

At-Tazkirah

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE PUBLISHED BY THE STUDENT COUNCIL OF DARUL HADIS LATIFIAH

RAMADAN: THE MONTH OF MERCY

Assalamu alaikum! Ramadan Mubarak!

All praises are due to Allah Ta'ala, for blessing us with the luminous month of Ramadan, the month of the Holy Qur'an, the month of *Rahmah*; mercy.

Imam Muslim رضي الله عنه narrates on the authority of Abu Huraira رضي الله عنه that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

"When the month of Ramadan arrives, the doors of mercy are opened; the doors of hellfire are closed and the devils are chained."

The doors of Allah's mercy are never closed, but in Ramadan the mercy of Allah is greater because the doors of Allah's punishment are closed and the devils are locked up.

So in reality, although the mercy of Allah never ceases, Ramadan is a month in which it is much easier to *attain* the mercy of Allah.

We should seize the opportunity to be showered with Allah's mercy, before the devils are once again released.

Ramadan provides us with an excellent opportunity to discipline our souls and adopt praiseworthy traits and habits.

We should spend the entire month in worship, as rewards are multiplied greatly. However, there are certain acts that specifically guarantee the one who performs such actions to be showered with Allah's mercy, as informed by Allah Ta'ala Himself and His Noble Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم

InshaAllah we shall mention a few, and we ask Allah Ta'ala to grant us the *tawfiq* (ability), to accept from us, and to grant us *dawam* (continuation) after Ramadan.

(continued on page 2)

Student Council Members:

Y10: Imran Ahmed & Tanvir Hussain

Y9: Jibreel Mahi & Nahid Islam

Y8: Al-Hasan & Zafar Hussain

Y7: Abdul Wahid & Shozib Miah

What's in this issue...

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RAMADAN: THE MONTH OF MERCY (continued)

1. Reciting the Holy Qur'an and listening to its recitation

The Holy Qur'an itself is *rahma* (mercy). Allah Ta'ala says:

"And we reveal from the Qur'an that which is a cure and rahma for the believers." (al-Isra 17:82)

Reciting it causes mercy to descend, and so does listening to it. Allah Ta'ala says:

"And when the Qur'an is recited, listen to it attentively, so that you may be shown mercy." (al-A'raf 7:204)

Salah at-Taraweeh is a wonderful way to listen to the beautiful recitation of the Holy Qur'an.

2. To have *sabr* (perseverance)

Ramadan is also the ideal time to try and harness the admirable quality...

of *sabr*; patience, perseverance, endurance and forbearance.

Allah Ta'ala says regarding those that possess *sabr*:

"They are those that are showered with blessings and rahma, and they are the guided ones." (al-Baqarah 2:157)

And undoubtedly, this summer, fasting will need *sabr*. May Allah Ta'ala make it easy for us.

3. Seek forgiveness (*Istighfar*)

Ramadan is the month of forgiveness. Only the truly wretched ones fail to attain forgiveness from

Allah Ta'ala. In fact, the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم has cursed the ones who find Ramadan, yet fail to obtain *maghfirah* (forgiveness from Allah for their sins).

Constantly asking Allah Ta'ala for forgiveness is the blessed habit of our beloved Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم, and also a means of being showered with mercy.

Allah Ta'ala says:

"And why do you not seek forgiveness from Allah, so you that you may be showered with mercy." (an-Naml 27:46)

May Allah Ta'ala forgive all our sins, and grant us safety from the hellfire.

4. Remember Allah and study the Holy Qur'an

Ramadan is the month of the Holy Qur'an. We should try and recite as much of it possible, but also make an effort to understand the beautiful message it portrays. Alhamdulillah, most mosques hold sessions throughout Ramadan, the month in which the Holy Qur'an was revealed. We should try and attend these gatherings as they are certainly gatherings of mercy.

Imam Muslim رحمه الله narrates on the authority of Abu Huraira رضي الله عنه that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

"No group of people gather together in a mosque and recite the Qur'an and study it; except that they are showered with rahma, angels surround them, tranquillity

descends upon them and Allah remembers them with those who are with Him."

