

BLESSINGS IN THE REGULAR RECITATION OF THE HOLY QURAN

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TAMALE ZONAL MISSIONARY

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَمَا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ.

- SUURATUL FATIHA

كِتَابٌ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ إِلَيْكَ مُبَارَكٌ لِيَدَّبَّرُوا
آيَاتِهِ وَلِيَتَذَكَّرَ أُولُوا الْأَلْبَابِ ﴿٣٠﴾

Ameer Chairman, my distinguished brethren in Islam, I extend to you the Islamic greetings of peace ASSALAMU ALAIKUM WARAHMATULAHI WABARAKATOHOU.

I deem it greatly honored and humbled to be called upon to deliver Dars on the topic *blessings of regular recitation of the Holy Quran*.

I am therefore grateful to Allah for given me the needed strength and energy to be standing before you this morning.

I m also grateful to the Ameer and the organizers for haven given me the opportunity to serve. May Allah enable me to live up to the task. Amen

After Suuratul Fatiha, I recited verse 30 of Suuratul Saud the translation of which runs as follows:

30. *This is* a Book which We have revealed to thee, full of blessings, that they may reflect over its verses, and that those gifted with understanding may take heed.

Ameer chairman, Reciting and pondering over the book of Allah and devoting regular time to its study and implementation have tremendous blessings in this life and in the hereafter. Each blessing stand as enough of an encouragement to shun any laziness we have and dedicate ourselves wholly to the Quran.

Although Muslims give great respect to the Quran, it is also a fact undeniable that due to the busy routine of today's world, very few find the time to read the Quran on daily bases.

It is clear from the aforementioned verse that one of the main purposes of the Quran is to bring blessings to a person; this cannot be therefore achieved without the daily recitation of the Holy Quran.

In the short space of time given me I will try my best to touch on a good number of the blessings and benefits entailed in the regular recitation of the Holy Quran.

An authentic hadith from Timizi states:

- Whoever reads a letter from the book of Allah, he will have a reward. And that reward will be multiplied by ten. I am not saying that "Alif, Laam, Meem" is a letter, rather I am saying that "Alif" is a letter, "laam" is a letter and "meem" is a letter." So increase your recitation of the Qur'an to gain these merits.(tirmizi)

In another hadeeth, 'Aa'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, relates that:

- The Prophet (sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said: Verily the one who recites the Qur'an beautifully, smoothly, and precisely, he will be in the company of the noble and obedient angels. And as for the one who recites it with difficulty, stammering or stumbling through its verses, then he will have TWICE that reward." [Al-Bukhari and Muslim]

These ahadith proves that people who are not well versed in the Arabic language or have other difficulties in reciting the Quran, get even a higher reward for reciting the Quran in Arabic for their extra effort.

THE QURAN RAISES ONES STATUS IN THIS LIFE. Here is a wonderful story from the ahadith about how a man from the people of paradise, Hazrat Umar Bin Khatab (ra) understood this principle.

- The story is that once, some people came to questioning him during his reign as the khalifa regarding the leadership of Mekkah. They asked "who do you use to govern Mekkah"?

He replied, "IBN ABZAA" they asked "who is ibn Abzaa?" Hazrat Umar (ra) replied "a free slave from those who we freed." They remarked "you left a freed slave in command of the Noble tribes of the Quraish?" Hazrat Umar replied: "indeed he is a reciter of the Book of Allah and he is knowledgeable about the obligations of the Muslims. Hazrat Umar continue to say haven't you heard the statement of your messenger (saw) that

verily Allah raises some people by this book and lowers others by it?”

THE QURAN LEADS TO PARADISE. Abdullah bin Masud (ra) relates that the Holy prophet (saw) said whoever puts the Quran in front of him, it will lead him to Paradise; whoever puts it behind him, it will steer him to the Hellfire.” [An authentic hadith found in At-Tabaraanee, on the authority of ‘Abdullaah ibn Mas’ood]”

Ameer Chairman, brethren in Islam this is a warning to those brethren who have become a fulfillment of the following Quranic injunction. Referring to those who does not read the Quran Allah said

وَقَالَ الرَّسُولُ يَا رَبِّ إِنَّ قَوْمِي اتَّخَذُوا هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ مَهْجُورًا {الفرقان 31}

{And the Messenger will say, ‘O my Lord, my people indeed treated this Qur’an as a discarded thing.’} (Al-Furqan 31)

Not only are those who do not read the Quran but those who read the Quran and do not follow it injunctions also are part of those who treat the Quran as discarded thing. We should not in any way and for any reason discard the Holy Quran.

