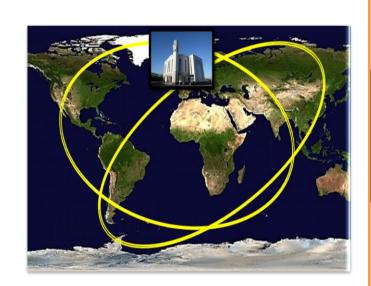
Salat, Jumu'ah and Ramzan



Sermon Delivered by Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba); Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community



relayed live all across the globe

June 23rd 2017

Summary Salat, Jumu'ah and Ramzan

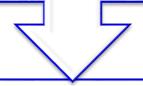
Allah the Almighty, in these days, listens to the supplications of His servants by coming closer to them. Every Ramadan that concludes, should have elevated us to new levels of worship and righteous deeds. Allah the Almighty forgives our minor sins in between Ramadans Those who honour the Holy Quran will be honoured in the heavens. Every single one of us should conclude their Ramadan by vowing to always remember the directives of God Almighty and the Holy Prophet (sa) as elaborated by the Promised Messiah (as)

June 23rd 2017



In these days, this month of Ramadan, Allah the Almighty descends from the seventh Heaven to the lower Heaven.

The blessed month of Ramadan came and has already swiftly passed by.



We should evaluate ourselves and see as to what we have achieved during these blessed days of Allah the Almighty.

Allah the Almighty, in these days, listens to the supplications of His servants by coming closer to them.

In these days, Allah the Almighty Himself, becomes the reward for those who fast.

In these days, Allah the Almighty shackles satan.

What have we done to benefit from these acts of Grace and Mercy of Allah the Almighty? Or what resolutions have we made?

What promises have we made in order to follow the commandments of Allah the Almighty, to live by His teaching and to forsake previous shortcomings and to what extent have we brought upon changes in ourselves?

Ramadan is like a training camp.

Ramadan has been prescribed so that you can increase in the good deeds that you are already acting upon.

Every Ramadan that concludes, should have elevated us to new levels of worship and righteous deeds.

Then we should become those who establish new and high standards of worship and righteous deeds.

Allah the Almighty states: Watch over Prayers, and particularly the middle Prayer.

Allah the Almighty is aware of man's nature and thus He has placed particular emphasis on the middle prayer.

The reason is because during certain times of the prayers man gives preference to his personal work or for the fulfilment of worldly desires.

Some people find it difficult to offer the Fajr prayer therefore to wake up in the morning to offer the Fajr prayer.

Some owing to their work or business find it difficult to offer the Zuhr or Asr prayer and so the importance of that particular prayer increases

Salat-ul-Wusta

means the middle prayer or the most important prayer i.e. such a time when the significance of that prayer increases.

Allah the Almighty has drawn our attention towards prayer through various references and has not restricted this to the month of Ramadan only.

The Holy Prophet (SA) said:

Regarding the prayers, Friday Prayers and Ramadan, the Holy Prophet (sa) has given an instruction which a believer and one who has the fear of Allah the Almighty in the heart should always bear in mind.

'The five daily prayers, from one Friday prayer to the next Friday prayer and one Ramadan to the next Ramadan are an expiation for the sins committed between them, so long as one refrains from committing any major sins.'

One should not infer from this that they are permitted to commit the lesser sins and that Allah the Almighty will forgive them.

It means the errors which are committed due to human weaknesses but the observance of prayers, regularly offering the Friday Prayers and seeking repentance for sins and also pledging that one shall not commit that sin again, then Allah the Almighty forgives them.

The Holy Prophet (sa) stated: Whoever intentionally does not attend three consecutive Friday Prayers, Allah the Almighty sets a seal on their hearts.'

Allah the Almighty states: O ye who believe! When the call is made for Prayer on Friday, hasten to the remembrance of Allah, and leave off all business. That is better for you, if you only knew.

This is a commandment for every believer and one who proclaims his belief that he should make special arrangements for the Friday Prayers and should leave off all other work and business.

The Holy Prophet (sa) stated: 'On Fridays the angels are stood at every door of the mosque. They register the name of the first person who enters the mosque and continue to write the names of people who enter until the Imam sits down after delivering the Friday Sermon after which they close their registers and remain occupied in listening to the remembrance of God.'

The Holy Prophet (SA) said:

'On the Day of Judgment, people will be sat before God Almighty in the order according to their attendance of the Friday Prayers'

'To offer the Friday Prayer in congregation is obligatory upon the Muslims, except for four types of people: slaves, women, children and those who are ill.'

Allah the Almighty forgives our minor sins in between Ramadans

Here, the Holy Prophet (sa) explains the ways to attain this forgiveness in a sequence. First there is Prayer, then Friday Prayer and then Ramadan.

