

Al-Huda (The Guidance)

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Volume 2 Issue 1

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Editorial

Assalamualeykum.....

There are many places throughout the globe wherein our Muslim brothers and sisters sleep in such a state that they do not know what they and their family are going to eat the next day. Recently I heard about one place in Sri Lanka where people were selling their kidneys for \$1000 just to survive. Unfortunately some amongst them had given their kidney but not received anything in return. In another poverty stricken country parents were being forced to sell their daughters just to sustain themselves and to stay alive. On hearing these sorts of stories a person who has feeling in his heart becomes grieved, disturbed and sorrowful, whereas it's only 0.1% of the actual reality of what's going on that we get to hear about.

On one side of the globe you've got poverty, hardship, fear, restlessness and on the other side of the globe like the country we are living in we see abundance of wealth, peace, safety, enjoyment, different varieties of food....it just makes a person think of the unique manner in which Allah Ta'ala works. It's our belief that all conditions whether good or bad are from Allah ﷻ and both of these conditions are a test. For the first group the test is that are they bearing these hardships with patience or not, and for the latter group are they thanking Allah for the all the bounties that he has showered upon them. Allah ﷻ mentions in the Noble Qur'an, "Allah ﷻ cites the similitude of a town that was peaceful and tranquil. Their provision came to them in abundance from every avenue, but they were ungrateful for Allah's bounty and, because of their actions, Allah caused them to taste the attire of hunger and fear."

The group which finds itself immersed in hardship after hardship or things always going wrong, for them Allah ﷻ is presenting an opportunity to gain his closeness and special friendship. How many times have we seen a child turn to their parents for help when in a position of hardship, even though the parents might be displeased with the child, but help is at hand. Just like how the mercy within the parent is ignited to help when the child turns to the parent, the mercy of Allah ﷻ is far greater when the creation turns to Allah ﷻ for help. It is also the way of Allah ﷻ that when he wishes to favour someone he afflicts them with problems, difficulties and hardships so that when they turn to him he can reward them from his bounties with abundance.

The verses quoted above refer to us all living in a country where we are blessed with innumerable bounties from Allah ﷻ. For us is the danger of taking these bounties for granted and fooling ourselves by thinking that we have acquired these through our own efforts and toil.

My dear friends if this is our condition then let us take heed from the warning Allah ﷻ gives in the verses above, for fear that, if we don't appreciate and show gratitude to the bounties of Allah ﷻ then we too through our ingratitude may have "to taste the attire of hunger and fear."

How can we show gratitude? We can do this in two ways;

1- To refrain from all forms and types of disobediences and sins, whether minor or major. Unfortunately nearly no home is free from the outward sin of music, TV, free mixing etc. From sins of the inner, which are more detrimental, who can claim that they do not backbite, have pride or are free from the illness of jealousy, hatred etc. Let us recognise a disobedience and sin being what it really is, an avenue which will lead us astray and deprive us of the closeness and friendship of Allah ﷻ.

2- To value and not waste the bounties of Allah ﷻ. From the many bounties one we have to refrain from is spending which is extravagant and unnecessary. This sin of extravagant spending is prevalent in weddings through the hire of expensive cars and in some cases helicopters too, purchase of *(continued on page 2)*

Imagine yourself after you pass away,
Imagine your grave through night and day;
Wishing that you didn't do as they say,
Wishing, that you had got up to pray;

Imagine your friends on the day you died,
Imagine all the tears they had cried;
Remember how it felt when your body was tied,
Remember how it felt during deaths final ride;

Imagine the day you'll be called to account,
Imagine the sum to which your life will amount;
Think of the deeds which you mount,
Think for a moment how much they will count;

What will they say of you when you are dead,
What will they remember, what will be said;
Will they speak about the poor you fed,
Will they remember the Qur'an you read;

Think of Allah the lord of mankind and jin,
Think of Allah when tempted to sin;
Think of Paradise which you will dwell in,
Don't wait until later what might've been.

Sahl Ibne 'Abdullah ؓ said:

'Salvation is confined within three things:

1. To eat only what is Halāl
2. To carry out the Farā'idh
3. To follow the Sunnah of Rasoolullah ﷺ.'

Mufti Muhammad Shafee' *rahmatullahialayh* says: 'Just as by consuming Harām evil character is spawned, delight in worship diminishes and du'ās are not accepted, eating Halāl produces radiance, creates hatred for vile mannerisms and a keenness to acquire noble character, leads to concentration in worship, makes one perturbed at the thought of sinning and means that one's du'ās are accepted.'