Do we often read the Quran or not. If yes then we should try to learn the meaning as well, after which, we should study the commentary of the Quran. It is only after all these that one can become a full beneficiary of the blessings in the Quran.

Hazrat Aqdas(as), the promised Messiah devoted a lot of time in taking up the task, of presenting to the world the need for the study and regular recitation of the Quran. After his divine commission, the Holy Quran further more became the order of his life. God Almighty revealed to him-

ہدا نے مجھے مخاطب کر کے فرما ال خیر کلہ فیہ القرآن

‘Every kind of goodness and blessings can only be found in the holy Quran’. (Kishti-e-nuh ruhani khaazani vol19 page 26)

We must therefore try our utmost best as Ahmadis not to be among this category of people who treat the Quran as a discarded thing. And that a day should not pass by without us reading the Quran.

The promised Messiah (as) again said

It is mandatory for you not to forsake the Holy Quran as your Glory is linked to it. All those who will glorify the Quran will be glorified in the Heavens.(kishti Nuh)

It is therefore necessary for all Ahmadis to pay great attention to the Quran. Let’s look into our selves and single out those weaknesses which serve as hindrances, obstacles and impediments on our ways from reading the Quran and that, we should do away with them.

The gladtidings for those who read the Quran is not only leading one into paradise, but will also raise one status in paradise as well.

Buttressing this point the Holy Prophet(saw) is reported to have said that:

A frequent reciter of the Quran will be told on the day of judgment that : go on reciting and ascending the ranks of paradise, and recite slowly as was thy wont in life for thy station will be where the last verse of recitation will end.(abu daud and tirmizi)

On the similitude of the one who recites and the one who does not recites the Quran

The Holy prophet saw said: the case of a believer who recites the Quran is that of a fruit which is fragrant and delicious; and the case of a believer who does not recite the Quran is that of a fruit which has no fragrance but is sweet to the taste; and the case of a hypocrite who recites the Quran is that of a fruit which is fragrant but bitter in taste; and the case of a hypocrite who does not recite the Holy Quran is that of a fruit which has no fragrance and is bitter in taste. . (bukhari and muslim).

The Quran has further explained this ahadith that, only the recitation of the Quran is not enough but understanding it and acting upon its commandments is very necessary.

Those who read the Quran, understanding what they are reading and putting it into practice, these are those who will be like the example of a fruit with fragrance and good taste. What a beautiful example, when a person eats a delicious fruits, he immediately develops the desire of eating more of it, it is the same desire we are expected to have in the recitation of the Holy Quran.

In conclusion, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih Arrabih rahimahullah also directed the Jammah to pay great attention towards the regular recitation of the Quran when he said:

“It is our fundamental task that we develop the habit of the recitation of the Holy Quran and ponder over its meanings. It is the key factor without which we cannot be trained properly. This is something most of our missionaries, presidents and Umarah are indolent” (Friday sermon 4th July 1997).

Brothers and sisters in Islam, these blessings and benefits can only be attained by a sincere commitment to the book of Allah, not by a person's mere statement," I love the Quran, it is a beautiful book while we cannot read nor understand.

In the light of the above, it our absolute responsibility to take this task very seriously and pay due attention towards the routine recitation of the Holy Quran. Not only should we make it our practice to recite the Holy Quran daily, but we should also try to learn its translations, understands its meaning and act upon its commandments. May Allah enable all of us to act upon this guidance so that we may become worthy of the blessings that awaits the regular reciter of the Quran.

Wa Aakhiru Da'awaanaa Anil Hamdullillahi RabbilAalameen.

Assalahmualaiku Warahmatullah Wabarakatuhou