

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Hazrat Ameer's Ramadan Message

(1444 Hijrah, March 2023)

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 men and clear proofs of the guidance and the Criterion.

(Al Baqarah 2:185)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Assalāmu 'Alaikum Wa Rahmatullāhi Wa Barakātu-hū.

Let us all thank Allah for having granted us another month of Ramadan and the opportunity to connect with and gain nearness to Him. There is a *Hadith ul Qudsi* (Divine Tradition) in which Allah says that between Him and man there is no veil but between man and Him there are seventy thousand veils. This means that Allah Himself is closer to us than our jugular vein but we distance ourselves from Him by our own actions. Each of our actions which goes against the guidelines ordained by Allah *Ta'ala* in the Holy Qur'an places a veil between Him and us. Allah is most Beneficent and Merciful towards His servants and grants them forgiveness for their sins when they repent; but the repentance must be a sincere one. We must regret our actions and repent for the sins we have committed and do not repeat them.

Among His countless bounties is the revelation of the Holy Qur'an and the blessed month of Ramadan in which its revelation started. In this month, His mercy and forgiveness become manifold and He readily forgives our faults and weaknesses. The Holy Qur'an guides us in all our affairs and lays out for us the ways in which we should spend our lives. The Holy Qur'an being called a Criterion (*Al-Furqān*), points to the fact that it contains teachings that separate the truth from falsehood.

I pray that during this Ramadan we are able to remove all the veils between us and our Maker by following the guidance that the Holy Qur'an gives us and gain

nearness to Allah through our supplications and acts of devotion. May He grant us health and strength to carry out all the devotional services we offer and their acceptance by Allah *Ta'ala*.

Aameen summa aameen.

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