



The Month of Ramadhan

A brief guide for Children

Compiled by
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Designed by
Hafiz Naeem Mitha

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Foreword

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

"A Brief Guide to Ramadhan" is designed for all age groups.

Respected teachers are requested to do additional research, plan and deliver the lesson according to their class's age group.

This guide is separated into 10 sections.

- 5 pillars of Islam
- Islamic Months
- Ramadhan & the Qur'an
- Fasting
- Iftaar
- Sehri or Suhur
- Taraweeh
- Laylatul Qadr
- I'tikaaf
- Eid-ul-Fitr

May Allah Ta'ala make this booklet a means of guidance for the entire Ummah, and safeguard the Imaan of our children.

Aameen

Sajid Ibrahim Sufi
Tuesday 30th January 2024

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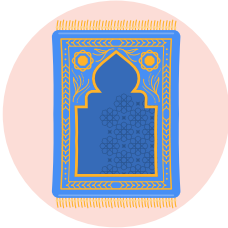
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Five Pillars of Islam



Imaan

Imaan means to believe in one Allah ﷻ and to believe in His messenger, our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Imaan is the first and most important pillar of Islam.



Salah

It is Fardh (compulsory) for a Muslim to perform five times daily Salah; they are Fajr, Zohr, Asr, Maghrib and Isha.



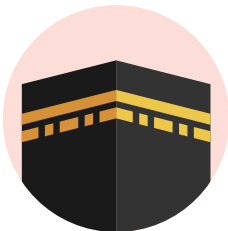
Zakat

Zakat is to give 2.5% from our savings to the poor. Zakat must be given once a year.



Saum (Fasting)

It is Fardh (compulsory) for Muslims to fast in the month of Ramadhan. Fasting means to stay away from eating and drinking from dawn (beginning of Fajr time) till sunset (Maghrib).



Hajj

Hajj is a pilgrimage made to Makkah in the twelfth month of the Islamic calendar, Dhul Hijjah.

Islamic Months

1. Muharram	مُحَرَّم
2. Safar	صَفَر
3. Rabi-ul-Awwal	رَبِيعُ الْأَوَّل
4. Rabi-uth-Thani	رَبِيعُ الثَّانِي
5. Jumadal Oola	جُمَادَى الْأُولَى
6. Jumadal Ukhra	جُمَادَى الْآخِرَى
7. Rajab	رَجَب
8. Sha'ban	شَعْبَانَ
9. Ramadhan	رَمَضَانَ
10. Shawwal	شَوَّال
11. Dhul Qa'dah	ذُو الْقَعْدَةِ
12. Dhul Hijjah	ذُو الْحِجَّةِ

As Muslims we have five special duties to perform in our lives, known as the five pillars of Islam.

One of these is Saum – the duty to fast during the month of Ramadhan. Ramadhan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. Ramadhan means to burn; Fasting in the month of Ramadhan burns away the sins.

Ramadhan & The Qur'an

Our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ often visited the cave of Hira, which is near Makkah. He would stay there for many days. Our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ would even take his food with him. Our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ would stay there and remember Allah ﷻ.

This happened often, until one day Allah ﷻ sent Hazrat Jibraeel ﷺ with the verses of the Qur'an. Hazrat Jibraeel ﷺ is an Archangel who brought Allah's books, orders, and messages to the Prophets. Hazrat Jibraeel ﷺ recited the following verses of the holy Qur'an to our Prophet ﷺ:

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ ①

Read in the name of your Lord who created [everything]

خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ②

created man from a clot of blood

اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ ③

Read, and your Lord is Most Gracious

الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ④

who taught by means of the pen

عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ⑤

He taught man what he did not know

(96:1-5)

The Qur'an was revealed to our beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ during the month of Ramadhan.



A few virtues of the month of Ramadhan

Hazrat Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: When Ramadhan begins, the gates of paradise are opened, the gates of hell are closed, and the devils are chained. (Bukhari)

- The gates of Jannah (Heaven) are opened.
- The gates of Jahannam (Hell) are closed.
- The Shaytan (Devil) is chained up.
- Allah's mercy increases abundantly in this month.

This is a month, the first of which brings Allah's mercy (i.e. the first 10 days), the middle of which brings His forgiveness, and the last of which brings freedom from the fire of Jahannam. (Bayhaqi)

Saum (fasting) The Third Pillar of Islam

Fasting means to stay away from eating and drinking from dawn (before Fajr) till sunset (Maghrib). Fasting in the month of Ramadhan is one of the pillars of Islam.

