

# **FRIDAY NEWSLETTER (45) TOPICS**

# **VIRTUES OF FASTING IN THE MONTH OF RAMADAN**

**Compiled by**

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**SUBJECT: 1: MERITS OF THE MONTH OF RAMADAN**

**MERIT: 1: DOORS OF PARADISE ARE KEPT OPEN:**

Abu Hurayrah reported that, the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saying:

***“When Ramadan starts, the doors of heaven, which are doors of mercy<sup>1</sup> are opened,...”<sup>2</sup>***

**MERIT: 2: DOORS OF HELL ARE KEPT CLOSE:**

Abu Hurayrah reported that, the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saying:

***“When Ramadan starts,... the doors of Hell are closed ....”<sup>3</sup>***

**MERIT: 3: DEVILS ARE CHAINED:**

Abu Hurayrah reported that, the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saying:

***“When Ramadan starts,... the devils are chained up.”<sup>4</sup>***

**Explanation:**

In the above hadeeth three great events are mentioned which take place only in the month of Ramadan. Allah keeps the doors of mercy which are the doors of paradise open in this great month without closing any of the eight doors. All the doors of Hell-fire are kept close and not a single door is left open, so that the fasting person should not suffer its heat. This shows that Allah is full of mercy and considers feelings of His slaves who observe the fast only for His sake. The third great event of this month is that with the command of Allah all the devils are chained so that a sincere fasting person should not be misguided by any of these satans. This event informs us that Allah is

<sup>1</sup> SAHIH MUSLIM: Book 6, Number 2361.

<sup>2</sup> AL-BUKHARI: Volume 3, Book 31, Number 123.

<sup>3</sup> AL-BUKHARI: Volume 3, Book 31, Number 123.

<sup>4</sup> AL-BUKHARI: Volume 3, Book 31, Number 123.

much concerned about the fasting person. He wants to make fasting easy for him/her in every manner.

**MERIT: 4: ALLAH FREES PEOPLE FROM THE HELL EVERY NIGHT:**

Abu Hurayrah reported that, the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saying:

***"... And Allah has certain people whom he frees from the (Hell) Fire every night until Ramadan ends."***<sup>5</sup>

**Explanation:**

In the above hadeeth it is mentioned that Allah frees certain people from the Hell every night.

**SUBJECT: 2: MERITS OF THE FASTING PERSON IN THIS WORLD**

**MERIT: 1: GLAD TIDINGS FOR THE DOER OF GOOD.**

Abu Hurayrah reported that, the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saying:

***"And a caller calls out: O you who crave the good, come on!..."***<sup>6</sup>

**Explanation:**

In the above hadeeth it is mentioned that every night an angel is assigned to give a glad tidings to a doer of good.

**MERIT: 2: ALLAH FORGIVES ALL SINS OF FASTING PERSON.**

Abu Hurayrah reported that, the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saying:

***"... And whoever fasts in the month of Ramadan out of sincere faith, and hoping for a reward from Allah, then all his previous sins will be forgiven."***<sup>7</sup>

**Explanation:**

<sup>5</sup> [SAHEEH SUNAN AT-TIRMIZEE: VOL. 1, P. 209, NO. 549-685]

<sup>6</sup> [SAHEEH SUNAN AT-TIRMIZEE: VOL. 1, P. 209, NO. 549-685]

<sup>7</sup> [AL-BUKHARI:Volume 3, Book 31, Number 125]

In the above hadeeth a great merit is mentioned. Allah forgives the sin of a person who observes the fast in the month of Ramadan, with sincerity and hoping for the reward from Allah.

**MERIT: 3: FASTING EXPIATES THE AFFLICTION IN THE LIFE.**

Narrated Hudhaifa said, "I heard the Prophet saying,

***“The affliction of a person in his property, family and neighbours is expiated by his prayers, fasting, and giving in charity.”***<sup>8</sup>

**MERIT: 4: SMELL FROM A MOUTH OF A FASTING PERSON IS MORE PLEASANT THAN THE SMELL OF MUSK (FRAGRANCE).**

Abu Hurayrah reported that, the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saying:

***“... And the smell which issues from the mouth of the fasting person is more pleasant to Allah than the smell of musk (fragrance).”***<sup>9</sup>

**MERIT: 5: WARNING FOR THE DOER OF EVIL.**

Abu Hurayrah reported that, the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saying:

***“And a caller calls out: ... O you who crave evil, abstain....”***

<sup>10</sup>

**Explanation:**

In the above hadeeth it is mentioned that every night an angel is assigned to give warning to a doer of evil. It means that for those who wants to do good deeds for the sake of Allah, then, this is the right time for such people, so that they get double reward for what they normally do in other days.

