it is the completion of victory until the end of the month.

DAY 24 OF RAMADĀN



You will truly realize the value of those moments when you would hold yourself accountable to the daily portion of the great Qurʾān, willingly and unwillingly, and compel it to adhere to recitation, reflection, and memorization.

You will realize the value of every moment in which you struggled against your soul for the Qurʾān to be your most faithful companion, and the value of every struggle in which you spurred your determination to turn to the Qurʾān, forsaking all the distractions around you.

But you will realize that when your appointment with the great Qurʾān becomes the most important and the most awesome, and when your soul grieves you and you feel pain at the moment of separation from it after completing the portion!

You will realize that with a sob, when you regret every moment of distance from the Book of your Lord and His great verses, and you realize the prerequisites of consistency and holding fast.

And you will not taste the sweetness of striving until

the pursuit crushes you!

And until you present the proof of truthfulness.

But remember always... except by the will of Allāh
(the Most High)!

So prostrate and draw near and beseech... until
your Master grants the opening!

DAY 25 OF RAMADĀN



The one who contemplates the moments of striving during the last Ten Nights learns a great lesson.

That success in acts of worship, in supplications, in deeds of nearness, is not in reality a mere mathematical process; such that if you do such, you get such!

It is a process that is based on the scale of truthfulness, which determines everything!

It determines even the degree of burning desire, and the level of the heart's presence. It determines the thrust of supplication and causes to flow upon your tongue what you did not plan or prepare in advance! Rather, it determines acts of worship that never crossed your mind despite all the preparation you gathered. So you see in them the great favor that almost passed you by!

Here, a beautiful text by Ibn al-Qayyim (*may Allāh have mercy on him*) comes to my mind. In it, he says:

"لا يزال المرء يعاني الطاعة حتى يألّفها ويحبها، فيُقيض الله له ملائكة تؤزّه إليها أزا، توقظه من نومه إليها ومن مجلسه إليها".

"A person continues to strive in obedience until he becomes accustomed to it and loves it. Then Allāh appoints for him angels who urge him towards it with urging, waking him from his sleep towards it and from his gathering towards it."

This striving is a sign of truthfulness, and it has its pleasing prerequisites.

So ask Allāh for truthfulness, and receive glad tidings of the urging of the angels!

The truthful one does not abandon himself, nor does he abandon a believer!

So, O Allāh, grant us a truthfulness that does not run dry and is not defeated until meeting You, O Majestic and Noble.

And the peace of Allāh be upon the angels!

DAY 26 OF RAMAḌĀN



Your heart and tongue stumble... as you stand in the awesome station of supplication!

Tears rush within your chest and your tongue does not speak freely, and you wish you had memorized all the transmitted supplications to pour them out with burning desire and sorrow?

Gently! You are dealing with Allāh, who created you and perfected the creation of mankind and its many, complex details and everything! So do not occupy your mind with rhyme, precision, and memorization. Rather, what is easy for you from the supplications is sufficient. As for the rest, it is a station for pouring out complaint, weakness, and hope.

It does not require affectation, but truthfulness. It does not require embellishment, but humility.

It requires a heart that sobs, limbs that humble themselves, and good manners!

If you gather these causes, you deserve bliss through the sweetness of an expanded chest and safety.

And if you repeated all the supplications with the most eloquent words while your heart is empty and your manners are scattered, then you are the defeated one in a station of victory.

Allāh knows you with every atom within you... So present yourself before Him with glorification, reverence, and a good opinion of Him (*the Most High*). And ask Him for everything you want, and the most hoped-for of what you wish and seek!

And let your supplication for yourself include supplication for those you love, for the believing men and women, and for those who are in distress.

For in that is the sweetness of selflessness and generosity, which brings about favor.

And if there is a final word, then reckon with the intensity of patience on loss, calamity, and painful tragedies. For perhaps patience and acceptance of painful decrees are the most hopeful in raising degrees more than all acts of worship done in ease and comfort!

So, O Allāh, we ask for a solace, a grant, and a love that suffice us!..

O Allāh, we entrust to You our hearts, our deeds, and our endings.

O Allāh, forgive our believing brothers and sisters, the living among them and the dead.

O Allāh, indeed You are Pardoning, You love to pardon, so pardon us.

DAY 27 OF RAMADĀN



Have trials, calamities, and the tyranny of the wicked overwhelmed you?

Have your worries and endless problems weighed you down over the days?

All of that is nothing compared to what awaits a person at the moment of death, the moment of truth and certainty!

