

On the authority of Abu Amr Sufyaan ibn Abdullah (may Allah be pleased with him) who said:

I said, "O Messenger of Allah, tell me a statement about Islam such that I will not have to ask anyone other than you." He answered, "Say, 'I believe in Allah', and then stand firm and steadfast to that." [Muslim]

MESSAGE FROM THE IMAM

Bismillah-ir- Rahman-ir-Raheem

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful.

We thank Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala (glorified and exalted be He) for allowing us with witnessing yet another Ramadan!

First of all, let us be honest with ourselves; who has ever succeeded in perfectly executing his or her Ramadan plan?

As humans, no one is perfect and neither are we expected to be. All of us have certain ambitions that we were unable to execute as efficiently as we had hoped to. It could be for reasons pertaining to our schedule or due to unforeseen circumstances. Many of us may have really tried hard but with little success.

The Prophet ﷺ said; "(The value of) an action depends on the intention behind it. A man will be rewarded only for what he intended." [Muslim]

This hadith is very reassuring because it does not only explain the importance of the intention, but it also indicates that the reward we are promised does not depend on what we eventually accomplish. Rather, the reward depends on what our true and honest intention was before we set out on doing the act. In other words: the reward does not depend on the results. Instead, it depends on our efforts even if the circumstances did not help us fully accomplish our intended act.

However we must never relent on drawing closer to Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala.

The best of all acts of goodness are the ones followed up with its like. Sustaining meritorious acts after the blessed month of Ramadan is Allah's unconditional right upon us (His servants) as long as we are alive and it is an honour done to the month in obedience to him. While we must be constant in prayer [Quran 70:23], we must also carefully maintain it [Quran 23:9]. Doing otherwise is disobedience to Allah. This is because Allah does not intend our good deeds to be limited to the blessed month.

May Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala (glorified and exalted be He) accept our every little effort and count it in our balance of good deeds. Let's make dua that we will observe the next Ramadan with much more positive energy and honest intentions Insha Allah.

A REFLECTION ON THE SUMMER HOLIDAY

As mentioned in the first edition of our newsletter, our goal with this newsletter is to create something that is candid, genuine and beneficial to our readers and we welcome any feedback and will seek to continually improve with each issue.

The summer holidays are upon us and kids are out of school for the year. Some of us have holidays planned but for others, this period usually has us (and our children) with a lot of idle time on our hands. Let's ask ourselves these questions;

- Are we active in performing actions that are of obedience to our Lord?
- Or are we lazy when it comes to obeying Allah?
- Quick to play and lustrous desires?

Dear reader, we are the primary reformer of ourselves! We are the ones leading it to prayers and religious gatherings. We are the ones leading it to performing acts of obedience and everything that pleases Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala. And here begins the true and sincere reforming of ourselves.

The holiday period is a rare opportunity to have second thoughts, reconnect with our deen and increase good deeds, bringing us closer to Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala; after which comes your reformation and assessment of it.

Are you going to do something of benefit for you? Or are you going to do something that will be of no benefit?

Help out more at the Masjid and other Islamic organisations. Plan at least one Islamic activity with your family, such as cooking food for the poor. When you are on your own, make more dua's, memorise new surah's and recite more of the Qur'an. Get the kids interested by involving them in debate on the meaning or application of the hadith, or even getting them to prepare some hadith themselves, will reap rewards for decades to come. The family that prays together stays together.

Through **Manaksir Tours**, Didsbury Mosque now offers **Hajj and Umrah Packages** which include; Return Flight, Visa, Hajj Draft, Accommodation, Food, Extra services during Hajj days and other services.

For more information enquire at the reception in the Masjid or via the following options;

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