

## EDITORIAL

***"So whosoever does good equal to the weight of an atom, shall see it, and whosoever does evil equal to the weight of an atom, shall see it."*** (Qur'an 99:7-8)

No matter how small our deeds are, they will be counted. Whether bad or good, they will be recorded in our books of deeds and on the Day of Judgment they will be brought forward and we will be reminded of every single deed we have done. *"On that Day, man will be informed of what he sent forward (of his evil or good deeds), and what he left behind (of his good or evil traditions)"*

One may feel that after doing an action he will never see it again. Especially, if it is an internal or hidden deed, like ar-riyaa (show-off), jealousy, hatred for the believers, desiring the evil, etc.

Our days are filled with actions that are done and forgotten about. Forget them we may, but it is them that we will have to answer about on that Day. Allah (SWT) says, *"That He may ask the truthful about their truth"* [33:8]. If Allah, the Most High, will question and account the truthful then how can the rest of mankind be exempt?? We have to question ourselves before we are questioned by Allah on a Day when neither regret nor excuses will help.

The Prophet (PBUH) said, *"Do not understate sins. They gather together to destroy a person. (He set forth a parable of small sins). They are as some people pick up one or two small pieces of wood each. These pieces, put together, will make a heap which if lit would produce enough fire to cook anything."*

On the other hand, righteous actions are extremely valuable, knowing that whosever's good deeds are more than his evil deeds and tips the scale by an atom's weight will enter into *Jannah* by Allah's Mercy.

There is much to be gained from all the opportunities of goodness that we are afforded and encounter in our lives. So let's make the most of these opportunities and let each one of us focus on his/her actions by preparing, examining, and discipline ourselves.

## Virtues of the First Ten Days of Zul-Hijjah

Ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Prophet (PBUH) said: ***"There are no days in which righteous deeds done in them are more beloved to Allah than these days"*** i.e. the ten days (of Zul-Hijjah).

Also, Ibn Umar reported that the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: ***"There aren't any days greater, nor any days in which deeds done in them are more beloved to Allah, the Most High, than these ten days (of Zul-Hijjah). So, increase in them the saying of Tahleel (La Ilaaha illa Allah), and Takbeer (Allah Akbar) and Tahmeed (al-Hamdu li-llah)."***

The following actions are some of the recommended deeds in these Ten Days:

**First:** The performance of Haj and Umrah, and these are the best of deeds that may be done. ***"Performance of Umrah is an expiation of the sins committed between it and the previous Umrah, and the reward of the Haj which is accepted by Allah, the Most High, is nothing but Paradise."*** (Al-Bukhari and Muslim)

**Second:** Fasting during these days - as many of them as may be easy (for one to fast); especially the ***Day of Arafah***. From Abu Qatadah that the Prophet (PBUH) said: ***"Fasting the Day of Arafah will be credited with Allah by forgiving one's sins of the previous year and the following year."*** (Muslim)

**Third:** At-Takbeer (Allah Akbar) and adh-Dhikr (the remembrance of Allah through different words of praise and glorification) in these (ten) days, Allah (SWT) said: ***"And mention the name of Allah on the appointed days"*** (12:28). It is reported about Ibn Umar and Abu Hurairah that the two of them used to go out to the market place during the ten days (of Zul-Hijjah) saying: Allahu Akbar, causing the people also to say it. (Al-Bukhari)

Ishaaq narrates from the scholars of the Taabi'een that in these ten days they used to say:  
*Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar Laa Ilaaha illa 'llah Wa 'llahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar Wa li'llahi al-hamd.*

**Fourth:** At-Tawbah (repentance) and abstaining from disobedience and all types of sins, since forgiveness and mercy are the results of deeds. Disobedience is the cause of being far away (from Allah, the Most High) and repulsion, while obedience is the cause of being near (to Allah, Most High) and His love.

**Fifth:** Doing plenty of voluntary (*nafl*) righteous deeds of worship: like Prayer, Charity, reading the Qur'an, Commanding what is Good and Forbidding what is Evil, and other such deeds.

Verily, these are amongst the deeds that are multiplied in these days. It is during these days that even deeds that are less preferred are superior and more beloved to Allah than superior deeds done at other times. (These deeds are superior).

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*Virtues of the First Ten Days of Zul-Hijjah*

**Sixth:** The slaughtering of a sacrificial animal (*Udhiyah*) is also legislated for the *Day of Sacrifice* (10th) and the *Days of Tashreeq* (11th, 12th and 13th).

This is the Sunnah of our father Ibrahim - when Allah, the Most High, redeemed Ibrahim's son by the great sacrifice (a ram in his place). It is authentically reported that Prophet Muhammad slaughtered (sacrificed) two horned rams, black and white in color.