﴿وَمَا تَدْرِي نَفْسٌ مَّاذَا تَكْسِبُ غَدًا ۖ وَمَا تَدْرِي نَفْسٌ بِأَيِّ أَرْضٍ تَمُوتُ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ﴾

{And no soul perceives what it will earn tomorrow, and no soul perceives in what land it will die. Indeed, Allāh is Knowing and Acquainted} (Surah Luqmān 31:34).

And no soul perceives in what land it will die!

Let the scene of your grave be before your eyes as an admonisher for you... and your state in that grave be your preoccupation!

By Allāh, there is no escape from the appointment of death. But truthfulness in striving and love make it

an appointment to be hoped for and a desired rest to be striven for. And that is only for the Prophets, the truthful, the martyrs, and the righteous!

So, O Allāh, bestow upon us the meeting of the fortunate ones!

DAY 28 OF RAMADĀN



For strength and weakness, there are causes and factors that bring them about. And everything in your life influences you positively or negatively... whether you will it or not!

Therefore, the wise one does not gamble by immersing himself in a swamp of causes and factors of weakness while displaying a challenge to steadfastness! Because that is a reckless gamble that ends in his own trial and the diminishment of the values, principles, and goals he carries—and this is inevitable no matter how daring he is!

Rather, he places himself in a milieu where he gains strength from every single element within it. For that is insight, and that is understanding!

What is happening in our time is the dominance of factors of destruction, the scattering of paths, and the unsettling mixture. So many promising, bright aspirations and projects—in their infancy—weaken, they do not shine or illuminate, they have withered!

The remedy for this is a decisive return to the lighthouses of the path: the Qurʾān, the Sunnah, and what

the righteous predecessors were upon. And establishing oneself upon their lights, even if in solitude and an intensifying estrangement...!

The hope of one who draws his steps and the strategy of his goals in this world and the Hereafter according to this great guidance will never be disappointed... even if all people oppose him and even if all those around him look down upon him!

The issue is not in moments of pleasing others or pleasing one's own whim or conforming to an unsound, contrary reality! Rather, it is in a single moment of truthfulness to please the Lord of the worlds—it may be the most hopeful of all your deeds, and you attain acceptance after which there is no displeasure!

Do not underestimate pledges of truthfulness, the tokens of truthfulness, and the signs of truthfulness. For they are the prerequisites of strength in your heart and your performance... and the gateway to divine openings!

As for hesitation, stinginess, distraction, scheming, and everything that involves confusion and doubt—they unravel the weaving and cause a delay that is not befitting for a believer who hopes for what is with his Lord!

DAY 29 OF RAMADĀN



The yearning believer invests every moment of his life in the project of servitude to Allāh, the One, the Unique.

He sees his movements and stillnesses, his goals and wishes, only as means to empower faith in a journey seeking the mercy and pleasure of Allāh, the Most High.

He searches, amidst the many and often neglected details, for what he can perform seeking Allāh's reward fully, so he does not deprive it of its due... So a smile to his brother is worship, upholding family ties in a time of war is worship, consoling the believers in distress is worship, a glance to ease a debt is worship, repaying a debt is worship, companionship to bring about faith in a moment is worship, forgiveness despite the pain of a calamity is worship, patience and perseverance despite the darkness of the scene is worship, and acceptance of Allāh's painful decree is worship!

How great is this transaction between the servant and his Lord, the Most High.

A whole life, with all its details and particulars, for Allāh, the Most High... and a death that perfects the striving towards Him, for Allāh, the Most High.

So who can defeat a servant whose moments of life and death are worship!

And would such a servant ever grieve over anything from the lowliness of this world, its crumbs, or the betrayal of time!

And can one be defeated when the revelation of the Qurʾān echoes in his heart, in ease and hardship, in peace and war, in bounty and trial?

The peace of Allāh be upon the yearning believers.

Hearts present there, with the company of the Prophets, the truthful, and the martyrs—and among us here, in every epic of worship!

DAY 30 OF RAMADĀN



Our Prophet (*peace be upon him*) said:

"لَا تَصُومُوا حَتَّى تَرَوْا الْهَيْلَالَ وَلَا تُفْطِرُوا حَتَّى تَرَوْهُ فَإِنْ غَمَّ عَلَيْكُمْ
فَأَقْدُرُوا لَهُ" رواه البخاري ومسلم.

"Do not fast until you see the crescent, and do not break your fast until you see it. And if it is cloudy for you, then estimate it." (Narrated by al-Bukhārī and Muslim).

Just as fasting is an act of worship, breaking the fast is also an act of worship!

Adhering to the command of the Prophet (*peace be upon him*) means following what our Prophet—may my soul be sacrificed for him—was upon, and what the righteous predecessors of the Ummah and his noble Companions (*may Allāh be pleased with them and with their pleasure*) followed him in.

