

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Hazrat Ameer's Eid ul Fitr Message

(1442 Hijrah, May 2021)

شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِّنَ الْهُدَىٰ وَالْفُرْقَانِ ۗ

The month of Ramadan is that in which the Qur'an was revealed, a guidance to people and clear proofs of the guidance and the Criterion (seperating the truth from falsehood). (Al Baqarah 2:185)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As-salāmu 'Alaikum Wa Raḥmatullāhi Wa Barakātu Hu.

A very Happy *Eid Mubarak* to you all.

We are celebrating Eid ul Fitr. The literal meaning of Eid is recurring happiness. The immediate question that comes to mind is: why are we happy when so many people are falling prey to a deadly Covid 19 illness? The answer is simple; this is not a wordly happiness but a spiritual one. We are happy and we have a very good reason to celebrate. We are celebrating this day to mark the end of the month of Ramadan. Another question that comes to mind: are we happy because we were starving ourselves and now we can catch up with the eating we deprived ourselves of? If this is the answer, then we are completely wrong because we are forgetting the very purpose of fasting stated in the Holy Qur'an which says:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ ۞

O you who believe, fastiing has been prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may observe taqwa. (Al Baqarah 2:183)

That is, guarding against violating the commands of Allah by doing all that He has directed us to do and shirking from all that He has forbidden.

The month of Ramadan was an exercise for strengthening our souls through fasting and performance of *ibadat* or supplications. We are celebrating the successful completion of this exercise. We are also celebrating the

commencement of the revelation of the Holy Qur'an in *Lailatul Qadr*, the Night of Majesty. We are celebrating the most significant event in the history of humanity, that is, the prophethood bestowed by Allah on our beloved Prophet Muhammad, the last Prophet, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. He was to be the last prophet for all times to come and a mercy to all mankind.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let us all thank Allah for his bounties upon us and try to live according to the guidance of the the Holy Qur'an and the example of the Prophet Muhammad, may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.

May Allah grants us the strength that we continue to practice the spiritual training we have received during Ramadan so that our souls may stay alive and healthy. May Allah make this Eidul Fitr a source of real happiness for us.

Aameen summa aameen.

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