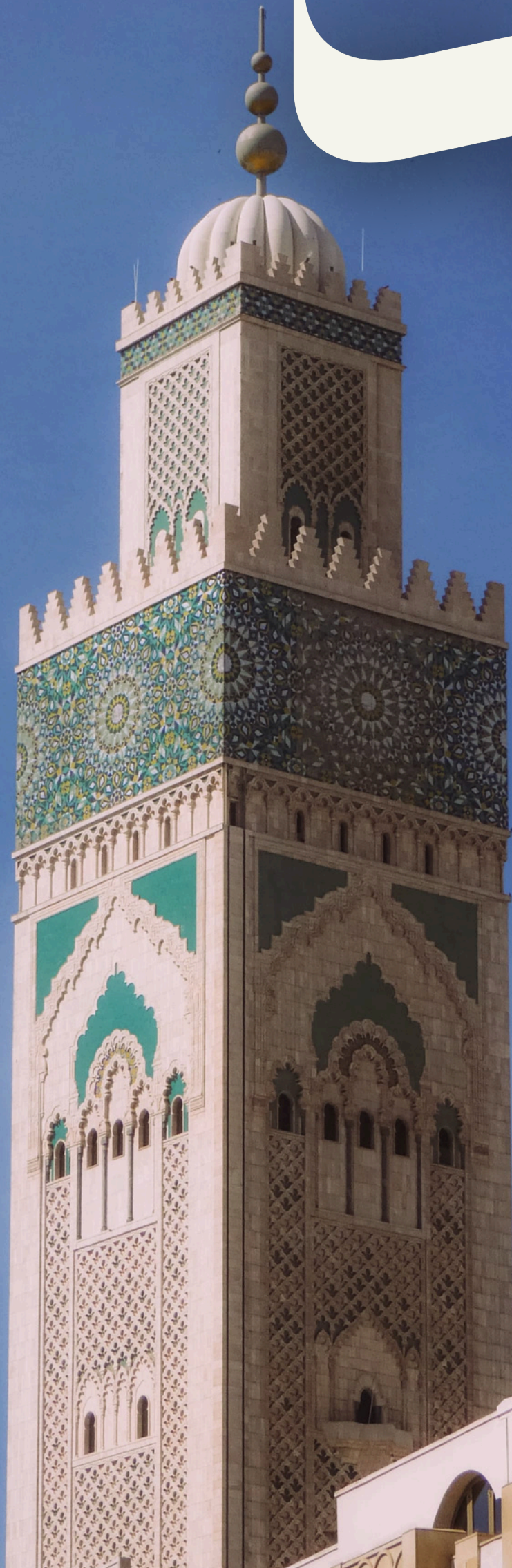


Idraak | Monthly News & Review  
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July 2024

إدراك





# — I D R A A K —

## A Sacred Month

July, 2024

As we enter a new year of the Islamic Hijri Calendar, we welcome the month of Muharram. Muharram stands as one of four sacred months in Islam, the others being Dhu'l-Qadah, Dhu'l-Hijjah, and Rajab. Among the days of this sacred month sits Ashura, the 10th of Muharram. Join us in this month's issue of "Idraak" as we reflect upon the importance of Ashura, having faith in Allah, honouring the Ahl Albayt and lessons from the hijri calendar.

To keep up-to-date with Idraak and read all previous and future issues, be sure to follow Al-Ansaar on Instagram and check out our website



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(Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca, Morocco)

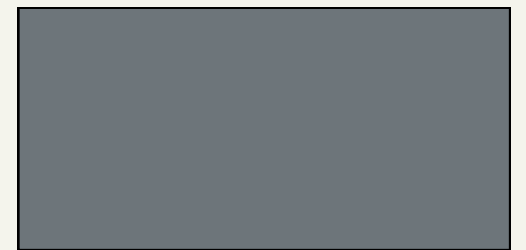
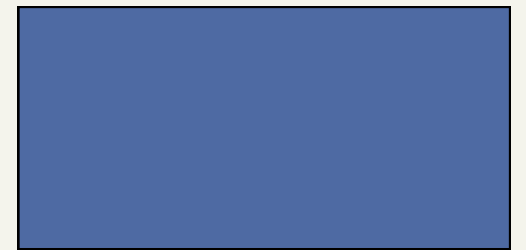
*Did you know?*

As told in a Hadith narrated by Abu Qatadah Al-Ansaari, the one who fasts on the day of Ashura will have all of his minor sins forgiven by Allah (Sahih Muslim 1162). While major sins still require us to make specific tawbah to Allah, the minor sins committed by a believer in the previous year will be lifted from the record. We never know what sins we may have forgotten to repent for, therefore the fast of Ashura is a mercy and blessing we should take advantage of.