They did not have astronomical calculations or satellite tracking then!

Rather, the sighting relied on the testimony of upright witnesses. And that was sufficient!

So if the testimony is verified, it necessitates breaking the fast! And if it is not verified, then completing the number of days, without hesitation or confusion, is the understanding.

And this suffices the believer. He does not delve deeply, nor does he plunge into speculations, doubts, and anxieties, because he is a follower of the command of Allāh and His Messenger (*peace be upon him*), and he knows it is the path of acceptance and success.

Allāh (*the Most High*) said:

﴿وَلِتُكَبِّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ مَا هَدَاكُمْ وَلَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ﴾

{...And that you may exalt Allāh for His guidance to you, and so that you may be grateful} (*Surah al-Baqarah 2:185*).

Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, lā ilāha illallāh, Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, wa lillāhil-ḥamd.

Allāhu Akbar over every transgressor and tyrant. *Allāhu Akbar*, marching forward towards the establishment of the religion of Allāh on earth, even if the disbelievers, the hypocrites, and the allies of tyranny and evil hate it.

Repeat it, O believer, under the tents, and in displacement and migration!

Repeat it under bombardment or under the flash of swords!

Repeat it in every state and place you are in! Where your body trembles or feels safe!

For you are the noble believer who declares *tahlīl* and *takbīr*...!

And a monotheistic believer does not fall short in the stations of *takbīr*.

DAY 1 OF SHAWWĀL



A very special congratulation... to our dear people of Gaza.

May Allāh accept your fasting, your night prayers, your patience, and your seeking reward from Him alone for every calamity and oppression, for every loss, pain, and breaking, for every feeling of honor pressed in the heart! And the reward is according to the hardship.

For vast is the difference between one who displays the rites of Allāh in ease and security, and one who displays them amidst the rubble of destruction, the funerals of martyrs, and under the bombardments of tyranny and the most bitter hatred.

May Allāh accept from you every moment of fear and apprehension surrounded by faith in Allāh (*the Most High*) and certainty that the entire matter is in His Hand.

Your Eid is an Eid stained with blood and abandonment. An Eid where those who have incurred wrath, those who are astray, and the tyrants of the earth and their tails have gathered to kill you and gloat over your killing. But!

The only thing that matters is the endings, and the honor of the endings.

With Allāh, the steadfastness of a Muslim is neither lost nor belittled!

With Allāh is complete solace, compensation, and happiness.

And everything that befalls you, when borne seeking His reward alone, is an elevation that is ransomed for and hoped for.

Say *Allāhu Akbar* with honor, and display the rites of the religion with dignity. For as long as you are Muslims for Allāh, the One, the Unique, you have missed nothing of this lowly world!

By Allāh, the stones, the trees, the sky, and the earth will bear witness to the fullest vengeance against the murderous, disbelieving, wicked criminals.

So, exercise beautiful patience, and indeed we will see its outcome soon.

Every year, may you be closer to Allāh, more sincere, and more beloved. Every year, may you be a thorn, a bitterness, and an insurmountable obstacle in the throats of the disbelievers.

May Allāh complete for you the *Eid al-Fiṭr* with acceptance, forgiveness, pleasure, ease, grants, solace, pleasure, and love.

*Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, lā ilāha illal-
lāh, Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, wa lillāhil-ḥamd.*

O you who are sad and distressed on Eid, O you upon whom worries, griefs, debts, and dark tragedies have gathered from every direction.

Place the utmost trust in your Master. You have a Lord who does not forget you. Turn to Him with a good opinion, and receive glad tidings of His mercy descending.

By Allāh, your Lord forgets no one. And by Allāh, your Lord wrongs no one.

Our oppressed Uighur brothers, whose voices are suppressed by the crimes of the atheists in China. Every year, may you be Muslims steadfast upon faith, even in persecution. May Allāh complete it for you with forgiveness, acceptance, and victory over your enemies, and complete retaliation for your martyrs, and the gathering of your scattered ranks in your mosques, saying *takbīr* and *tahlīl*, victorious and honored.

Our Rohingya brothers, your calamities are lightened by remembrance and seeking reward from Allāh alone. Trials and painful disasters are lightened by trust in the promise of Allāh (*the Most High*). May Allāh grant you refuge and grant you victory, and replace

your homeland with one better than your homeland and dwellings better than your dwellings. Seek reward from Him and be patient until Allāh grants relief. So let your Eid be a blessed Eid with acceptance and pleasure from the Lord of the heavens and the earth. And may Allāh open for you the doors of provision and safety from where you do not expect, and make His servants in every place serve your cause.