**Seventh:** It has been narrated from Umm Salamah (may Allah be pleased with her) that the Prophet (PBUH) said: ***If you see the Hilal (new moon) of Zul-Hijjah, and any one of you wants to make a sacrifice Then he should not cut (anything) from his hair, nor from his nails, until he performs the sacrifice.*** Perhaps this is because of the similarity with the one who is bringing a sacrificial animal for slaughter (in Hajj). As Allah, the Most High, said: *And do not shave your heads until the Hady (sacrifice) reaches the place of sacrifice...*

**Eighth:** It is incumbent for the Muslim (who is not performing Hajj) to make every effort to perform the ***Eid Prayer*** wherever it is performed, and to be present for the *Khutbah* and benefit from it.

He must know the wisdom behind the legislation of this Eid. It is a day of thankfulness and performing deeds of righteousness.

**Ninth:** After what has been mentioned, it is fitting that every Muslim, male and female, take advantage of these days by obeying Allah, the Most High, remembering Him, thanking Him, fulfilling all the obligatory duties, and staying far away from the prohibited things. He must take full advantage of this season, and the open display of Allah's gifts, to attain the pleasure of his Lord.

*Let's ask Allah to accept all of our good deeds sincere to Him.*

**MUSLIM SCIENTISTS, MATHEMATICIANS AND ASTRONOMERS Before European Renaissance, 700 - 1500 C.E.**

## **THABIT IBN QURRAH (THEBIT)** (836 - 901 C.E.)

Thabit ibn Qurrah, known in the West as **Thebit**, is known for his work on mechanics, astronomy, pure mathematics and geometry. Thabit ibn Qurrah ibn Marwan al-Harrani was born in 836 C.E. at Harran (present Turkey) and died in Baghdad in 901 C.E. He joined the scientific team of the great Muslim mathematician Muhammad Ibn Musa Ibn Shakir at Baghdad, which was established by the Abbasid Caliphs.

Thabit was a pioneer in extending the concept of traditional geometry to geometrical algebra and proposed theories that led to the development of non-Euclidean geometry, spherical trigonometry, integral calculus and real numbers. He used arithmetic terminology to study several aspects of conic sections (parabola and ellipse). His algorithm for computing the surface area and volume of solids is in fact what we came to know later as the integral calculus.

Thabit's original work on Mechanics and Physics involves examining conditions of equilibrium of bodies, beams and levers. Some historians have recognized him as the Founder of Statics. He was among the early critics of Ptolemaic views on astronomy. He also criticized several theorems of Euclid's elements and proposed important improvements. Thabit added the ninth sphere to Ptolemaic astronomy. Some early investigators criticized his work on 'Trepidation of Equinoxes' and several centuries later Tycho Brahe (1546-1601) improved upon his work.

Thabit analyzed several problems on the movements of sun and moon and wrote treatises on sundials. Beer and Madler in their famous work *Der Mond* (1837) mention a surface feature of the moon after Thabit (Thebit). It is a prominent circular plain thirty miles in diameter in Section No. 8. The intrusion of a small circular plain has disfigured its circular wall. A small crater has thrust itself in on the eastern side of this plain.

Thabit's books on mathematics, astronomy and medicine have survived. He translated many Greek and Syrian works on Science into Arabic while in the service of Khalifah Al-Mu'tadid. Among his translations into Arabic are the Ptolemy's *Almagest*, Euclid's *Elements of Geometry*, Apollonius's book on conic sections, and some of Archimedes' works. In the Middle Ages, Gerard of Cremona translated some of his books into Latin.

Thabit left his legacy with sons (Ibrahim and Sinan), grandsons (Thabit and Ibrahim) and great grandson (Abu al-Faraj) who also contributed substantially to our knowledge of geometry, astronomy and medicine. His son Sinan conducted regular examination (certification) of medical practitioners beginning in 931 C.E. and awarded eight hundred certificates to medical doctors. Sinan also instituted traveling hospitals and inspected prisons to assure adequate health care.

source: <http://users.erols.com/zenithco/>

### **Fasting the Day of Arafah**

The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was asked about fasting the day of Arafah, he said :

***"It expiates for the sins of the previous year and of the coming year."***

(narrated by Muslim)

