

# Reap From Ramadhān

By Ahmad Umar (1<sup>st</sup> year student of Ālim Class)

Once again, we find the month of Ramadhān dawning upon us with all its virtues and blessings. It is the sheer grace of Allāh Ta'ālā that year in year out, he continues to grant us this blessed month. We can be sure to find every second of it filled with mercies and barakāt. This is why in the month of Ramadhān, many people find it easier to carry out good deeds and to stay away from sins. From the first day of Ramadhān, Allāh Ta'ālā will begin to liberate his servants from Jahannam and through his mercy, the 'Ar-Rahmān' will make them worthy of the bliss and bounties of Jannah.

Rasulullāh ﷺ has said, "When Ramadhān comes, the doors of Jannah are opened and the doors of Jahannam are closed and the shayāteen are chained up." (Muslim) This hadeeth displays the love of Allāh Ta'ālā towards us. In this month, Allāh removes our greatest distraction making it very easy to obtain all the virtues of Ramadhān. The point to think about is that if Allāh Ta'ālā is going to such lengths to help us gain his closeness, then we should also display effort and enthusiasm from our side. Why should we deprive ourselves during this golden opportunity?

## Guidelines for Ramadhān

For those wanting to maximise their benefit from Ramadhān, the respected Hadhrat Mawlānā Muhammad Saleem Dhorat hafizahullāh has mentioned a few guidelines; 1) Abstain from all sins, 2) Carry out tawbah and istighfār, 3) Do not waste any time, 4) Recite the Qur'ān in abundance and 5) Make du'ā in abundance.

### 1) Abstain from All Sins

A person's ultimate goal is to acquire the pleasure of Allāh Ta'ālā. In order to achieve this, one must carry out all the 'Dos' and especially stay away from all the 'Don'ts'. Every sin, whether major or minor, is ultimately the disobedience of Allāh and should be refrained from.

### 2) Carry Out Tawbah & Istighfār

In order for us to cleanse ourselves and adopt a life of taqwā, self-reckoning and seeking repentance is very important. Allāh Ta'ālā has mentioned in the Qur'ān, "O you who believe,

turn to Allāh with faithful repentance." (At-Tahreem) Knowing that the month of Ramadhān is one where du'ās are readily accepted, this is a great opportunity to ask Allāh Ta'ālā for forgiveness. Our pious elders have always advised that – whether in Ramadhān or not – each person should recite astaghfirullāh at least 100 times daily.

### 3) Do Not Waste Any Time

Every second of our life is precious but during a period like Ramadhān, it becomes all the more important to safeguard our time. Even lā ya'ni (futile activities) should be stayed away from at all costs. We should keep ourselves occupied in ibādah, du'ās, remembrance of Allāh, durood upon Nabi ﷺ etc.

### 4) Recite the Qur'ān in Abundance

The Qur'ān has a special connection with Ramadhān as it was revealed in this month. Hence, our recitation should increase. Even Nabi ﷺ would partner up with Sayyidunā Jibra'eel (alayhis salām) and they would recite the Qur'ān to one another. Our pious predecessors would increase their recitation in Ramadhān, so much so that some would complete up to 1 Qur'ān per day!

### 5) Make Du'ā in Abundance

With all these virtues of this month and the immense mercy and love of Allāh Ta'ālā, it goes without saying that du'ā should become a regular and thorough practise throughout Ramadhān. The chances of acceptance are increased by a huge margin. Hence one should ask from Allāh at the different encouraged times; after each salāh, between 'asr and maghrib, the time before iftār and suhoor etc.

To summarise, Ramadhān is near and one should make the most of Ramadhān. Our respected Hadhrat Mawlānā Ismail Dhorat hafizahullāh encourages people each year that they should aim to make the coming Ramadhān their best one yet. Inshā'Allāh, if a person keeps the above mentioned guidelines in mind and in practise, his Ramadhān will be full of forgiveness, barakah and blessings.