



SAUM (Fasting)

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Introduction

- After Imaan, Salaah and Zakaah, the most important pillar of Islaam is Saum (Fasting) during the month of Ramadhaan (the 9th month of the Islaamic calendar).
- ▶ "Saum" in Arabic, means to restrain and keep silence. The Holy Qur-aan defines "Saum" as "patience" too which means "self-control, perseverance and determination". Thus Saum stands, according to Islam, for guarding oneself against selfishness, sensual and carnal desires and protecting one's instinctive restraint and perseverance.

- The fasts of Ramadaan were made compulsory in the 2nd year of Hijrat when the believers had become accustomed to the belief of "Tauheed" (monotheism), prayer and other Quranic injunctions.
- Ramadan is fasting is a pious activity which is not only fard on the Ummah of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) but it was also compulsory before prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

Allah Says in Quran: Surah Al-Baqrah Chapter#2 verse# 183 "O'ye who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you, As it was prescribed for those who preceded you, That you may be reverent. (2:183)

Significance of fasting

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- Sahih Hadith
- Narated By Abu Huraira: The Prophet said, "Whoever fasts in the month of Ramadan out of sincere faith, and hoping for a reward from Allah, then all his previous sins will be forgiven." Volumn 003, Book 031, Hadith Number 125. Sahih Bukhari

Objectives of Fasting

- I. That the believers should praise His (Allah's) "Kibriyaai" (Magnificence, Grandeur) and "Azmat" (Greatness).
- ▶ 2. Be thankful to Him (Allah) on receiving Divine guidance that He lifted up the mankind to the height of "Rifat-o-'lzzat" (eminence and honour) from the depth of ignominy and disgrace.
- ▶ 3. That the believers may eschew evil deeds and "Taqvaa" may develop in them.

Individual Benefits of Fasting

- Sense of Worship
- Obedience of commands
- Sense of Obligation
- Character Building
- Self Discipline

Collective Benefits

- An Aura of Piety and Purity
- Unity of Muslim Ummah
- Brotherhood and Equality
- Build a better Society
- Shows Oneness of God

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