# Muslimah

HIC Sisters' Page  
 Editor: Sr. Zakiyyah Shakoor

## Hajj Planning "A Sacred Duty"

**Hajj**, is viewed in Islam as one of the best and most noble deeds a believer in Allah (swt) can perform. Most Muslims plan to make the journey at least once in their lifetime, but unfortunately, put it off to much later in life. Family commitments, work, and material or educational pursuits, all too often become priority over fulfilling this sacred duty to Allah. Since our life, health, and our wealth are not promised to us, this is not a very wise thing to do. It is better to strive to fulfill this duty as soon as we are able to do so. Islamically, Hajj means to "set out" for Makkah in a state of consecration with the intention to perform certain religious rites in accordance with the method prescribed by Allah and His Prophet Mohammed (saw). With the Hajj season close at hand, many people are making necessary plans to make the journey. If Hajj is in your horizon this year, or within the near future, the following guidelines may help you in planning for that sacred journey home:

**Niyah (The Intention)** The first step in planning begins with the Niyah (intention). Before performing Hajj, start out by first making a firm, sincere niyyah (intention). The person who intends to perform Hajj must do so with the express intention of attaining Allah's pleasure, fulfilling their obligation, and diligently carrying out the commands of Allah and His Rasool. The intention should be kept free of ulterior and worldly motives because the rewards for deeds depend greatly on the niyyah that is formed.

**Debts and Obligations.** Next, the intending Pilgrim should strive to redress all wrongs, pay all debts, and prepare oneself for good conduct throughout the hajj. If you have monetary debts, you can begin now to repay and settle them. If you are responsible for any moral transgression, fulfill your debt and have your moral violations forgiven. Ask Allah to guide you and help you correct any wrongdoing you have done. It is important that you settle all outstanding matters and transactions, and have your faults and shortcomings forgiven before making Hajj. All trusts and anything borrowed must be returned. If things are left in your trust, return those items to the owners, or make arrangements for them to be looked after in your absence. Make a final will regarding all-important matters.

**Financial Planning.** Good financial planning is a must for a successful hajj, as substantial provisions for travel, lodging, and other living expenses must be met. The money must be sufficient enough to last and maintain you for the entire journey and your return home. You cannot make hajj on borrowed money, or money earned by illegal or immoral means. It must be obtained completely from "Halal" sources. Set aside a few dollars on a regular basis specifically for the purpose of your trip. If left untouched it will grow substantially over time. Plan to take extra provisions with you for unforeseen circumstances, or to assist needy ones along the way. Remember, the best provision for the journey is good conduct.

**Good Companionship** Find an experienced, reputable travel agent to make your travel plans. This cannot be overemphasized for a positive experience. Don't be overly eager to jump at the lowest priced package you find. Paying a little extra is well worth the expense and comfort. Lower priced plans often leave you full of regret and disappointment. Traveling with an agent that has experience can make the difference between a successful hajj, and one that is filled with failure. Seek for yourself reliable, religiously inclined, practicing Muslims to be your companions on the journey. Those who sincerely take an interest in Islam and their religious duties will be in a better position to assist you.

**Seeking Forgiveness .** Prior to making Hajj, it is recommended to perform two raka'at Nafl (sunnah) with the intention of seeking forgiveness for all sins and wrongdoings committed. The effect of sincerely repenting and then proceeding for Hajj will be that one will be favored by Allah (swt) and blessed with the strength to continually do good deeds. One should also seek forgiveness from all those brothers and sisters with whom you normally have dealings. Ask your near and dear ones, neighbors, and friends to overlook and forgive your shortcomings.

**Learn The Details Of Hajj** It is a compulsory duty of every intended pilgrim to learn the details and rituals of Hajj well before the journey. Much emphasis is stressed in learning everything one is required to do before proceeding for Hajj, during Hajj, and after Hajj, as Rasulullah (saw) has made it obligatory on every person to seek knowledge. For this reason it is necessary that one should learn all that which is Fardh, Sunnah, Makrooh and Haraam in Hajj.

**Charity** Finally, give something in charity before your departure and also after the departure, because Sadaqah removes calamities

**PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**

**Friday Night Study Circles: 7:00-8:30 p.m.**  
 Two study circles for brothers and sisters.  
**Monday and Wednesday Nights' Short Reminders:**  
 Short reminders after Isha prayer.  
**Islamic Weekend School and Study Circle: 9:30-1:00**  
 Sunday School for children and study circle for brothers and sisters.

**Prayer Times at the Masjid**

Fajr:	6:00 a.m.
Duhur:	12:15 p.m.
Asr:	3:00 p.m.
Maghrib:	Sunset
Isha:	7:30 p.m.
Jumu'a (Friday):	12:30 p.m.

***Eid Al-Adha***  
***Prayer***  
***will be held at HIC***  
***at 8:30 a.m.***  
***EID MUBARAK***

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**PARADISE**

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