

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

Today is the 17th day of fasting for us in Mauritius. Time, as usual, is going by quite quickly. On Monday, insha Allah, we will be entering the last *ashra* (period of ten days) as it is said in Arabic and next Friday will be *jummatul wida* (last Friday of the month of Ramadan). So, there is not much time left to do significant good deeds in this blessed month that Allah has granted us. We should all “gird up our loins” as we are told that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw) did and be determined to do as many good deeds as we can because this window of opportunities will be closing upon us very soon. May Allah grant to each one among us very special opportunities to show our servitude to Him and may He be pleased with each one among us, now and forever. Ameen.

Part of verse 186 of the Holy Quran on Ramadan is as follows:

شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنْزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنُ هُدًى لِلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِنَ الْهُدَى وَالْفُرْقَانِ

Its translation is as follows:

“The month of Ramadan is that in which the Quran was sent down as a guidance for mankind with clear proofs of guidance and discrimination”.

From the hadiths, we learn that on the one hand, the revelation of the Holy Quran started in the month of Ramadan in the year 610AD and it continued until the Holy Prophet’s (saw) death in 632AD. However, we also learn that during this period, in each month of Ramadan, Hazrat Gibra’il came to reread that portion of the Holy Quran that had been revealed until that time to the Holy Prophet (saw). Hence, the Holy Quran speaks of the revelation of the Holy Quran taking place in the month of Ramadan. So, we see there is a strong connection between the month of Ramadan and the Holy Quran. The Holy Prophet (saw) used to read it more in that month and so did the sahabas and all who followed them in time and it is a well-known fact that around the world millions of Muslims do make it binding upon themselves to read the whole book during the whole year. So, should we also do if we have not yet picked up that habit. As good Muslims of the Jamaat Ahmadiyya, we are expected to read and reflect very deeply on this book full of wisdom, of guidance which takes us from darkness to light. If we neglect it, we will do so at the peril of our own soul. I do not keep a register to know who reads and who does not but we should always remember that Allah’s angels keep a register of our words and all our actions whether good or bad and this will be shown to us when we die and we will be judged according to our record. So, we should all make it a habit to read a portion of the book every day and in the month of

Ramadan do our best to read the whole book. Although I am just using the word “read”, we should in fact study it, do our best to understand it and mould our life according to its teaching as best as we can understand.

Now, I will share some hadiths about the importance and reading of the Holy Quran.

1. Hazrat 'Uthman (Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) say: “The best amongst you is he who learns the Qur'an and teaches it.”
2. Abu Umama (Allah be pleased with him) said that he heard Allah's Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) say: “Recite the Qur'an, for on the Day of Resurrection it will come as an intercessor for those who recite it. Recite the two shining ones, Sura al-Baqarah and Sura Al-i-'Imran, for on the Day of Resurrection they will come as two clouds or two shades, or two flocks of birds in ranks pleading for those who recite them. Recite Sura al-Baqarah, for reciting it produces blessing and abandoning it produces regret, and the slothful are unable to recite it. (Muslim).
- 3 'Abdullah Ibn Mas'ud (Allah be pleased with him) reported Allah's Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) say: “If anyone recites a letter of the Holy Qur'an, he will be credited with a good deed, and a good deed gets a tenfold reward. I do not say that A.L.M (*alif, laam, mim*) are one letter, but *alif* is a letter, *lam* is a letter and *mim* is a letter.” Tirmidhi transmitted it, saying that this is a *hasan sahih*.
4. 'Abdullah Ibn 'Umar (Allah be pleased with him) reported Allah's Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) say: “Be merciful to others and Allah will be merciful to you. Forgive when others wrong thee and Allah will forgive you your sins. There is destruction for a man in whose words and deeds exists contradiction and also for those who persist upon their deeds willfully.” Ahmad transmitted it.

These are some hadiths about the importance of the Holy Quran. But you can read a lot of them on reliable sources on the net.

