

The Month of
RAMADHAN
Rulings, Manners & Virtues
For Children



A Conversation between a father and son

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All praise belongs to Allaah, prayers and salutations be upon the messenger of Allaah, his companions and those who support him. As to what follows:

This is an abridged educational conversation for children regarding the rulings of fasting and some of its sunnan's¹ and virtues. I ask Allaah that this is for His Noble Face and accepted by those who are fasting and a benefit for the Muslim children.

A conversation between a father and son

The Son: Why are the Muslims waiting for the month of Ramadhan and are happy with it and are fasting (during) it?

The father: Because it is a great month and fasting during it is a pillar from the pillars of Islam. Oh my dear son, have you not heard the words of the Prophet (may Allaah raise his rank and grant him peace): "Islam has been built upon five (pillars): the testimony that there is no

¹ Recommended actions according to the way of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله وسلم

god worthy of worship except Allaah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allaah; to establish prayer (salaah); to pay the zakaah; Hajj (pilgrimage) and to fast Ramadhan."

The son: Does this month have (special) virtues in which our Lord (Allaah) mentioned in the Quran or (that) our Prophet (may Allaah raise his rank and grant him peace) mentioned in his sunnah?

The Father: Yes,

Allaah says: "O you who believe! Fasting has been prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become Al-Muttaqoon (the pious)"

And the Prophet (may Allaah raise his rank and grant him peace) said: "Whoever fasts Ramadhan with faith and expectation [of reward], his previous sins will be forgiven"

And he said: "Ramadhan has come to you; a blessed month in which Allaah has prescribed fasting for you during it, the doors of paradise have been opened and the doors of the jaheem (the fire) have been closed and the devils have been shackled. And in this month is a night better than a thousand months, therefore whoever has been deprived of its good has indeed been deprived"

The son: All praise belongs to Allaah for the blessing of Islaam Oh my dear father. Is the fasting of Ramadhan an obligation upon every one?

The Father: (Fasting) the month of Ramadhan is an obligation upon (every) Muslim, sane, mature², resident and able person, and woman who is not on a menstrual cycle and nifaas.³

The son: Does this mean it's not obligatory upon the young child?

The father: The young who has not reach maturity, it is not obligatory upon him to fast Ramadhan, but if he is able to bare the fast, then he will become used to doing it.

The Son: Oh my dear father, what is the meaning of the resident and the healthy?

The father: The resident is the opposite of the traveler and the able is the opposite of the disable, just as the sick person. Therefore whoever is a traveler or sick, then it is not obligatory upon him to fast and he makes up those days after Ramadhan.

The son: Oh my dear father our religion (a religion) of ease and mercy.

² One who has reached the age of puberty.

³ The period after a woman delivers a child and experiences bleeding during that time.

The father: Yes, and all praise belongs to Allaah.

And for this reason Allaah says in the last verse which speaks about fasting; “Allaah wants ease for you and He does not want difficulty for you”

The Son: What is the meaning of fasting?

The father: It is to withhold or refrain from those things which break the fast like eating and drinking from the time of the appearance of fajr (dawn) until the sun sets all with the intention of worshipping Allaah the Most High.

The son: So what if I eat and drink forgetfully?

The father: Then your fast is (still) correct and Allaah is the One who fed and gave you drink (at that time) but if you did this intentionally then you have broken your fast.

The son: What are the sunnan (recommended) actions of/ during the fast?

The father: Oh my dear son, from the sunnan (recommended actions) is to delay the morning meal⁴ and

⁴ The meal one eats before starting the fast.

to rush to break the fast and that you break the fast with moist dates and that you begin the fast with dry dates.

The son: Oh my dear father, are there (specific) manners that you advise me with?

The father: Yes, I advise you to have taqwa of Allaah⁵ and be diligent in reading the Quran and acting upon it and guard your tongue and your eyesight from (saying and looking at) the unlawful things. Also be extremely mindful of Allaah as it relates to the night prayers during Ramadhan. The Prophet (may Allaah raise his rank and grant him peace) said: "Whoever stands (in prayer) with faith and expectation [of reward], his previous sins will be forgiven."

The son: I see the people are hard working and striving during the last ten nights! Why is this oh my dear father?

The father: Because the Prophet (May Allaah raise his rank and grant him peace) used to be hard working during these (last ten nights) and (also) in these (last ten nights) is the night of decree, which it is better than one thousand months (of worship).

⁵ Having taqwa is to obey Allaah in all those things He ordered and to avoid and keep away from all those things He prohibited.

The Prophet (May Allaah raise his rank and grant him peace) said: "In it (the night of decree) is better than one thousand months (of worship) and whoever is deprived of it; then he has been deprived of all/much good"

The son: I'm very sad oh my dear father for some of the people who waste the month of Ramadhan with playing and watching (tv) series and shows.

The father: We ask Allaah guidance for them and for us to remain steadfast and that we do not become like them, therefore being prevented from good and (many) rewards.

The son: What is zakat al-fitr?

The father: It is food given to the poor (Muslims) before the eid.

The son: What is wisdom behind it?

The father: It is a giving (of food) to the poor and a purification for the fasting person from vain and obscene speech.

The son: I'm happy with the coming of month of Ramadhan and I will work hard during it, being sincere for Allaah and following in this month the sunnah of our

beloved Messenger of Allaah (may Allaah raise his rank and grant him peace)

The father: In this case we will compete (with each other); myself and you upon (doing) good. I ask Allaah for myself and you the success and correctness and for all the Muslims.

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We ask Allaah that He makes this a benefit for us and you.