5. Pray 4 raka'at Sunnah before 'Asr

This last one may seem a little peculiar, but Ramadan is a month of voluntary worship. In addition to our obligatory prayers, we should try and make the habit of increasing in *tatawwu'* (voluntary) prayers.

Although the jurists agree that the four raka'at Sunnah are not emphasised (*ghayr-Mu'akkadah*), its blessing is unique. In fact, by praying these 4 units of prayer, we may be fortunate enough to benefit from the du'a of our beloved Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم; Imam Tirmidhi رحمه الله narrates on the authority of Abdullah ibn Umar رضي الله عنه that the Prophet said:

"May Allah have mercy on the one who prays four raka'at before 'Asr."

As mentioned earlier, these are just a few deeds we may perform throughout Ramadan in order to attain mercy from Allah Ta'ala, but we should do as much *ibadah* as possible, according to our ability.

May Allah Ta'ala shower His mercy upon us in this month, accept our good deeds, forgive our sins and grant us salvation from the hellfire.

Amin.

The 15th of Sha'ban

It's authenticity, virtues and significance

The fifteenth night of Sha'ban, commonly referred to as *Shabe Bara'at*, is a night regarding which the *Ulama* have differed about. However, most scholars from the Muhadditheen and Fuqaha considered it to be a special night and one of great virtue. This is based on some authentic ahadith and statements of the great earlier Imams.

The most well-known hadith is narrated by Ibn Hibban in his *Sahih* on the authority of Mu'adh Ibn Jabal (radiallahu anhu), who narrated that the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: *"Verily Allah Ta'ala turns to His entire creation on the 15th of Sha'ban, and He forgives His entire creation except a polytheist and one who has enmity."* This hadith has also been narrated by other companions and has been graded as authentic by numerous scholars, including Shaykh Nasiruddin Al-Albani.

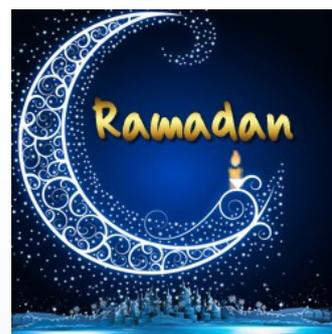
Imam Ahmad also narrates in his *Musnad* on the authority of Abdullah Ibn Amr (radiallahu anhu) that the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: *"Allah descends on the fifteenth night of Sha'ban and forgives all His servants except two; one who has enmity and one who commits murder."* The editor of the *Musnad*, Shaykh Ahmad

Muhammad Shakir, classed this hadith as authentic.

In addition to the above and numerous other ahadith, many Sahaba and Tabi'een are reported to have acknowledged the virtues of the 15th of Sha'ban and spoken of its significance.

Imam Abdurrazzaq narrated in his *Musannaf* that the illustrious Sahabi Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Umar (radiallahu anhu) stated: *"Prayers are not rejected on 5 nights; the night of Jumu'ah, the first night of Rajab, The 15th of Sha'ban and the two nights of Eid."*

The renowned Tabi'ee Ata bin Yasaar (rahimahullah) said that the most prominent night after Laytul Qadr is the fifteenth night of Sha'ban. Furthermore, the Tabi'een of Sham including Khalid Ibn Ma'dan, Mak'hul and Luqman ibn Amir, used to hold the fifteenth night of Sha'ban in high esteem and engage in worship during the night. Both of these narrations have been mentioned Ibn Rajab Al-Hanbali in his *Lata'if al-Ma'arif*.



How Well Do You Know

Ramadan?

Abdul Khayum, Year 8

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, and is observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting to commemorate the first revelation of the Quran to Prophet Muhammad (SAW). Ramadan is one of the Five Islamic Pillars of Islam. The month lasts between 29-30 days based on the visual sightings of the crescent moon. Ramadan is a time when the Shaytaan and the Jinn's (all of which misguide the children of Adam), are locked away, unable to inflict their darkness upon us.