(continued...page 1)

clothes which after the wedding are often not worn again, hire of expensive hotels for the wedding, etc. My dear friends let us not forget of that day when we will have to account for all our actions. Imagine that day in the court of Allah ﷻ. How are we going to explain the logic of our spending with such extravagance and no care, when thousands if not millions are in poverty.

The month of Ramadhan is arriving soon. Let us

use this blessed month to do a U turn and turn back to Allah ﷻ, having firstly done sincere taubah and made a pledge of refraining from all forms of disobediences and sins and, secondly, not to be ungrateful of the bounties we have been blessed but indeed at every opportunity doing shukr and thanking Allah ﷻ.

If you have any articles, stories or poems which you would like us to publish, please forward them to us at:

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Ramadhān - A Month to Draw Close to Allah ﷻ

O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed upon you just as it was prescribed upon the people before you, so that you may become God-fearing. (Glorious Qur'an 2:183)

The Prophet ﷺ has said regarding the blessed month of Ramadhān,

O people, there comes upon you a great month, a most blessed month, in which lies a night greater in worth than one thousand months. Allah ﷻ has made compulsory fasting in this month and has decreed wakefulness at night (i.e tarāwīth) sunnah. Whosoever tries drawing nearer to Allah by performing any nafl (optional) deed in this month, for him shall be such reward as if he had performed a fardh in any time of the year. And whosoever performs a fardh, for him shall be the reward of seventy fardh in any other time of the year. This is indeed the month of patience, and the reward for true patience is Jannah; it is the month of sympathy with one's fellow men; it is the month wherein a true Believer's rizq (provision) is increased. (Ibn Khuzaymah)

Children's corner

Because Muslim boys and girls are very precious pearls!

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Anas Ibne Mälük ؓ

When Anas ؓ was a child his mother brought him to the Prophet ﷺ. She asked him to accept her son so that he may serve the Prophet ﷺ.

Anas ؓ was only ten years old at the time the Prophet ﷺ came to Madeenah and he stayed in his service for another ten years. Once the prophet ﷺ sent him on a duty. On the way the young Anas ؓ got caught up watching some children playing. Whilst watching them he felt someone's hand on his shoulder. He turned round and saw the Prophet ﷺ smiling at him and asking him whether he had completed his duty or not. Anas ؓ replied, "O prophet of Allah, i am going."

The Prophet ﷺ had prayed to Allah ﷻ that He give Anas ؓ blessings in his wealth and his children and that He enters him into Jannah. As a result Anas ؓ went on to have an orchard that would bear fruit twice a year and his children and grandchildren numbered over a 100 at the time of his death. Anas ؓ used to say that he has seen two of the prayers answered with his own eyes and he has hope in Allah ﷻ that the third would also be accepted.

2 رمضان حنسه

1. What is suhoor (sehri)?
2. What is the dua for breaking the fast?
3. When you break a fast it is sunnah to break it with+ water?
4. How many rak'ats are there in taraweeh salah?
5. Mention 2 things that break the fast?
6. What connection does the Qur'an and the blessed month of Ramadhan have that makes the month very important and sacred?
7. It is said that the odour of a fasting Muslim is more fragrant to Allah ﷻ than what?
8. How is the month of Ramadhan a significant part of the five pillars of Islam?
9. What night is more blessed than a 1000 months of worship?
10. What is read after Isha salah during Ramadhan?
11. What time do we break our fast?

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ABOVE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN

A UNIQUE PRIZE

Send your answers to reach us no later than Monday 22nd October 2007. The first correct entry drawn will win. All entrants must be under 15.

Word Search

G	F	Z	G	U	I	I	Q	W	E
H	U	D	A	Y	B	I	Y	Y	A
U	F	H	N	W	R	A	A	S	B
N	T	C	V	Q	T	D	R	M	C
A	A	S	P	J	I	A	M	A	T
Y	E	Q	O	T	D	H	U	K	K
N	I	U	A	C	A	U	K	H	Z
K	R	B	E	B	D	C	F	W	N
F	U	S	N	M	A	T	S	P	D
K	H	A	R	J	I	H	R	O	J

Find the following words:

HUDAYBIYYA

YARMUK

TABUK

AQABAH

HIJRAH

HUNAYN

UHAD

Last Issue's Results

Masha'Allah, The lucky winners of the last issue's competition were:- *Irfan Chunara, Sarah Sultana, Zenab Kauser, Naima Dedat.* WELL DONE! Your prize is on it's way. Look out for it in the post.