



## The Season of Dhul Hijjah

The season of Dhul Hijjah is a beautiful opportunity to do good actions and in turn receive great rewards. While the majority of Muslims give importance to Ramadan, the first 10 days of Dhul Hijjah are often overlooked. However this means the rewards for good deeds during these 10 days will be multiplied for those that take advantage of them.

### Why Are The 10 Days of Dhul Hijjah Extremely Special?

Allah takes an oath in the Qur'an, "By the daybreak, and by 10 Nights" (89:1-2). When Allah swears an oath by something, it shows its importance and benefit. According to the majority of the scholars, these 10 nights refer to the 10 days of Dhul Hijjah. The Messenger of Allah also said, "There are no better days in the sight of Allah than the 10 days of Dhul Hijjah" (*Ibn Hibbān*). Every fast of the first nine days is equivalent to a year and the worship of one night is equivalent to the worship of Laylatul Qadr (Tirmidhi). Additionally, Dhul Hijjah is special because this is the only month in which Hajj is performed.

### The Day of Arafah, The Ultimate Day of Mercy:

The single greatest day of the year, when considering individual days, is the 9th of Dhul Hijjah - the Day of Arafah. Allah says regarding this day, "This day I have perfected for you your religion and completed My favor upon you and have approved for you Islām as religion." When the Messenger of Allah was asked about the fast of the Day of Arafah, he said, "It (fasting) wipes away the (sins) of the past year and upcoming year" (Muslim). If someone is unable to fast for the first eight days of Dhul Hijjah, they should at least ensure to fast on this special day. On the day of Arafah, Allah (SWT) frees a huge number of His servants from the Hellfire and it is also the best day of the year for making *dua*.

### Eid al Adha

Eid al Adha, which falls on the 10th of Dhul Hijjah, is the second holiday of the year for Muslims and is a symbol of true faith and submission. The Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) said regarding Eid, "They are days of eating, drinking, and the remembrance of Allah" (Bukhari). Eid al Adha is a time to remember our complete submission to Him as we learned from the Prophet Ibrahim (AS) and



his son Ismail (AS). The day of Eid al Adha consists of praying the Eid Salaah, sacrificing an animal, and celebrating the day with family and friends.

### **Recommended Actions for Eid Al Adha**

- To pray Fajr in congregation as this is the easiest prayer to miss
- To take a ghusl (shower/bath)
- To use miswak
- To put fragrance on (for men)
- To wear your best clothes
- To show happiness and joy
- To share your blessings with others (charity)
- To thank Allah for everything He has given you

**Udhiyah/Qurbani-** The purpose of Udhiyah/Qurbani is to attain taqwa. Allah says in the Quran that our physical acts of worship, such as slaughtering an animal, must be joined with taqwā and sincerity (Hajj:37). Taqwā is to avoid the prohibitions of Allah and to follow His commands, gaining us the closeness and pleasure of Allah. *Udhiyah* isn't about merely sacrificing an animal; it is a reminder to fully submit to Allah, like the prophet Ibrahim AS when he saw a dream to slaughter his son. Their story is a reminder that even if we find Allah's command difficult or don't understand the wisdom behind it, we still carry it out.

### **The Days of Tashriq**

The three days following Eid al-Adhā are the Days of Tashrīq (the 11th, 12th, and 13th of Dhul Hijjah). Muslim adults are required to recite a special Takbir after the *fardh* prayers during these days. The *Takbir-al-Tashriq* starts after the Fajr prayer of the 9th of Dhul Hijjah and continues until after the Asr prayer of the 13th of Dhul Hijjah. The takbeer is "Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar. La ilaha illa Allah, Wallahu Akbar. Allahu Akbar, Wa Lillahil Hamd."

### **Hajj**

The most important action of this month is the fifth pillar of Islam - Hajj. Hajj is the pilgrimage that is required (once) for Muslim adults if they are healthy and can afford to go. Hajj is a time when Muslims from all over the world come to Makkah to pray, live, and worship together.



## **Conclusion**

The first 10 days of Dhul Hijjah are a season of mercy from Allah SWT which is overlooked by many Muslims. There are many good deeds we can do in these 10 days to be forgiven by Allah, and gain His pleasure. Even if we're unable to go for Hajj, we can still attain the wonderful season of mercy Allah has prepared for us during these days by doing the recommended actions.

May Allah SWT bless us during these days of Dhul Hijjah. Ameen!

## **References:**

[The Best Days of Your Life- Life with Allah](#)

[12 Islamic Months- Mufti Taqi Uthmani](#)