The word Ramadan comes from the Arabic root Ramida or Ar ramad, which means scorching heat and dryness. Fasting is fardh (obligatory) for adult Muslims, except for those who are suffering an illness, travelling, are elderly, pregnant, breastfeeding diabetic or going through menstrual bleeding. Fasting the month of Ramadan was made obligatory (wajib) during the month of Sha'aban, in the second year after the Muslims migrated from Mecca to Medina.

While fasting from dawn until sunset, Muslims must refrain from consuming food, drinking liquids and smoking. Muslims are also instructed to refrain from sinful behaviour that may negate the reward of fasting, such as false speech, insulting, backbiting, cursing, lying, fighting, etc. Spiritual rewards (thawab) for fasting are also multiplied within the month of Ramadan. Fasting for Muslims during Ramadan includes the increased offering of Salah and recitation of the Quran.

Ramadan Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q1. Is it OK if I break my fast because the doctors said I must have medicine?

A1. If a doctor tells you that you must take medicine during the day (and it is not possible to take it at any other time), then you are permitted to take the medicine. You will be required to perform a qada (make-up fast) for each fast that you broke after Ramadan.

Q2. If a person eats forgetfully, does he continue fasting?

A2. If a person eats or drinks while forgetting that he is fasting, then his fast will not break regardless of how much he eats. As soon as he remembers, he should stop eating or drinking immediately.

Q3. If I gargle during wudu and swallow water accidentally, does my fast break?

A3. If a person accidentally swallows water during wudu, his fast will break and a qada will be necessary. If one fears that gargling may result in swallowing some water, then it should be avoided.

Q4. If I don't eat sehri, am I obliged to fast?

A4. Having something to eat for suhur is a virtuous and rewarding sunnah act. However, if one is unable to do so, the obligation of fasting remains.

Q5. If I missed some fasts from last year's Ramadan, do I have to make them up before this Ramadan?

A5. Although it is Fard to make up any previously missed Ramadan fasts, it is not obligatory to perform them before the next Ramadan arrives—rather it is recommended .

Q6. What is kaffarah and when is it necessary?

A6. Kaffarah is the expiation to be performed if someone breaks a fast of Ramadan without a valid reason. It will only be necessary if someone begins fasting and then breaks it—not if someone doesn't fast at all. Kaffarah is that a person fasts for sixty consecutive days. However, if he is unable to do so, he should feed sixty poor people, or feed one poor person for sixty days (only if he is unable to fast for sixty consecutive days).

Answers to last month's riddles.

1. **What is the only sunnah act which the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) commanded but never performed it himself? *The Adhan***
2. **There is a sin forbidden in the Holy Qur'an. Nobody has ever committed this sin, and it is impossible for anyone to ever commit it until the day of Judgment. What is it? *Marrying one of the wives of the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wasallam)***
3. **Which Hadith is the only Hadith that the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) narrated from a Sahabi (companion)? *The hadith of Dajjal related by Tamim Ad-Dari (ra).***
4. **What is the only act of worship that somebody can perform and say with certainty that nobody else is doing it at the exact**

Giving Up Backbiting

Maruf Ahmed (MMA)

As Ramadan approaches, it is imperative that we don't destroy the rewards of our good deeds by committing sins and disobeying Allah. One of the most common sins is *gheebah* (backbiting).

Besides destroying one's rewards, there are numerous and severe consequences of backbiting mentioned in many ahadith, including;

1. Allah Ta'ala will reveal the faults of a backbiting person, just as he revealed the faults of others.
2. It is one of the primary causes of punishment in the grave.
3. Allah Ta'ala will cause those who habitually backbite to eat the corpse of dead bodies in Hellfire.
4. The du'a of such a person will not be accepted.

1. To observe silence.

Many people begin backbiting the moment they open their mouths.

The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم encouraged his Ummah to try and observe silence and not speak unless necessary. By doing so, we will not only be absolved from the evil of backbiting, but also other grave sins such as lying and swearing.

This quality (remaining silent) is from the beautiful characteristics of a believer.

Imam Bukhari narrates on the authority of Abu Shuraih al-Adawi (ra) that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

“Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day, he should only speak good, or remain silent.”

Imam Tirmidhi narrates on the authority of Abu Huraira (ra) that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

“One of the beautiful traits of a Muslim is that he leaves that which does not concern him.”

