

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي مَنَّ عَلَيْنَا بِمَوَاسِمِ الْخَيْرَاتِ، وَحَثَّنَا عَلَى اغْتِنَامِ الْأَوْقَاتِ،  
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا وَنَبِيَّنَا مُحَمَّدًا  
عَبْدُ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولُهُ، فَاللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَنَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى  
آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ، وَعَلَى مَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

**All praises are due to Allah, who has blessed upon us  
the season of goodness, and urged us to honour our  
time therein. I bear witness, with every facet of my  
being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love  
and adoration, except Allah. And I bear witness that  
our Leader and Master, our Prophet, is Muhammad  
the Messenger and Servant of Allah**

By His wisdom, Allah gave preference to some places & times over others. **Friday** is the best day of the week, **Ramadan** is the best month of the year, **“Laylat al-Qadr”** is the best night in Ramadan, & the day of **“Arafah”** is the best day of the year. Likewise the first ten days of the month of **“Dhul-Hijjah”** are the blessed days for Muslims.

“By the daybreak, by the ten nights, by the even and the odd, by the passing night – is this oath strong enough for a rational person” (89:1-5)

“to attain benefits and mention Allah name, on specified days “(22:28)

“There are no days in which righteous deeds are more beloved to Allah than these ten days.” (Bukhari)

So we really need to maximise these days and blessed opportunities.

**SHUKR & REPENT TO ALLAH** - Make a sincere repentance to Allah, promise Him that you will not sin again. This may be your last chance.

**PRAY AT THE MOSQUE** - Try to perform the five daily prayers in the Masjid. If you have time after Fajr prayer, try to sit in the Masjid, read a part of the Qur'an, make *Dua'*, or recite some *Adhkar*. Then offer two *Rakahs* before you go home. If you do so, you are reviving a tradition that Prophet Muhammad used to do.

**OBSERVE FASTING IN THE FIRST NINE DAYS** - “Indeed, anyone who fasts for one day for Allah’s Pleasure, Allah will keep his face away from the (Hell) fire for (a distance of) seventy years.” (Muslim)

But do not fast on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Dhul Hijjah - day of Eid al-Adha.

**DO NOT MISS FASTING THE DAY OF ARAFAH** - On the day of *Arafah*, non-pilgrims are highly recommended to maintain fasting.

“It expiates the sins of the preceding year and the coming year.” (Muslim)

“There is no day in which Allah frees a greater number of His slaves from the Hellfire than the Day of *Arafah*.” (Muslim)

**MAKE A LOT OF SUPPLICATIONS (DUAA) ON THE DAY OF ARAFAH**

“The best supplication is that of the Day of `Arafah, and the best thing that I and other Prophets before me said, is: There is no Allah Ta’ala but Allah alone. He has no partners. To Him belong the sovereignty and all praise. He has power over all things. (Tirmidhi)

**TRY TO DO SOMETHING NEW THIS YEAR** - Pick some verses everyday and check the books of *Tafsir* (exegesis of the Quran) to reflect on their meaning in order to derive lessons from them in your daily life.

**MAINTAIN YOUR FAMILY RELATIONS** - Visit your relatives even for a few minutes. If they live far away, give them a call. Do not forget your parents. Be kind to them, visit them, and attend to their needs.

**GIVE TO CHARITY** - Make it a daily habit to help the needy. Look for humanitarian organizations in your neighbourhood and help them.

**RECITING THE TAKBEERAAT OF TASHREEQ** - It is Wajib for every adult to recite the Takbeers after every Fardh Salah - from the Fajr of the 9th of Zul-Hijjah to the Asr of the 13th of Zul Hijjah. The Takbeeraat should be recited once only/.

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَلِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ

**Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest. There is no deity besides Allah and Allah is the Greatest. Allah is the Greatest and all praises belong to Him Alone.**

Men should recite this Takbeer audibly whilst females should do so softly.

**GIVE QURBANI** – Every person who gives Zakat, or has savings should be giving their Qurbani. Qurbani is a symbol of obedience, devotion and love to Allah.