

From the many commands of Islam, one of the most important is the command of Hajj. It is one of the fundamental pillars of Islam and a unique way of worship in which both physical struggle and sacrifice of wealth is combined.

Allāh Ta'ālā mentions in the Glorious Qur'an: "...As a right of Allāh, it is obligatory on the people to perform Hajj of the House – on everyone who has the ability to manage (his) way to it." (3:97)

The Prophet sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam said: "Islām is founded on five (pillars): bearing witness that there is no deity except Allāh and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allāh, establishing salāh, paying zakāh, performing Hajj and fasting in the month of Ramadhān." (Al-Bukhārī)

In another Hadīth, the Prophet sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam said: "O people! Indeed Allāh, the Mighty, the Exalted has made Hajj obligatory upon you; therefore perform Hajj." (Ahmad)

### Upon whom is Hajj Fardh?

Hajj is fardh upon every sane, adult (bāligh) and healthy Muslim, who has sufficient wealth to enable him to travel safely to and from the Ka'bah. This will be when the wealth used to take him is in excess of his basic needs and he has sufficient wealth to leave behind for the needs of those who are dependent on him. Furthermore, a woman needs to be travelling with a mahram.

### Virtues of Hajj

The Prophet sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam said: "Whoever performs Hajj for the sake of pleasing Allāh, and therein utters no word of evil, nor commits any evil deed, shall return from it free from sin as the day on which his mother gave birth to him." (Al-Bukhārī, Muslim)

In another Hadīth, the Prophet sallallāhu

'alayhi wasallam said: "There is no reward for an accepted Hajj except Jannah." (Al-Bukhārī, Muslim)

The pilgrims of Hajj become so beloved to Allāh Ta'ālā that their supplications are readily accepted and when they seek forgiveness, Allāh Ta'ālā forgives them.

The Prophet sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam said: "The pilgrims of Hajj and 'Umrah are the guests of Allāh; and when they supplicate to Him, He answers their supplication; and when they ask for his forgiveness, He forgives them." (Ibn Mājah)

### Warnings for not performing Hajj

Allāh Ta'ālā mentions in the Glorious Qur'an: "...If one disbelieves, then Allāh is independent of all the worlds." (3:97)

The words in this verse "...if one disbelieves..." refers to the one who rejects the belief that Hajj is Fardh. Similarly, the 'Ulamā have concluded from this verse that the one who does believe that Hajj is Fardh, yet does not perform it, in spite of having the means and ability, in a way, is no less a denier of this command. Such a person has been likened to a disbeliever as a disbeliever does not perform Hajj.

The Prophet sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam said: "He who possesses enough provisions which will suffice for him to reach the House of Allāh, and he does not perform Hajj, then there is no care whether he dies as a Jew or a Christian." (At-Tirmidhī)

### Do not delay

Whoever finds that Hajj has become fardh upon them, should hasten to fulfil this obligation. They should take it as a summoning call from Allāh Ta'ālā, and count themselves fortunate, as many Muslims spend their lifetimes without ever having the means to perform Hajj, or even visit the Haramayn at all.

The Prophet sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam has

said: "The one who intends to go for Hajj should hurry; for sometimes he can get ill, his conveyance can go missing or some other obstacle may arise (which will hinder him from travelling)." (Ahmad)

Many people delay the performance of Hajj due to invalid excuses.

- Many people have enough wealth for them to go for Hajj, but they wait to accumulate enough wealth so that their spouse or their parents can also accompany them. The Sharī'ah does not allow one to delay Hajj and wait for anyone. The one upon whom Hajj is Fardh should perform Hajj immediately.
- Others wait until certain worldly tasks have been completed. This is from the ploys of Shaytān, that he makes one delay the performance of Hajj by engaging him in worldly tasks. Therefore, one must ensure to complete this obligation of Allāh Ta'ālā first.

The Prophet sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam said: "No servant leaves Hajj for some worldly objective but that he will see the people returning from Hajj before his worldly objective has been fulfilled." (At-Tabrāni)

- Similarly, many delay Hajj due to not having enough wealth or time to stay in Madeenah Munawwarah for the duration of forty salāh, whereas this is a invalid excuse. Hajj becomes Fardh upon that person who can afford to go for the minimum time even though he is unable to travel to Madeenah. Indeed, one should endeavour to at least spend some time in the blessed city and visit Al-Masjid An-Nabawī, and present himself in the Court of Rasūlullāh sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam.
- Some delay the performance of Hajj as they cannot afford the 'deluxe' package.

However, in Sharī'ah, Hajj becomes Fardh as soon as they can afford the most basic package.

Shaykh Mufti Abdur Rahīm Lājpurī rahimahullāh mentions some reasons for which Hajj may be delayed:

- Becoming bankrupt.
- Fear of a cruel leader.
- Being imprisoned.
- An unsafe journey.
- Illness because of which the person cannot travel.
- For a woman not to have a mahram to accompany her.
- For a woman to be sitting in her 'iddah.

**Note:** It will be compulsory to proceed with the journey of Hajj as soon as these factors no longer exist.

### **Pious predecessors and Hajj**

According to a narration of Imām Bayhaqī, every Nabī, with the exception of Hūd and Sālih 'alayhimas salām performed Hajj. Imām Abū Ash-Shaykh writes in his book 'Al-'Azmaḥ' that Ādam 'alayhis salām visited the Ka'bah 1000 times on foot, performing Hajj 300 times and 'Umrah 700 times. Imām Abū Haneefah rahimahullāh performed Hajj 55 times in his lifetime.

May Allāh Ta'ālā grant us the ability to perform Hajj and visit His House time and time again.  
Aameen

### **DUĀ FOR THE INTENDING HĀJI**

Say the following Duā when bidding farewell to the intending Hāji:

زَوَّدَكَ اللهُ التَّقْوَىٰ وَوَجَّهَكَ فِي الْخَيْرِ وَكَفَّاكَ الْهَمَّ

Zawwadakallāhuttaqwā wa wajjahaka fil khayri wa kafākalhamma.

Translation: "May Allāh Ta'ālā make taqwā your provision, direct you towards goodness and may He be sufficient for you in distress."  
(At-Tabrāni)

### **DUĀ FOR THE RETURNING HĀJI**

Say the following Duā when meeting the Hāji after his/her return:

قَبِلَ اللهُ حَجَّكَ وَغَفَرَ ذُنُوبَكَ وَأَخْلَفَ نَفَقَاتَكَ

Qabilallāhu hajjaka wa ghafara dhambaka wa akhlafa nafaqataka.

Translation: "May Allāh Ta'ālā accept your Hajj, forgive your sins and recompense your expenses."  
(At-Tabrāni)

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# Hajj

## A Pillar Of Islam

By Mawlāna Ismail Dhorat hafizahullāh