Imam al-Mundhri narrates in his at-Targheeb with a Sahih chain on the authority of Abdullah Ibn Umar (ra) that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

“Whoever remains silent, has survived!”

By observing silence, you have the opportunity to think before uttering anything and also ponder whether what you say will be of benefit, harm, or neither.

2. Engage in the remembrance of Allah.

Instead of remembering and recalling others and their qualities, we should remember Allah constantly and talk about Him, His qualities, His bounties and also His Beloved Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم.

Remembering Allah Ta'ala prevents shaytan to whisper into the heart.

Imam Suyuti narrates in al-Jami' as-Saghir, with a Hasan chain, on the authority of Anas Ibn Malik (ra) that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

“Verily shaytan feeds on the hearts of humans. If he remembers Allah, shaytan will flea. But if he forgets Allah, shaytan will feed on his heart.”

We should also try to engage in other commendable acts which will keep you preoccupied.

3. Think how you would feel if someone were to backbite you.

It is very easy to speak ill of others, yet we get furious even quicker when we discover that someone has been backbiting us.

Just as we would become upset if someone was to speak behind our backs, we should realise before backbiting others that they would also become upset.

This is a vital element of Iman.

Imam Bukhari narrates on the authority of Anas Ibn Malik (ra) that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

“None of you have truly believed until you love for your brothers what you love for yourselves.”

4. Avoid people or gatherings that are likely to cause you to backbite.

It is important to assess when, where and with whom we backbite most often. If we can determine these, then it is imperative to avoid such places and people.

For example, it may be so that whenever you meet with colleagues at lunch time, it is very probable that you may backbite. Hence it is strongly advised to avoid such meetings.

Likewise, you should not keep the company of those who you are likely to backbite with.

Imam Tirmidhi and Abu Dawud both narrate on the authority of Abu Huraira (ra) that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

“A man follows the way of his friend, so beware whom you befriend!”

May Allah Ta'ala enable us to utilise our tongues in a manner which attains His pleasure and saves us from His wrath.

It is also advisable, and a Sunnah, to read the following du'a upon leaving a gathering;

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ ،
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ
أَسْتَغْفِرُكَ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْكَ

“Subhanakal-lahumma wa bi hamdika, ash-hadu al-laa ilaha illa anta, astaghfiruka wa atubu ilaik”

The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said that whoever exits a gathering and reads this du'a, Allah Ta'ala will forgive any

Parents Prevent Training

On Wednesday 25th May 2016, the school organised a Prevent training workshop for parents. The training was delivered by the Tower Hamlets Council Parental Engagement Team in the school hall. There was a good turnout of parents and a number of important issues were discussed. Parents were given the opportunity to discuss the problems faced by young people today, including problems faced online, especially on social media. Some parents commented after the session that they found the workshop engaging and said that there was a lot to learn from it and would welcome similar workshops in the future.



EXAMS

The GCSE exams are well under-way. The final exam the students will sit is on Friday 24th June 2016. The end of year assessments for students of years 7 to 10 will start on Monday 27th June 2016 and conclude on 1st July 2016.

We hope that all our students work hard and revise well, and we pray that they are successful.

اللَّهُمَّ لَاسَهْلَ إِلَّا مَا جَعَلْتَهُ سَهْلًا
وَأَنْتَ تَجْعَلُ الْحَزْنَ إِذَا شِئْتَ سَهْلًا.

Tip: Read this du'a before an exam.

FUNDRAISING APPEAL!

DARUL HADIS LATIFIAH HAS ORGANISED A FUNDRAISING APPEAL ON

THURSDAY 18 RAMADAN (23 JUNE 2016)

LIVE ON CHANNEL i (SKY 833)



FROM 5pm TILL FAJR

Please watch the appeal and donate generously!

DEMOCRACY DAY 2016

On 6th May 2016, Darul Hadis Latifiah students took part in a drop down day to learn about democracy and the 2016 London Mayoral Elections. Three students from Year 10 stood as candidates from the three major British political parties in a mock election. Mahbub Ahmed represented the Labour Party, Mamunur Rahman Qureshi represented the Conservative Party and Imran Ahmed stood from the Liberal Democrat Party.

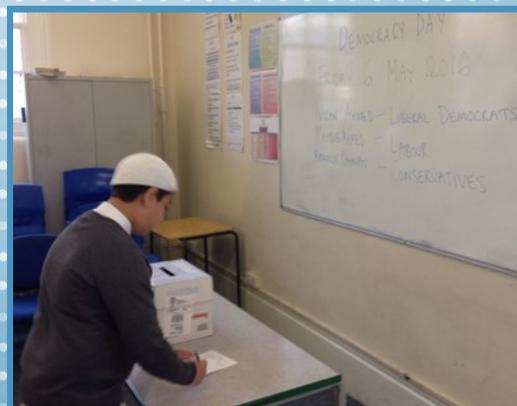
Each candidate first gave a presentation of their manifestos, outlining their visions for London, and then took questions from the audience. The candidates mentioned their plans for education, transport, environment, health and multiculturalism. They were asked about a number of key issues by the audience, for example immigration and the EU referendum. The candidates were able to confidently deliver their presentations and to answer the questions posed to them.



After listening to the candidates, the students then went to the polling station to cast their votes. After all votes were cast, the ballot papers were counted under the watchful eye of the election commissioner. At the end of the first round of counting, it was apparent that no candidate had received 50% of the votes, so the counting went into a second round, where eventually the Labour Party candidate, Mahbub Ahmed, was declared the victor.

The mock election was an enjoyable experience and the students learnt a lot about how democracy works. In a democracy, we are able to listen to our potential representatives and then we can decide who we want to speak on our behalf.

We look forward to a similar experience for the EU referendum.



RAMADAN 2016 - 1437

Day	Ramadan	June	Sehri end	Sunrise	Iftar
Monday	01	06	2:50	4:46	9:15
Tuesday	02	07	2:49	4:45	9:16
Wednesday	03	08	2:49	4:45	9:17
Thursday	04	09	2:48	4:44	9:18
Friday	05	10	2:48	4:44	9:19
Saturday	06	11	2:47	4:44	9:19
Sunday	07	12	2:45	4:43	9:20
Monday	08	13	2:45	4:43	9:21
Tuesday	09	14	2:45	4:43	9:21
Wednesday	10	15	2:45	4:43	9:22
Thursday	11	16	2:45	4:43	9:22
Friday	12	17	2:45	4:43	9:23
Saturday	13	18	2:43	4:43	9:23
Sunday	14	19	2:43	4:43	9:23
Monday	15	20	2:43	4:43	9:23
Tuesday	16	21	2:42	4:43	9:24
Wednesday	17	22	2:43	4:44	9:24
Thursday	18	23	2:44	4:44	9:24
Friday	19	24	2:44	4:44	9:24
Saturday	20	25	2:45	4:45	9:24
Sunday	21	26	2:45	4:45	9:24
Monday	22	27	2:46	4:45	9:24
Tuesday	23	28	2:46	4:46	9:24
Wednesday	24	29	2:48	4:47	9:23
Thursday	25	30	2:48	4:47	9:23
Friday	26	01 July	2:49	4:48	9:23
Saturday	27	02	2:50	4:49	9:23
Sunday	28	03	2:51	4:49	9:22
Monday	29	04	2:51	4:50	9:22
Tuesday	30	05	2:52	4:51	9:21
Wednesday	*	06	2:53	4:52	9:21

Niyah for fasting

*Nawatu an asuma
ghadam-min shahri
Ramadan-al-
Mubaraki fardal-
laka Ya Allahu fa-
taqabbal minni In-
naka antas-
Samee'ul 'Aleem.*

Du'a for Iftar

*Allahumma laka
sumtu, wa bika
amantu, wa 'ala
rizqika aftartu, wa
'alayka tawakkaltu.*

*It is recommended to make
plenty of du'a before iftar,
as it is a time of ac-
ceptance.*

Khatm Taraweeh

*Alhamdulillah, there
will be Khatm Ta-
raweeh at Darul Had-
is Latifah this Rama-
dan. You are welcome
to take part.*