Our Muslim brothers in India and Central Africa, and in every land where Muslims are persecuted and forced to swallow the bitterness of humiliation—may Allāh support you with His victory and with the believers, and appoint for you the strong, trustworthy ones who preserve your might and sovereignty on earth. And may Allāh unite your ranks, standing close as in the Eid prayer, in the fields of victory and honor. May Allāh accept your acts of worship and complete for you the Eid with acceptance and pleasure.

Our Muslim brothers in Sudan, may Allāh lighten your calamity for you, mend your weakness, and exact retribution from those who wronged you. And may He support you with the strong, trustworthy one who compensates you for the years of oppression, persecution, and tyranny. May Allāh accept from you and support you with His victory and with the believers.

Our Muslim brothers on the high seas and in boats of refuge and the labyrinths of oblivion—may Allāh guide you to the best and most healing of shelters, by

the mercy and gentle kindness of Allāh (*the Most High*). O displaced ones, flee to Allāh, your Master. He will guide you to His paths, grant you victory, support you with His companionship and success, and open for you the doors of provision from where you do not expect. May Allāh accept your fasting and night prayers, and complete for you the Eid with success, companionship, ease, and blessing. O expatriates, may the Master honor you through your religion in the lands of Islam.

Our Muslim brothers in the captivity of tyranny and injustice—the school of Yūsuf and the stations of testing; no believer is tested in it except that he emerges more honored and stronger. For Allāh (*the Most High*) does not deprive His truthful, patient servant of His favor. So seek reward from Him alone and be certain that an ordeal within the walls of prison cells, with the honor of faith, *tawhīd*, and the Sunnah, is nobler than a life of humiliation outside them, with the degradation of the religion and truth in souls. May Allāh accept your acts of worship, deeds of nearness, and supplications, and heal your chests and hearts with a victory from Him and a reward that is the fullest and most beautiful.

O orphans and families of the martyrs, O you who have suffered loss and calamity—have a good opinion of Allāh, and be patient so that the reward may be great and the rank elevated. For the commodity of Allāh (*the Most High*) is precious, and very precious. And

what is with Him is better and more lasting. May Allāh accept your acts of worship and delight your eyes with the honor of Islam and the Muslims.

Our Muslim brothers all together—may Allāh unite your ranks upon the love of Allāh (the Most High) reverence for Him, hope in Him, and His pleasure. May Allāh bless you with life under the shade of His law, and illuminate your hearts and your lives with the light of the path of Prophethood. May Allāh delight your eyes with a sovereignty that makes the people of earth envy you, and replace your Eids with ones where you witness your enemies paying you the *jizyah* out of hand while they are in a state of humiliation.

For Islam is elevated and nothing is elevated above it.

And *Allāhu Akbar, wa lillāhil-ḥamd.*

Make the little ones happy. Make the small statured ones happy, who will grow up one day and carry the banner of Islam.

Magnify the rites of Allāh in their hearts. Accustom them to saying *takbīr* and to the honor of Islam.

Kindle in their hearts the love of Allāh and His Messenger (*peace be upon him*), and the victory of Islam and the Muslims.

Surround them with supplications and with care.

Eid is their Eid, in war or in peace.

Eid is for a generation that must grow up magnifying the rites of Allāh (*the Mighty and Majestic*).

Eid is for a generation that must grow up on "*Allāhu Akbar, wa lillāhil-ḥamd*," and on elevating the word of Allāh (*the Most High*), and establishing His law on earth.

O Allāh, bring forth from this Ummah a generation with a stronger love for Allāh and His Messenger. O Allāh, a generation of the strong and the trustworthy who do not bow to anyone but Allāh (*the Most High*).

Every year, may the children of the Muslims be in goodness, health, and safety. Every year, may they be the reserve of Islam—a treasure, a preparation, and an opening.

It is unbecoming for a servant to say with his tongue: *Allāhu Akbar*, While his heart is filled with other than Allāh.¹

Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, lā ilāha illallāh, wa Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, wa lillāhil-ḥamd.

The Most High said:

﴿وَلِشَكَبَّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ مَا هَدَاكُمْ وَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ﴾

{...And that you may exalt Allāh for His guidance to

¹ Badā'i' al-Fawā'id 2/196.

you, and so that you may be grateful} (Surah al-Baqarah 2:185).

Live the awe of *takbīr*... for it is a station of worship and an elevation of the word of Allāh (*the Most High*) above the debris of ignorance.

And Eid is but their joy, and Eid is but the childhood of the heart...!