

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Hazrat Ameer's Eid ul Fitr Message

(1438 Hijrah, June 2017)

اعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ يُحْيِي الْأَرْضَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا^ط

Know that Allah gives life to the earth after its death (57:17)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Assalaam-o-Alaikum Wa Rakhmatullahi Wa Barakaato Hoo.

As we celebrate Eid ul Fitr, I praise Allah for providing us with the opportunity to fast and pray in the Holy month of Ramadan. He has prescribed fasting for the Muslims as He did for those before. The purpose for enjoining fasting is the attainment of *taqwa*, a state of complete submission to Allah. In the state of *taqwa*, a person perceives a sense of regret if he fails to carry out the commands of Allah. Islam, which literally means submission and complete obedience to Allah, expects every Muslim to be *mutaquee* – one who submits completely to the Will of Allah.

Our soul and body are closely connected. Both have their own life with health, illness and death. In the verse cited above Allah has said that He is capable of giving life to the dead earth. We observe annually the death of trees in autumn and then their revival to life in spring. The human soul can be similarly revived. The wellbeing of the soul is directly dependant on the way it is nurtured. Allah has instituted the month of Ramadan as an opportunity for humans to fast and pray and thus help the sick soul to health or even restore it to life after its has become lifeless. Soul can be likened to a chargeable battery. Ramadan charges the soul through the process of fasting and prayer. On Eid day we could say that the battery is fully charged. Now it is up to us to keep it forever in that state by charging it regularly.

Let me give you another example. Think of a gravely ill patient brought to a doctor who diagnosis it as a state of unconsciousness due to diabetes. With the

correct diagnosis and treatment the patient is back to good health. However, the state of unconsciousness is likely to return if he ignores the doctor's advice. To stay healthy he will have to continue following the instructions on diet, exercise and regular adherence to the drug therapy.

On the day of Eid our spirit is back to good health but we have a great role to play to keep it that way. We have to make every effort to continue the close relationship with Allah that we have developed during Ramadan. The regular prayers and recitation; and above all understanding and acting on the injunctions of the Holy Quran that we adhered to during Ramadan must be continued. Thus Eid is the day of resolve to keep alive the achievements of Ramadan.

I pray that we succeed in keeping our resolve.

Please pray for peace amongst all peoples of the world.

I wish you all a very Happy Eid ul Fitr.

Professor Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed

Ameer and President

23rd June 2017

Worldwide Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement