

GIVE MORE CHARITY DURING RAMADHAN

6 Ramadhan 1443H/April 8, 2022

أَحْمَدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ
سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّهِ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ
وَرَسُولُهُ.
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،
فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Let us all increase our devotion towards Allah the Almighty by performing all that He has decreed and abstaining from all that He has prohibited. Hopefully, we will be forgiven in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The month of *Ramadhan* is an opportunity for every Muslim to gain as much reward as possible. One of the simple and rewarding practices in this month is to give charity. Giving charity means spending part of the provision bestowed by Allah the Almighty on us for those who are in need such as the poor, orphans, mosques, welfare organizations, religious schools, students,

etc. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 63 (*Surah Al-Munafiqun*) verse (*ayat*) 10:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَأَنْفِقُوا مِنْ مَّا رَزَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَأْتِيَكُمُ الْمَوْتُ فَيَقُولَ

رَبِّ لَوْلَا أَخَّرْتَنِي إِلَىٰ أَجَلٍ قَرِيبٍ فَأَصَّدَّقَ وَأَكُن مِنَ الصَّالِحِينَ

Which means: *Give out of what We have provided for you, before death comes to one of you and he says, ‘My Lord, if You would only reprove me for a little while, I would give in charity and become one of the righteous.’*

This verse explains that the dead will wish to be able to live again to give charity because they know the benefits of giving charity. We should remember to give as much as we can for as long as we are alive, even though we are not rich. Some people dream of giving a lot of charity only when they become rich but in reality, anyone, whether rich or poor, can contribute, as long as his heart is sincere. The Prophet (peace be upon him [PBUH]) said in a *Hadith* narrated by Imam Ahmad:

اتَّقُوا النَّارَ وَلَوْ بِشِقِّ تَمْرَةٍ

Which means: “Guard yourselves against the Fire (of Hell) even if it is only with half a date-fruit (given in charity);...”

The wealth we have in this world, regardless of the amount, is not all ours. There are other people's portions in it. As believers, we are encouraged to always practice the principle of ‘*taawun*’ which is to help others, especially our fellow believers who are less fortunate or who are affected by disasters. In addition, the practice of giving charity is one of the ways to expiate our sins as the Prophet (PBUH) said in a *Hadith* narrated by Imam at-Tirmidhi:

الصَّدَقَةُ تُطْفِئُ الْخَطِيئَةَ كَمَا يُطْفِئُ الْمَاءُ النَّارَ

Which means: “...charity extinguishes bad deeds just as water extinguishes fire.”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let us take the opportunity throughout the month of *Ramadhan* to multiply our rewards by giving charity. Make it a habit to donate to the mosques as sincerely as possible so the mosques can use our contributions to cover their monthly costs of water and electricity bills or to carry out their religious activities. Furthermore, we will receive great rewards in *Ramadhan* if we donate money or food for the purpose of breaking fast. Hopefully, with the charity that we give, Allah will bless us with a long and healthy life as well

as protect us from misfortune. Remember that Allah mentioned in the Quran in Chapter 2 (*Surah Al-Baqarah*) verse (*ayat*) 271:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
إِنْ يُبَدُوا الصَّدَقَاتِ فَنِعِمَّا هِيَ وَإِنْ تُخْفُوهَا وَتُؤْتُوهَا الْفُقَرَاءَ
فَهُوَ خَيْرٌ لَكُمْ وَيَكْفِرُ عَنْكُمْ مِّنْ سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا
تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ

Which means: *If you give charity openly, it is good, but if you keep it secret and give to the needy in private, that is better for you, and it will atone for some of your bad deeds: Allah is well aware of all that you do.*

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ
وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ
قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،
وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.