Why do we fast?

1. Allah ﷻ has commanded us to fast in the Holy Qur'an.
2. We become closer to Allah ﷻ.
3. By fasting we will become pious.

Allah ﷻ mentions in the Holy Qur'an:

“O Believers, Fasting has been prescribed upon you, as it was prescribed upon those before you, so that you may become righteous (pious).”

4. To think about the poor people who do not have any food.

The month of Ramadhan is the month of sympathy and kindness. When we fast, we can understand the poor people's suffering who have nothing to eat all year round.

Virtue of feeding a fasting person

Our Prophet ﷺ said:

“Whoever feeds a fasting person in order to break their fast at iftaar¹, for him there shall be forgiveness of sins and freedom from the fire of Jahannam (hell), and he shall receive the same as the fasting person (whom he fed) without the fasting person losing any reward”.

(Ibn Majah)



¹ Iftaar: At Sunset (the Maghrib prayer) marks the end of the fast and we can finally eat. This meal is known as Iftaar. We should break our fast with dates and water.

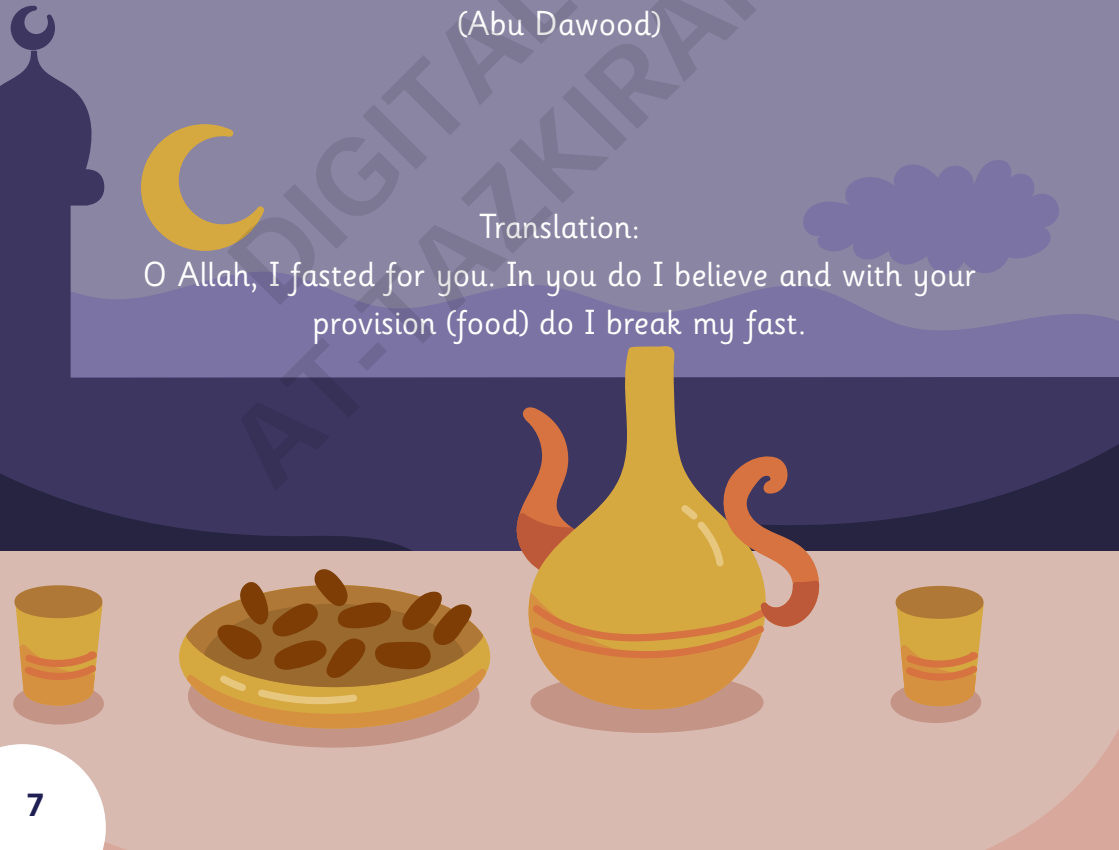
Dua for Iftaar

اللَّهُمَّ لَكَ صُيْتُ
وَعَلَى رِزْقِكَ أَفْطَرْتُ

(Abu Dawood)

Translation:

O Allah, I fasted for you. In you do I believe and with your provision (food) do I break my fast.