**SUBJECT: 3: MERITS OF THE FASTING PERSON IN THE HEREAFTER**

**MERIT: 1: FAST IS A SHIELD AGAINST EVERY EVIL AND HELL-FIRE.**

<sup>8</sup> SAHIH AL-BUKHARI: Volume 3, Book 31, Number 119:

<sup>9</sup> [SAHIH MUSLIM: Book 35, Number 2567: ]

<sup>10</sup> [SAHEEH SUNAN AT-TIRMIZEE: VOL. 1, P. 209, NO. 549-685]

'Uthman said he heard the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saying:

***“Sawm (fasting) is a shield (or a screen or a shelter) from Hell-fire same as a metal shield in the war.”***<sup>11</sup>

**Explanation:**

In the above hadeeth a very great merit of fasting is mentioned. Fasting becomes a shield for a person against every evil in this world and against hell-fire in the here-after, if it is abserved sincerely for the sake of Allah and to please Him alone. It protects a person from committing sin and protects him from every evil. The metal shield plays a great role in the war against enemy soldier, similarly fasting does the same.

**MERIT: 2: FASTING TAKES THE PERSON AWAY FROM THE FIRE TO THE EXTENT OF SEVENTY YEARS' DISTANCE.**

Abu Sa'id al Khudri (Allah be pleased with him) reported Allah's Messenger (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) as saying:

***“Every servant of Allah who observes fast for a day in the way of Allah, Allah would remove, because of this day, his face farther from the Fire (of Hell) to the extent of seventy years' distance”.***<sup>12</sup>

**MERIT: 3: ALLAH HAS SPECIAL REWAD FOR THOSE WHO FAST IN RAMADAN.**

Abu Hurayrah reported that, the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said:

***“Every good deed of the son of Adam is multiplied in reward 10 to 700 times except for fasting, for it is for Me and I will grant the reward for it, he leaves his passion and his food for My sake...”***<sup>13</sup>

**Explanation:**

Allah has related the Fasting to Himself, and promised the reward from Himself. It is a secret between the Lord and His servant, hence it

<sup>11</sup> [AL:BUKHARI: Volume 3, Book 31, Number 118: MUSLIM: Book 35, Number 2565. SAHEEH SUNAN IBN MAJAH: VOL. 1, P. 274, NO. 1328-1639. WORDINGS ARE FROM IBN MAJAH.]

<sup>12</sup> SAHIH MUSLIM: Book 35, Number 2570.

<sup>13</sup> [SAHIH MUSLIM: Book 35, Number 2567: ]

is the greatest of trustworthiness. Its philosophy and its secrets are cannot be explained in this brief explanation.

#### **MERIT: 4: TWO OCCASIONS OF HAPPINESS**

Abu Hurayrah reported that, the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saying:

***"... The fasting person has two moments of happiness: One moment when he ends his fasting for the day (Iftâr) and the other when he meets his Rabb (Cherisher and Sustainer). ...."***<sup>14</sup>

#### **MERIT: 5: THE FASTING PERSON WILL GO ENTER PARADISE FROM 'AR-RAYYAN' GATE.**

Narrated Sahl: The Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said,

***"There is a gate in Paradise called Ar-Rayyan, and those who observe fasts will enter through it on the Day of Resurrection and none except them will enter through it. It will be said, 'Where are those who used to observe fasts?' They will get up, and none except them will enter through it. After their entry the gate will be closed and nobody will enter through it."***<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>14</sup> [SAHIH MUSLIM: Book 35, Number 2567: ]

<sup>15</sup>SAHIH AL-BUKHARI: Volume 3, Book 31, Number 120: