

# بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

We thank Almighty Allah (SWT) for the guidance that undoubtedly leads humankind from the darkness that is the 'veiling of the soul' to the light of realisation.

Brethren in Islam, we have exited the month of the Quran once more. At this juncture the past is behind us, the future ahead of us and the present is *this* very moment.

The foundation, the tilth that was the month of Ramadan needs to bear fruit now, at *this* moment. But how do we engage the future effectively?

The answer is obvious enough to be overlooked, discarded and made obsolete in this the information age.

There is a scientific principal that states succinctly what we fail to realise. Ockhams Razor states: "all things being equal, a simpler explanation is better than a more complex one". It in fact asserts that one should proceed to simpler theories until simplicity can be traded for greater explanatory power.

What am I getting at here? This Ummah *has* the knowledge we seek elsewhere. It is the Quran.

I repeat verbatim what I said on the day of Eidul Fitr:

*The uniqueness and greatness of the message is in its timelessness. For time and location has borne testimony over the centuries of how applicable, exact and absolute in its resourcefulness the Quran has been and is in the development of the human intellect. It is during the month of Ramadan that the world is in an 'Arafat of Saum'. It is during this month that Muslim unity and brotherhood is conspicuously reflected in our behaviour. Our compassion and love for one another based on the duties reflected in the Quran and Sunnah are enacted without reservation, our true nature at once denied and laid bare unguarded.*

Our Deen is the Deen of Truth, which we know and realise, connects humankind and the Mu'mien in every place and time. Why? Because this system of exactness does not change. It is timeless.

We have this past month been allowed to engage in a culture of mercy.

Amina Ayad says in her book, Healing body and Soul (pp419):

*"Fasting is thus a remedy for the suffering of the soul- a time to draw closer to Allah so as to purify it from sin, while purifying our bodies from toxins..."*

The opportunities exposed to us are innumerable and the onus is on us to continue to build upon these gifts along the path of righteousness.

But in order to fully utilise and honestly engage in these opportunities as individuals and as a community, the Quran has to be our constant and most trusted companion. It is only then that we will really live according to our true fitra (nature) and discard the false coverings.

Abu Ammaar Yasir Qadhi comments on this in his book, Introduction to the Sciences of the Quran:

*"...they have made the Quran a sacred heirloom; to be treasured in exotic and expensive covers, yet to be uninhabited by the best of covers-their hearts; to be recited and listened to in the best and most melodious of voices, yet to ignore it's meanings; to be placed high above all other objects in a room, yet to occupy the lowest station in their daily lives; to be read when a death has occurred, yet to be ignored by the living; to be written in the fanciest of scripts and on the most expensive papers, yet to be heedless of its commandments and prohibitions"*

This development and unfurling of the human being to a renewed state during the month of the Quran is not strange or new, but true advancement. We need only look to Creation in order to witness renewal in all its forms. As the caterpillar sheds its chrysalis to form a butterfly so too we cannot remain stagnant. Change will come by any means. But only if we are cognisant will we reap the benefits, and lest we forget:

Allah (SWT) says in Surah 20:124-126:

<p>قَالَ رَبِّ لِمَ حَشَرْتَنِي أَعْمَى وَقَدْ          كُنْتُ بَصِيرًا ﴿١٢٥﴾          قَالَ كَذَلِكَ أَنْتَ أَهَيْتَنَا فَسَبِّهْنَا          وَكَذَلِكَ الْيَوْمَ نُنَسِّي ﴿١٢٦﴾</p>	<p>وَمَنْ أَعْرَضَ عَن ذِكْرِي فَإِنَّ لَهُ          مَعِيشَةً ضَنْكًا وَنَحْشُرُهُ يَوْمَ          الْقِيَامَةِ أَعْمَى ﴿١٢٤﴾</p>
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“And whoever turns away from My Remembrance (the Quran), for him is a life of hardship, and We shall raise him up, on the Day of Judgement, blind. He will say, ‘O My Rab! Why have you raised me up blind, when I used to see? (Allah) will respond, ‘Likewise, Our verses came to you, but you ignored them. And, so this day, you shall be ignored”

The Rasool (SAW) informs us:

“Verily, Allah (SWT) is truly pleased with the one who sincerely place their trust in Allah (SWT), by executing each deed according to the best of their ability”

Allah (SWT) says:

وَأَنَّ هَذَا صِرَاطِي مُسْتَقِيمًا  
 فَاتَّبِعُوهُ وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا السُّبُلَ  
 فَتَفَرَّقَ بِكُمْ عَن سَبِيلِهِ ذَٰلِكُمْ  
 وَصَّيْنَاكُمْ بِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

Surah An-Aam: 153

“And Verily, this (commandments) is my straight path, so follow it, and follow not other paths, lest you be parted from Allah’s way. This Allah has ordained for you that you may develop in trust and sincerity- become Al-Muttaqun”

May Allah with our sincere effort, grant us to continued development according to Quran and Sunnah in order to reach our true potential in this world on route to the Aakhirah.

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