

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْوَلَدِ أَدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصَلَّى عَلَيْهِ

In The Name Of Allah The Most Compassionate Very Merciful  
All Praise Due To Allah And Peace And Blessings Be Upon His Beloved Messenger

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## Blessings of Eid al-Fitr (Islamic Discourse)

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Eid Al-Fitr is the name of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the 10<sup>th</sup> Islam Calendar month Shawwaal. The word Eid is made from the root word ‘Aud which means “to return”. Since it’s the day of rejoicing, it is thus named Eid taking in good fortune i.e. many happy returns of the day. Every occasion of happiness is now called Eid; such as, Eid Meeladun Nabi, Eid Al-Me’raaj etc. The Eid Salah is performed to express gratitude for gaining the divine opportunity of worship in the month of Ramadan. (*Mir’at Al-Manajeeh, Vol. 2, p. 355*)

The Day of Eid which is also called **The Day of Mercy** falls on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Shawwaal, and Shawwaal is named after Shaul which means “The rising of the tail of a she-camel”. Hence, it was the month in which the Arabs used to go out of their houses for excursion and hunting, therefore it is called Shawwaal. Allah Almighty descends mercy upon His servants on this blessed day, and it was on this day that Allah Almighty created the paradise and on this very day He created the tree namely **Tooba** therein. He had chosen Hazrat Jibra’eel (peace be upon Him) for Wahiy and it was on this day the magicians of Pharaoh repented. (*Ghunyat Al-Taalibeen*)

It was on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of this month the Mercy of the universe, our Prophet (peace be upon Him) went out to perform Mubaahala against the christians of Najraan. The Battle of Uhad began on the 17<sup>th</sup> of this month in which the master of all the martyrs Hazrat Ameer Hamzah (may Allah be pleased with Him) was martyred. The rest of the days of this month, since the 25<sup>th</sup>, were very unfortunate for the nation of 'Aad in which Allah Almighty had destroyed this nation. (*'Ajaab Al-Makhlooqaat*, p. 46)

### Concept of Eid in the Light of Quran

There were few other nations besides us, The Nation Of The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon Him), that had celebrated Eid; as the Quran bears witness:

﴿٨٨﴾ فَنَظَرَ نَظْرَةً فِي النُّجُومِ

*Then he cast a glance at the stars.*

﴿٨٩﴾ فَقَالَ إِنِّي سَقِيمٌ

*Then he said, 'I am about to be sick'.*

(*Al-Saaffaat* 37, Verse 88, 89)

When the nation of Hazrat Ibraheem (peace be upon Him) went out to celebrate Eid, He was left behind. He said *I am feeling sick* and did not go with them, for He was not on their religion. He took an axe and broke their idols after they had left and then He hanged the axe on the neck of the biggest idol. They inquired Hazrat Ibraheem (peace be upon Him) as to who had done this to their idols. When the intimate friend of Allah Hazrat Ibraheem (peace be upon Him) put Himself into trouble, by breaking the idols, for the sake of His Lord and endangered His life for the love of the Creator of mankind, then Allah Almighty had blessed Him with His friendship, brought the dead birds into life on His hands and created the Prophets and Messengers from His generation, and made Him the great grandfather of Hazrat Muhammad (peace be upon Him), the greatest of personalities in the universe.

The second Eid was celebrated by the nation of the Kaleem of Allah (One who had a dialog with Allah) Hazrat Moosa (peace be upon Him); as the Glorious Quran bears states:

قَالَ مَوْعِدُكُمْ يَوْمَ الزَّيْنَةِ

*Musa said, 'your promise is for the day of festival'*

(Taha 20, Verse 59)

It was called the day of festival because Allah Almighty had provided Hazrat Moosa and His nation with a happy occasion by freeing them by the ruin of their enemy Pharaoh and his followers. 72 magicians came along with Pharaoh and his nation and they had 700 sticks and ropes. They had filled the gap in between the sticks, which were wrapped with the ropes, with quicksilver while the people stood on the burning hot ground. As the heat got extreme, the sticks that were wrapped with ropes began to move due to the melting quicksilver. People started believing in what they saw to be true, although the sticks were not in motion. Hazrat Moosa (peace be upon Him) feared in His heart, since many a people began to believe in the truthfulness of what they had seen, thus their faith weakened or they had turned into disbelievers. Allah Almighty then commanded Hazrat Moosa to put down his stick. Suddenly the stick turned into the size of a giant snake as big as a fully grown camel, and swallowed their illustrative instruments. The lava was oozing out of both its eyes and it looked extremely ferocious. The snake came forward and swallowed all those sticks and ropes in a single gulp their neither fattened its belly nor did it increase in its width and length, nor did its movement slow. As a result, the magicians fell into prostration. The name of the greatest of them was Sham'oon. They said, "We now became the believers" i.e. they had testified the truthfulness of the Lord of Hazrat Moosa and Haroon (peace be upon Them). Thereafter, the snake proceeded towards the army of Pharaoh and his followers, and they ran away. It is said that 50,000 of them died.