# A FAITH STRONG ENOUGH TO SPLIT THE SEA



On the day of Ashura, we ought to remember the story of the prophet Musa (AS). With the army of Firaun giving chase behind him and the sea raging before him, Musa (AS) placed his faith in Allah, knowing that Allah was with him and he would be under the protection of Al-Muhaymin (The Protector). It was the Day of Ashura when Musa, despite all odds against him, raised his staff to the sky and struck the waters, only for them to part by the will and mercy of Allah. Think of how many great vessels and navies have been claimed by the seas. No man has ever had the power in his hands to tame the waters, yet even the most ferocious of seas will obey Allah, for he is Al-Khaaliq, The Creator. It was the day of Ashura



when Musa, along with Bani Israel, witnessed the mercy of Allah, and it was the day of Ashura when Firaun and his army witnessed the might and the wrath of Allah as He caused the sea to return to its natural state and swallow the tyrant into its depths.

We know the importance of Ashura from the hadith of Rasool Allah (SAW) when he came upon the Jews of Medinah fasting on the day of Ashura, and they said to him, “This is a great day. On this day, Allah saved Musa (AS) and his people and drowned Firaun and his nation. Thus, Musa (AS) fasted on this day as a token of thanksgiving therefore, we too fast on this day.” The Messenger of Allah (SAW) said,

**“WE ARE MORE WORTHY OF MUSA AND NEARER TO HIM THAN YOU.”<sup>1</sup>**

Thereafter, the noble Prophet (SAW) fasted on this day. When the Children of Israel sought sanctuary from Firaun and fled to the desert, did Allah not provide sustenance for them? Was it not Al-Razaaq who sent them Al-Mann and Al-Salwa from the heavens so that they may feed themselves? How, then, could the garlic and green herbs of the oppressor compare to the blessings of the Almighty? This was the lack of gratitude shown to Allah by



the people of Musa when he had delivered them from death and subjugation; they yearned for the garlic and herbs of Egypt, not giving thanks for the provisions given to them by Allah. So, when fasting on the day of Ashura, remember that it is the Ummah of Rasool Allah (SAW) who have honoured Musa (AS) as he deserves to be honoured, and remember to be grateful for the blessings and provisions you have received from Allah, for a faith that is strong enough to split the seas will never leave you without help and guidance.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

رَبِّ إِنِّي لِمَا أَنْزَلْتَ إِلَيَّ مِنْ خَيْرٍ فَقِيرٌ

Rabbi innee limaaa anzalta ilaiya min khairin faqeer

“My Lord, indeed I am, for whatever good  
You would send down to me, in need.”

Dua of Musa (AS) Surah al-Qasas: 24

**AL-ANSAAR ISLAMIC FOUNDATION**

# ENROLMENT

**NOW OPEN**

**2024-2025**

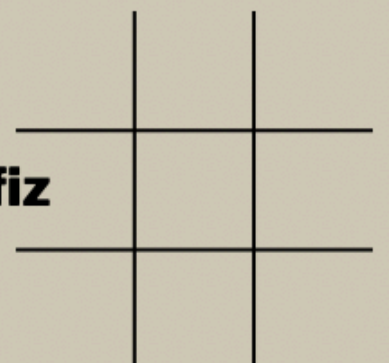
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# LESSONS FROM THE HIJRI CALENDAR



Allah says in the Quran regarding the calendar “Indeed, the number of months ordained by Allah is twelve—in Allah’s Record since the day He created the heavens and the earth—of which four are sacred. That is the Right Way. So do not wrong one another during these months. And together fight the polytheists as they fight against you together. And know that Allah is with those mindful [of Him].”<sup>1</sup> From this verse, we learn that there are four sacred months of the

year, and from the hadith of the Prophet (SAW)<sup>2</sup> that those months are Rajab, Dhul Qi’dah, Dhul Hijjah, and Muharram. We learn in the next verse what the polytheists of Makkah used to do to with these sacred months, “Reallocating the sanctity of [these] months is an increase in disbelief, by which the disbelievers are led [far] astray. They adjust the sanctity one year and

1: Quran (9:36)

2: Bukhari :5550, Muslim: 1679

uphold it in another, only to maintain the number of months sanctified by Allah, violating the very months Allah has made sacred. Their evil deeds have been made appealing to them [by Satan]. And Allah does not guide the disbelieving people.”<sup>3</sup> The polytheists would one year declare Safar sacred and reject the sanctity of Muharram, then next year declare Muharram sacred and reject Safar. They did this to increase their political and military advantages.