Daily prayers
will testify that
Your servant
presents himself
before You out
of fear and love,
five times a day
in prayer to
attain
forgiveness
from major sins.

Every Friday will bear testimony that after desisting from major sins for seven days, Your servant enters the day of Friday, and thus he presents himself before You while longing for the acceptance of prayer.

Ramadan will testify, 'O Lord! Your servant enters Ramadan fulfilling its right, whilst desisting from sins and performing pious deeds, in the hope that the Lord will bestow on His servant the blessings of the ten days of mercy, forgiveness and attaining refuge from the hellfire.

Furthermore, particular attention is developed in Ramadan towards reading and listening to the Holy Quran.

Allah Almighty also says: 'and the recitation of the Qur'an in Prayer at dawn.

Verily, the recitation of the Qur'an at dawn is specially acceptable to God.'

When reading the Holy Quran it is necessary to also consult the translation of the Quran so that it can be understood.

This will enable us to grasp the commandments of Allah the Almighty.

Reading the Holy Quran regularly is especially important in this day and age when those who call themselves Muslims have forgotten its teachings.



The Promised
Messiah (as)
further draws our
attention by
saying: 'Those
who honour the
Holy Quran will
be honoured in
the heavens.'

Always keep this importance of the Holy Quran in view and then never allow slackness in reciting the Quran to creep in.

Similarly, the attention you have developed towards engaging in remembrance of Allah will only benefit you when you sustain this practice after Ramadan also.

The Promised Messiah (as) has repeatedly stated that those who have entered his Bai'at should constantly seek to reform themselves through worship and displaying the highest moral standards.

A person is not worthy of the help and support of Allah the Almighty unless, with all sincerity and devotion of his heart, he closes the door to all wrongful paths and eliminates all inappropriate and impure desires and then spreads his hands before Allah the Almighty.

From the heavens, Allah the Almighty sees right through every part of man's heart. If any part of man's heart contains darkness, Shirk or harmful innovations, such a person's prayers to Allah are thrown back onto his face. If Allah observe that one's heart is pure of any type of carnal desires and darkness, He opens the doors of mercy to him, ... and takes responsibility for his nurturing and protection.

Your hearts should be free from deceit, your hands should not commit any atrocities, your eyes should be untainted with filth. Aside from guidance and sympathy for mankind one should not harbour anything inside them.

If you fashion yourself according to that what God states, then rest assured that God too will be yours. God Almighty shall remain awake for you as you sleep. God shall watch over your enemy and frustrate their designs, while you are unmindful of him.

One such aspect that the Promised Messiah (as) reminded us constantly was that if we are not mindful of these commands, then simply performing the Bai'at is not enough.

You, therefore, will not be accepted by God unless you are the same inside and out. If you are above others, have mercy on the lowly and do not look down upon them. If you are learned, counsel the ignorant and do not degrade them with disdain. If you are wealthy, serve the poor, and do not treat them with arrogance and selfconceit.

Let every morning bear witness that you have spent the night in righteousness, and let every evening bear witness that you have spent the day with the fear of God. Be not afraid of the curses of the world, for they shall vanish before your eyes like smoke and cannot turn day into night. Fear instead the curse of God which descends from heaven and uproots its victims in both worlds.

You cannot save yourselves with hypocrisy, your God is He who sees the innermost depth of man. Can you then deceive Him? So, become straightforward, clean, pure and truthful. If even a particle of darkness is left within you, it will dispel all your light. ... Be careful, lest a few accomplishments delude you to think that you have sufficiently fulfilled your purpose. For God desires a complete transformation in your being.

If you desire that God should be pleased with you in heaven, unite with one another as though you were brothers from the same womb. The one who most forgives the transgressions of his brother is the more honourable among you. .. One who is arrogant cannot attain nearness to God. A wrongdoer cannot attain nearness to God. He who is unfaithful cannot attain nearness to God. Every such person who is not jealously protective for the sake of God's name cannot attain His nearness.

Every impure eye is far from Him; every impure heart is unaware of Him. ... Befriend God with a true heart, full sincerity and complete eagerness, so that He too may befriend you. Have mercy on your subordinates and your wives and your less fortunate brethren so that you too may be shown mercy in heaven.

Become truly His, so that
He too may become
yours. .. No calamity visits
the earth until there is a
command from heaven,
and no affliction is
alleviated until mercy
descends from heaven.
So, you would be wise to
take hold of the root
rather than the branch.

Every single one of us should conclude their Ramadan by vowing to always remember the directives of God Almighty and the Holy Prophet (sa)

Promised Messiah (as). And then

endeavour to adopt those in our lives.

Which were elaborated by the

If we do this only then can we say that we strived to spend Ramadan according to the commands of God Almighty and Holy Prophet (sa)

May Allah enable us to do so.