Now, I will give you some extracts from the writings of Hazrat Masih Maood (as) about the Holy Quran. He says:

"Of all the revealed books which we find today, it is the Holy Qur'an, whose claims to having been revealed from God, is established on the strength of irrefutable arguments. The principle it has enunciated regarding salvation corresponds exactly with the dictates of truth and human nature. The doctrines it propounds, are so perfect and well-founded that they are entirely supported by powerful and irrefutable evidence, its injunctions are based on nothing but the truth, its teachings are completely free from adulteration or idolatry, innovation and creature worship. It is a book in which there is exceeding eagerness to manifest the Oneness and Greatness of God. It is a Book which has this outstanding quality that it is filled entirely and purely with the teachings of the

Unity of God and does not permit any manner of blemish or defect, or shortcoming, or any other aspersion to be cast against the Holy Creator. It does not desire to impose any doctrine perforce. On the contrary, it precedes everything that it expounds with such arguments and logic as it establishes its truth, it proves its objectives and purport with weighty arguments and strong evidence. Having presented clear arguments to explain every principle it enunciates, it leads man to firm belief and absolute understanding of realities. It removes, with the help of lucid enunciation, all the defects, impurities and irregularities which infest human beliefs, practices, words and deeds. It also teaches all etiquette which are essential to cultivate human values in man. It meets the challenge of every corruption with no less a force than that displayed by the corruption itself prevalent in the world today. Its teachings are straight, powerful and well balanced as if they were a reflective mirror of nature itself and a true copy of the law of nature. It is like an enlightening sun for the inner eye and perceptive faculty of the heart. “(Roohani Khaza 'in, Vol. 1.' Baraheen-e-Ahmadiyya, pp 81-82)

“We are a witness and testify before the whole world that we have found in the Holy **Qur'an** the reality that leads to God. We have heard the voice of God and have witnessed the signs of the mighty arm of Him Who has revealed the Qur'an. We believe that He is the True God and is the Master of the worlds. Our heart is filled with this certainty as the ocean is filled with water. We, therefore, invite everyone to this faith and to this light on the basis of enlightened perception. We have found the **true light** which dispels all darkness and which really renders the heart cold to all that is beside God. This is the only way by following which a person emerges from the grip of passion and the darkness of the ego as a snake sloughs off its skin”. [**Kitab-ul-Bariyyah, Ruhani Khaza'in, Vol. 13, p. 65**]

Therefore, we should do our best to love this book as we have never loved any book. May Allah help us to accomplish this in our lifetime. Ameen.

In the end, I would like to say that Allah has continued to show us signs from Himself as he did in previous Ramadan months. I will relate to you three of them for the time being. The first two revelations were also received last year. They are as follows:

On Sunday last in the middle of the night I received “*Al Yawma akmalto lakoum deenakoum wa atmamto alaykoum Nemati wa razito lakoumoul islama deena*”. This is part of verse four of chapter 5 (Al Maida) of the Holy Quran and it is reported to be the last verse or part of it that was revealed to the Holy Prophet (saw). In fact, the Holy Prophet died only 82 days after receiving this portion of the verse. It is translated as “This day have I perfected your religion for you and completed My Favour upon you and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.” As far as I can understand, this is a piece of good news for our members from Allah. There is in these words confirmation that we are on the right track despite what has been said about us. So, all among us,

whether they are old or young, should persevere and do their best in doing what is expected of them from Allah.

The second revelation says: "*Nab be ebaadi Anal ghafoorour Raheem*" meaning "inform My Servants that I am Forgiving and Merciful". It is almost the same as verse 50 of chapter 15 of the Holy Quran but in what I have received the word "*anni*" is missing but the meaning is almost the same. Here, again we see Allah is emphasizing the main aspects of His manifestations during this month of Ramadan.

The third one which I received this week is "*Wa man yuzle lillaho falan tajeda lahou waliyan murshida* " meaning "The one whom Allah lets go astray, you will not find for him any helper or guide". But in the Holy Quran in verse 18 of Chapter 18 (Al Kahf) Allah says: "*Man yahdehillaho fahowal muhtad wa man yuzlil falan tajeda lahou waliyan murshida*" meaning "He whom Allah guides is truly guided; but He whom He leaves astray for him thou will find no helper who will guide him". So, the message is: seek your guidance from Allah. And I will never stop telling our friends that they should do like Hazrat Masih Maood (as) taught us and keep repeating the words "*Iyyaka na'bodo wa iyyaka nasta'een*" and "*ehdenas siratal moustaqeem*" when you are praying alone with concentration.

May Allah continue to shower His blessings on us and may He be always pleased with us all. So, we all should be more determined for greater worship in the coming days and in our life in general. Ameen.