Let us take heed from these verses and extract what lessons we can from them. First, good deeds are multiplied in these sacred months but so are the bad deeds, which is evident from Allah’s statement

“So do not wrong one another during these months” which is a command to avoid doing injustice to anyone, including against one’s own self and body. Second, Allah is with the believers and always aids them with victory, so long as they have taqwa. Third, Allah has forbidden us from using tricks, cunning, or deception to try turning the haram into halal, and this only increases a person’s sins and brings them closer to disbelief. This is an admonishment of preferring one’s opinion in a religious matter when Allah and His Prophet (SAW) have already made a decree regarding it, as is stated in the verse where Allah says “It is not for a believing man or woman—when Allah and His Messenger



decree a matter—to have any other choice in that matter. Indeed, whoever disobeys Allah and His Messenger has clearly gone [far] astray.”<sup>4</sup> Fourth, Satan beautifies the evil deeds for the wrongdoers so that they may fall deeper into those sins. This is part of the reason why the longer someone goes on committing sins without seeking forgiveness from Allah, the harder it becomes for that person to escape that sin! Fifth and last, Allah does not guide the disbelievers and openly sinful people, and He does not help them go towards the truth or goodness. If one is completely hopeless, as determined by Allah, then Allah will totally abandon such a person. Allah will no longer test that person with trials, nor put them through hardships to force them to turn back to Him in repentance. May Allah make us from those who take heed.

**There are 99 reasons  
to remember  
that every drop of blood  
spilled in Gaza  
was not spilled in vain.**

**There are 99 moments  
to stop and observe  
how the moon carefully  
curves in the sky's  
embrace.**

**There are 99 colours  
that saturate the clouds  
in every sunset,  
when red, violet and  
yellow stain your eyes  
and 99 memories  
that come back to you  
over a lifetime**

**There are 99 names  
that bring this whole  
world together,  
and One name  
that holds them all.**

— Anonymous

3: Quran (9:37)

4: Quran 33:36





Al-Mahmud @theihsanway  
(Hassan II Mosque, Casablanca, morocco)



# TO THE MARTYR OF KARBALA

While the day of Ashura signifies the liberation of the people of Musa (AS), we must not forget that this too marks the unfortunate day that Hussain ibn Ali, the beloved grandson of Rasool Allah (SAW), was martyred on the bloody plains of Karbala. The history and details of the event are widely available, however we ought to remember that as Ahl us Sunnah this heartbreaking event is not to be ignored. Hussain ibn Ali was martyred for having held on to truth and justice, and for this reason on the day of Ashura we must teach our children that if the grandson of Rasool Allah (SAW) was able to sacrifice his life for truth and justice then we should be able to sacrifice our time, effort and desires for the sake of Allah.

It was Abu Bakr (RA) that said “By the One in Whose hand is my soul, the relatives of the Messenger of Allah SAW are dearer to me than my own relatives”.<sup>1</sup> For this reason, when remembering the tragic events of Ashura, we should take the time to give sadaqah on behalf of the martyrs and read the Quran

In his hadith collection, Imam Muslim, may Allah have mercy upon him, narrates a hadith under the aptly named chapter, “The Virtues Of ‘Ali Bin Abi Talib,” where the Prophet SAW said “Oh people, I am merely a human being, about to receive a messenger from my Lord (i.e. the angel of death) and I will accept His call. I am leaving among you two weighty things: the first is the Book of Allah in which there is guidance and light, so hold fast to the Book of Allah and adhere to it. The second are the members of my household. I remind you (of your duties) to the members of my family.”<sup>2</sup> From this, the scholars of Ahl Al-Sunna wa Al-Jama’a have made it clear that loving the Household of the Prophet SAW, not harming them nor offending them is a core part of our Islamic creed. This requirement to love and be concerned for the Household is beautifully encapsulated in the poem of Imam Shafi’i (may Allah have mercy upon him) where he wrote:

“Oh Household of the Messenger (SAW),  
your love is an obligation revealed  
in the Quran by Allah  
sufficient a great honour for you that  
one who does not send peace upon you will not  
have his invocation answered”

In the end, we must remember to make dua for the beloved Prophet of Allah and all of his family members and recognize the sacrifice of Husain ibn Ali on the day of Ashura without falling into any misguidances or innovations.

1: Sahih al-Bukhari: 4240  
2: Sahih al-Muslim: 2048



# KIDS SUMMER CAMP





Alhamdullilah, it is with great pleasure that we share photos from the first month of our Kids Summer Camp! So far the children have had the chance to learn important lessons from the deen in class and get much needed physical activity in the heat of the summer! The camp was completely sold out and we would like to thank our wonderful community members for trusting us with the wellbeing of their children! Stay up-to-date with Al-Ansaar and join us next year, InshaAllah!





# RESOURCES

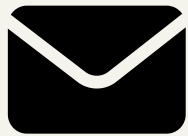


**[www.Alansaar.ca](http://www.Alansaar.ca)**

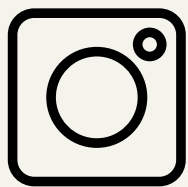


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**[@Alansaar.ca](https://www.instagram.com/Alansaar.ca)**

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