The third Eid was the Eid of Hazrat 'Isa's (peace be upon Him) nation. Allah Almighty states:

قَالَ عِيسَى ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ اللَّهُمَّ رَبَّنَا أَنْزِلْ عَلَيْنَا مَائِدَةً مِنَ السَّمَاءِ تَكُونُ لَنَا عِيدًا لِأَوَّلِنَا وَآخِرِنَا وَ  
آيَةً مِنْكَ وَارْزُقْنَا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّازِقِينَ ﴿١١٤﴾

*Isa son of Maryam submitted, 'O Allah our Lord, 'send down to us a tray of food from the heaven so that it may be an occasion of rejoicing for us, for the first and the last of us and a sign from You, and provide for us and You are the best of Providers.*

(Al-Ma'idah 5, Verse 114)

When His nation asked Him, "Is your Lord capable of sending down a tray of food from the heaven on your request?" Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) instructed them to fear Allah, and said, "if you are true believers, then do not make such demands, because, what if it's sent down and even then you belie it; you will then be served with severe punishment." They said, "We want to eat from it because we are hungry and then our hearts will also be at peace. We will also be sure of your proclamation of Prophethood. When we go to Bani Israel, we will bear witness on the heavenly tray of food."

They were the Hawaris (Helpers) when Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) passed by them while they were in Bait Al-Maqdis; they believed in Him. They used to keep their clothes white; this was also the reason that they were called Hawaris. They were 12 people. Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) said:

فَلَبَّ أَحَسَّ عِيسَى مِنْهُمْ الْكُفْرَ قَالَ مَنْ أَنْصَارِي إِلَى اللَّهِ قَالَ الْحَوَارِيُّونَ نَحْنُ أَنْصَارُ اللَّهِ آمَنَّا  
بِاللَّهِ وَأَشْهَدُ بِأَنَّكَ مُسْلِمُونَ ﴿٥٢﴾

*Then again when Is a found infidelity in them, said, 'who become my helpers towards Allah'. The disciples said, 'We are the helpers of the religion of God; We have believed in Allah and bear, you, witness that we are Muslims.*

(Aale Imran 3, Vesre 52)

They followed and obeyed Him in the oneness of Allah. Wherever they approached in earth, recited the glory of Allah Almighty. They used to observe the miracles of Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him). When they felt hungry and needed to eat, Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) used to take out two slices of bread onto the ground for each and every one of them and then for Himself as well. Hazrat Jibra'eel (peace be upon Him) used to walk along with Him and

show Him the amazing things and provide Him help and support. The more Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) kept on showing Bani Israel His miracles the more they disobeyed Him, until the day came when the 5,000 Bani Israel travellers along with the Hawaris asked Him for the tray of food from the heaven. Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon him) then asked Allah:

قَالَ عِيسَى ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ اللَّهُمَّ رَبَّنَا أَنْزِلْ عَلَيْنَا مَائِدَةً مِنَ السَّمَاءِ تَكُونُ لَنَا عِيدًا لِأَوَّلِنَا وَآخِرِنَا وَ  
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*Isa son of Maryam submitted, 'O Allah our Lord, 'send down to us a tray of food from the heaven so that it may be an occasion of rejoicing for us, for the first and the last of us and a sign from You, and provide for us and You are the best of Providers.*

(Al-Ma'idah 5, Verse 114)

Allah Almighty then answered His Du'a in the following manner:

قَالَ اللَّهُ إِنِّي مُنَزِّلُهَا عَلَيْكُمْ فَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بَعْدُ مِنْكُمْ فَإِنِّي أُعَذِّبُهُ عَذَابًا لَا أُعَذِّبُهُ أَحَدًا مِنَ الْعَالَمِينَ  
﴿١١٥﴾

*Allah said, 'I send it down to you, now therefore whoso of you will commit infidelity, then undoubtedly. I shall torment him with a torment wherewith I shall not punish to anyone in the entire Universe.*

(Al-Ma'idah 5, Verse 115)

Allah almighty had sent down to them the tray of food from the heaven on Sunday, which contained fresh fish, flattened bread (roties/chapaatis) and dates, and according to another narration it was the tray containing fried fish with salt towards its head and vinegar towards its tail. It had five slices of bread and each had olive on it, five pomegranates few dates encircled by vegetables excluding garlic.

All and sundry ate from it to the full of their capacity and expressed gratitude to their Lord. Whichever poor ate from it became rich and remained rich for the rest of his life and whichever cripple or sick ate from it also became healthy.

