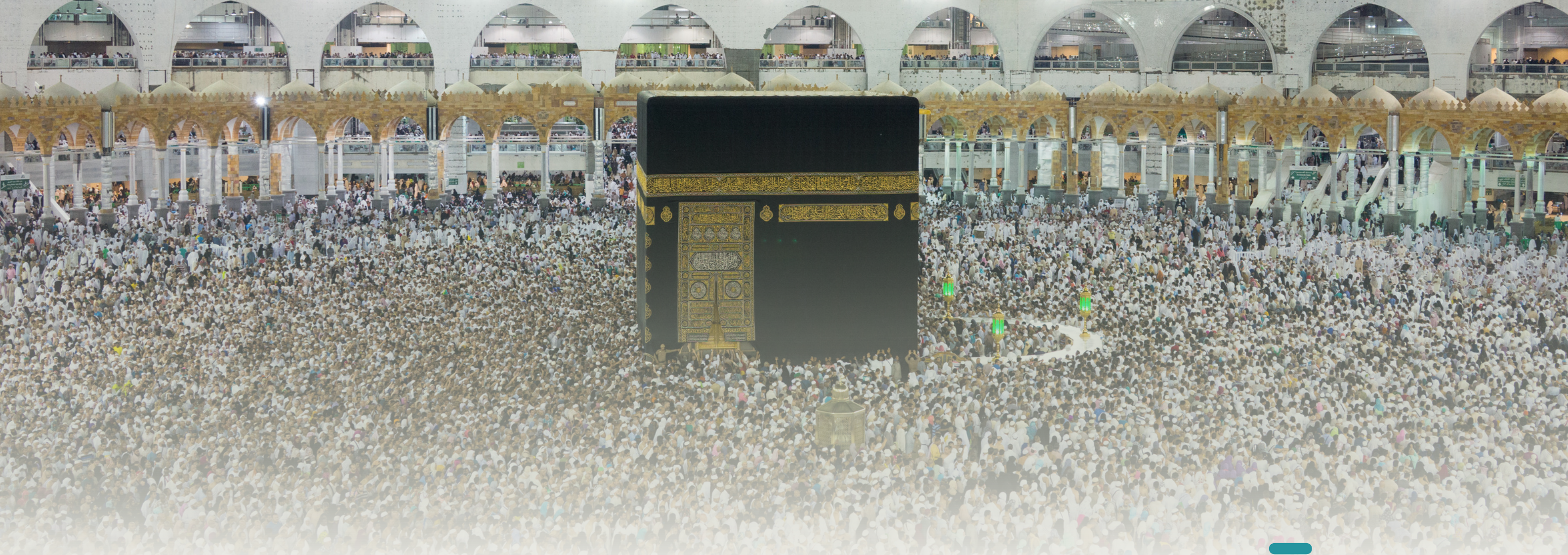




THE RETURNING HĀJI

SAY THE FOLLOWING DU'Ā WHEN MEETING THE HĀJI AFTER HIS/HER RETURN:

قَبْلَ اللَّهِ حَجَّكَ وَغَفَرَ ذَنْبَكَ وَأَخْلَفَ نَفَقَتَكَ

QABILALLĀHU HAJJAKA WA GHAFARA DHAMBAKA WA AKHLAFA NAFAQATAKA

“MAY ALLĀH TA’ĀLĀ ACCEPT YOUR HAJJ, FORGIVE YOUR SINS AND RECOMPENSE YOUR EXPENSES.” (AT-TABRĀNI)

The Chosen Servants of Allāh Ta’ālā, the Hujjāj, are returning from their journeys of a lifetime, all over the world. How should we meet them? Is there anything specific that should be said to them?

Abdullāh Ibn Umar (radhiyallāhu anhumā) reports that the Prophet (sallallāhu alayhi wasallam) said, “When you meet a hāji (on his way home) then greet him, shake hands with him and ask him to beg for forgiveness of Allāh Ta’ālā on your behalf before he enters his home, for his prayer for forgiveness is accepted since he is forgiven by Allāh Ta’ālā for his sins.” (Musnad Ahmad)

In another Hadith, it is mentioned that the Prophet (sallallāhu alayhi wasallam) once prayed, “Oh Allāh Ta’ālā, forgive the sins of the hujjāj and forgive the sins of him for whom the hāji prays.” (Hākim, Sahih ibn Khuzaymah, Bayhaqi)

It is reported that the Prophet (sallallāhu alayhi wasallam) made this Duā three times which emphasises its importance.

It is also reported that Umar (radhiyallāhu anhu) said, “The hāji has the pardon of Allāh Ta’ālā and until the 10th of Rabi al Awwal, Allāh Ta’ālā answers his prayers in which he begs forgiveness for anyone.” (Musannaf ibn Abi Shaybah)

For these reasons, it has always been the custom of our pious predecessors to welcome the pilgrims, to walk with them and to ask them to pray on one’s behalf.