بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحُلْنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Hazrat Ameer's Ramadan Message

(1442 Hijrah, April 2021)

And I have not created the jinn and the men except that they should serve Me. (Al-<u>Dh</u>āriyāt, 51:56)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaato Hu.

I wish you all the spiritual blessings of Ramadan.

The verse of the Holy Qur'an which I have cited above stresses the purpose of our creation, that is, to serve Allah. Serving Allah means that we tread on the path of obedience to His commands, seeking His nearness and pleasure. In His benevolence Allah has not only laid out an objective for us but has also facilitated us by showing the way to achieve it. The month of Ramadan provides a great opportunity for doing this.

Ramadan is the blessed month in which revelation of the Holy Qur'an commenced and was completed over a period of twenty three years. If we desire to achieve the purpose of our creation, we will find all the means to do so in this Book. The Holy Qur'an is a guidebook revealed by the Creator. By obeying its commands we will be able to achieve the purpose of our creation and will be blessed with His nearness and pleasure.

The month of Ramadan may be likened to a field from which a rich crop can only be harvested by the farmer if he takes advantage of the proper climatic and soil conditions needed for the growth of his crop.

Our soul too is like a field for which the right time to sow the seeds is Ramadan. It provides an immense opportunity to better ourselves spiritually by keeping up prayers and following the instructions of the Holy Qur'an in letter and spirit, as also fasting in the true spirit. Just like the farmer who takes advantage of the proper conditions for sowing the seeds, the attainment of spiritual development of the soul too has to be achieved in the opportunity provided by Ramadan. If we do not utilise this opportunity the whole purpose of fasting will become futile.

Sisters and Brothers,

I pray that may Allah grant us the will and strength to carry out all our spiritual commitments during Ramadan. I also pray that may He protect us against the Covid 19 illness and rid the world of this scourge. While we take preventive measures against bodily illnesses, we should realise that it is equally, if not more important to take preventive measures against our spiritual illnesses during this Ramadan as also throughout our lives.

Aameen summa aameen.

Professor Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed Ameer and President Worldwide Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement

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