

All praise are due to Allah (s.w.t), and I bear witness that there is no God worthy of worship except Allah (s.w.t), and I bear witness that Mohammad (s.a.w) is His Servant and Messenger.

Brothers and Sisters in Islam!

With so much happiness, excitement and joy that the month of Barakat (blessings) and multiple rewards Ramadan brings within it to the Muslims, as much warning has been also issued by the Prophet (s.a.w) to his Ummah against tarnishing, diminishing or even completely losing the great rewards of the Blessed month, mostly and mainly as a result of not practicing wisdom and not having Sabr (patience) when dealing or communicating with other people during Saûm. Hence, we can say that properly the tongue is the most dangerous enemy one carries with him, if it is not closely guarded and strictly controlled by its owner.

Reported by Imam All-Bukhari (r.a) that Abu-Hurairah (r.a) relates that the Prophet (s.a.w) said: *“If one does not eschew lies and false conducts, Allah (s.w.t) has no need that should abstain from his food and his drink.”* -Riyad

Some Ulama’s commentary on the Hadith says: ‘This Hadith exhorts those observing Saûm to fulfill all the requirements of fasting. One should not conduct himself in such a manner that on the one side he observes Saûm and on the other he is fearless of Allah (s.w.t). To save himself from Allah’s (s.w.t) Wrath and to get the reward if the fasts, one must abstain from all sorts of vices such as cheating, lying, backbiting and using obscene language. The threat held against such people in this hadith should make them fear that their Saûm will go to waste and they would be deprived of its reward. It does not mean that such people should start eating and drinking during Saûm but what is intended is that they should save themselves from all kinds of sins so that they may earn the reward of Saûm.’ -Riyad 2/942

In another Hadith, the Prophet (s.a.w) informs that some Muslims gain no reward from their fasting, all because of the evil way they behave and conduct themselves during Ramadan.

Reported by Imams Ibn-Majah, An-Nasai’, Ibn-Khuzaimah and Al-Hakim (r.a), Abu-Hurairah (r.a) relates that Rasullullah (s.a.w) said: *“Many are the ones who fast attaining nothing by such fasting except hunger, and many are the ones performing salat by night attaining nothing by it except the discomfort of staying awake at night.”* -? pg.33

Brothers and Sisters in Islam,

The real disaster is when such evil doers people still think that what they do or say is good and only wake up to themselves after death - in the grave - to see and feel their pain but unfortunately in vain and to no avail.

Allah (s.w.t) says in Surah-ul-Kahf -meaning-: *“Say: ‘Shall We tell the greatest losers in respect of their deeds!?’ Those whose efforts have been wasted in this life while they thought that they were acquiring good by their works (by their deeds).”* -18/103-104

Brothers and Sisters,

As we are only at the very beginning of the month of Ramadan, let us do our best to safeguard and protect our Saûm and hope for full reward from Allah (s.w.t). This can be achieved by following the teachings of Prophet Mohammad (s.a.w) concerning Saûum, Qiyam (night-prayer) and other acts of Ibadah (worship). May Allah (s.w.t) help us all fulfill our duty and obligation towards our faith. A'meen.