

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Hazrat Ameer's Eid ul Fitr Message

(1444 Hijrah, April 2023)

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُنْتُمْ عَلَيْكُمْ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُنْتُمْ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ ﴿١٨٣﴾

O you who believe, fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may observe Taqwah (guard against evil). (Al Baqarah 2:183)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Assalāmu 'Alaikum Wa Rahmatullāhi Wa Barakātu-hū.

I wish you all a very happy Eid ul Fitr. May each moment of this joyous time be filled with love and peace for our Jama'at.

One may ask the reason for this joy and celebration at Eid. The answer given to this question depends on who is answering it. The general response would be, getting back to feasting after fasting. However, those who understand the philosophy behind fasting in Ramadan will give the reason, based on what is stated in the Holy Qura'n, that it is to achieve *taqwah* by strengthening one's relationship with Allah Ta'ala. *Taqwah*, is generally compared to saving oneself from getting hurt while passing a narrow path between thorny bushes. Indeed *Shaitan* (the Devil) is always on the lookout to set snares to trap anyone who intends to please Allah and seek His nearness. Allah on the other hand is merciful to humans and grants them every opportunity to seek His forgiveness. Ramadan is the month for seeking His mercy and forgiveness by those who fast and observe

the devotional services associated with it. Allah has taken upon Himself to award the ones who observe the fast.

Ramadan is also the celebration of the start of the revelation of the Holy Qura'n. It is a book of guidance from the Maker on how to run one's life successfully so that we do not harm the soul. How faithfully we follow and comply with the instruction books that come with our worldly things. We should pay similar attention to the instructions of Allah Ta'ala, our Creator, to guard the soul and strengthen it with good deeds.

I pray for all of you on this day of celebration. May Allah Ta'ala grant us the strength to maintain what we have achieved during the month of fasting.

Aameen summa aameen.

Professor Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed

Ameer and President

16 April 2023

Worldwide Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement

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