Sehri or Suhoor

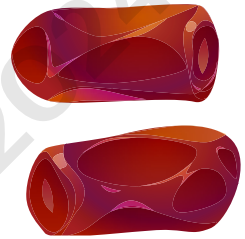
Fasting is compulsory during hours from dawn till sunset, and so we will get up while it is still dark so we can eat. This first meal of the day is known as Sehri or Suhoor, and must be finished before the beginning time of the first prayer, which is called Fajr.

There are great blessings in doing Sehri, therefore, one should not miss it.

Our Prophet ﷺ said:

“Eat Sehri, because in it lies great blessings.”

(Bukhari & Muslim)

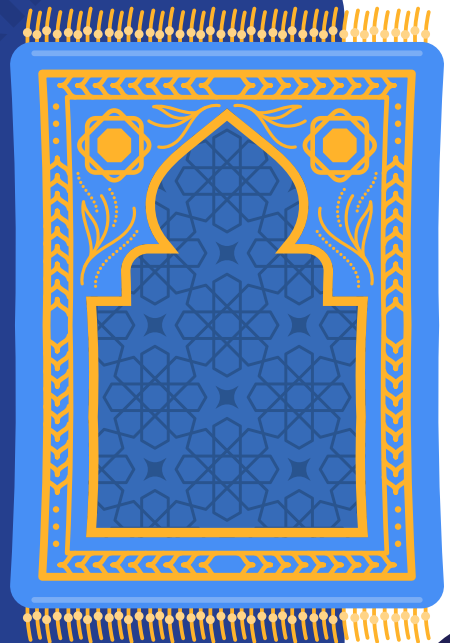


Taraweeh

Taraweeh is a salah which is performed immediately after Isha salah in Ramadhan. It consists of twenty Rakats and should not be missed.

Note: Taraweeh Salah is Sunnah Mu'akkadah

(an emphasised Sunnah) on both men and women.



Laylatul Qadr

The night of power



Allah ﷻ says in the holy Qur'an:

Verily We revealed it (the Qur'an) on the Night of power. Do you know what the Night of Power is? The Night of Power is better than a thousand months. By the permission of their Lord, the angels and the spirit (Hazrat Jibra'il Ameen) descends with every commandment in it; it is full of peace until the break of dawn. (Surah Al-Qadr).

Ramadhan is also important because it is the month in which the Qur'an was revealed to our beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ on the Night of Power (Laylatul Qadr). Laylatul Qadr has been mentioned in the Qur'an to be more virtuous than one thousand months. Laylatul Qadr is found on one of the odd nights of the last ten days of Ramadhan.

The Prophet ﷺ said:

“On Laylatul Qadr, Jibraeel ﷺ comes down with a group of Angels and makes dua of mercy for everyone they find busy in worship. (Bayhaqi)

Sunnah I'tikaf

I'tikaf means to seclude oneself

This was the general practice of our beloved Prophet ﷺ. It means to seclude oneself inside the masjid during the last ten days of Ramadhan, and to spend one's time in worship, dua, seeking Allah ﷻ's pleasure and reward.

The example of the one who stays in the masjid in I'tikaf, is like a person who has gone to a certain place for something and stays there until it is granted.



On the day of Eid-ul-fitr we should:

1. Wake up earlier than usual.
2. Brush our teeth with Miswaak.
3. Have a Ghusl (Bath).
4. Dress in one's best clothes, not necessarily new.
5. Be well dressed in an Islamic manner.
6. Use Itr (perfume).
7. Perform Eid Salah at the Eidgaah.
8. To eat dates or anything sweet before going for the Eid-ul-Fitr Salah.
9. To go by foot (if possible).
10. Recite the Takbeerat softly on the way to the place of Eid salah.



Takbeerat

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ
لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ
وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ
وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ

Translation:

Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest, there is none worthy of worship except for Allah, and Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest, and all praise is for Allah.



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"A Brief Guide to Ramadhan"
is your friendly companion to
understand the importance of
this month.

Through colourful illustrations
and simplistic explanations, this
book unfolds the beauty of
Ramadhan.