Hazrat Muqaatil states: Hazrat 'Isa called and asked the nation, "Have you all eaten?" They said, "Yes, we did." He then told them, "Do not keep anything." They said, "We will not keep anything," but they did keep and saved the

remainder which was equivalent to 24 yardsticks. Only then they believed in Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) and bore witness. When they met their nation Bani Israel with the remainder food, Bani Israel did not spare them until they turned to be disbelievers. They denied Allah Almighty and also the tray of food that was sent down to them. When they were sleeping, Allah Almighty metamorphosed their faces into a lower species and turned them into pigs. They all were men; there was no child or women among them. (*Ghuniyat Al-Taalibeen*, p. 475-479)

## OUR EID

إِذَا كَانَ يَوْمُ عِيدِهِمْ يَعْنِي يَوْمَ فِطْرِهِمْ بَاهَى بِهِمْ مَلَائِكَتَهُ فَقَالَ مَا جَزَاءُ أَجِيرٍ وَفِي عَمَلِهِ؟ قَالُوا رَبَّنَا جَزَاءُهُ أَنْ يُؤْتِيَ أَجْرَهُ قَالَ مَلَائِكَتِي عِبِيدِي وَإِمَائِي قَضَوْا فَرِيضَتِي عَلَيْهِمْ ثُمَّ خَرَجُوا يُعْجُونَ إِلَى الدُّعَاءِ وَعِزَّتِي وَجَلَالِي وَكَرَمِي وَعُلُوِّي وَارْتِقَاءِ مَكَانِي لَا جَبِينَتَهُمْ فَيَقُولُ ارْجِعُوا قَدْ غَفَرْتُ لَكُمْ وَبَدَلْتُ سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ حَسَنَاتٍ قَالَ فَيَرْجِعُونَ مَغْفُورًا لَهُمْ - رَوَاهُ الْبَيْهَقِيُّ فِي شُعَبِ الْإِيمَانِ (مَشْكُوتٌ الْمَصَابِيحُ)

Hadeeth: When the day of Eid i.e Eid Al-Fitr comes; Allah shows the superiority of His servants over His angels and says, “What is the wages of a worker who completes his task?” The angels say, “O our Lord, he must be rewarded abundantly.” Allah Almighty states, “O angels! My male and female slaves have performed the obligation which was due to them from my side. And then they left for Eid Gaah making Du’a. I swear by my majesty, dignity, mercy and high status, I shall answer their prayers.” He then says, “Return my servants. I have forgiven you and changed your sins into virtues.” The Prophet (peace be upon Him) said, “The people return forgiven.”

(*Imam Baihaqi recorded it in Shu'ab Al-Imaan, [Mishkaat]*)

Islam recommends the following actions to be performed on the day of Eid:

- To have a hair cut
- Clipping the nails

- To have a bath
- Applying Miswak
- To wear good clothes, preferably new, or else nicely washed clothes
- Wearing a ring
- Applying perfume
- To perform Fajr Salah at the Masjid of one's district
- To be present at Eid Gaah early
- To give charity (Fitr) before Eid Salah
- To take a walk to Eid Gaah (instead of using a mode of transport, provided it's convenient)
- To return through the other way
- To eat a few dates prior to going for Eid Salah; either 3, 5 or 7 (in odd numbers), if one does not have dates, then eat anything sweet. (*'Aammah Kutub*)

كَانَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ لَا يَغْدُو يَوْمَ الْفِطْرِ حَتَّى يَأْكُلَ تَمْرَاتٍ وَيَأْكُلُهُنَّ وَثْرًا - رَوَاهُ الْبُخَارِيُّ (مَشْكُوتٌ  
الْمَصَابِيحُ)

Hadeeth: The Prophet (peace be upon Him) used to leave for Eid Al-Fitr only after He had eaten some dates and He used to eat them in odd numbers.

(*Bukhari, Mishkaat*)

The Scholars of Islam and Hadeeth masters say that the wisdom behind the recommending of eating dates before leaving for Eid Salah is that it contains sugar, and this sweetness helps improve the eyesight that had weakened by continuously fasting. Moreover, sweetness softens the heart and it's suitable for Imaani temperament, and if one sees himself eating sweet in a dream, then its interpretation is that he will be blessed with the sweetness of Imaan, it is for this reason that Iftaar is recommended with something sweet; such as, honey and dates, but the dates have much more benefits, especially the dates of Madinah Munawwarah. (*Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah p. 198-199*)

مَنْ صَامَ رَمَضَانَ ثُمَّ أَتْبَعَهُ سِتًّا مِنْ شَوَّالٍ كَانَ كَصِيَامِ الدَّهْرِ - رَوَاهُ الْبُخَارِيُّ وَمُسْلِمٌ (مَشْكُوتٌ  
الْمَصَابِيحُ)

Hadeeth: Whoso kept the fasts of the month of Ramadan and then follows it by six fasts of Shawwaal, is as if he fasted for his lifetime.

*(Bukhari, Muslim, Mishkaat)*

قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ تَزَكَّى ۝١٣

Undoubtedly, he attained to his goal who purified.

وَذَكَرَ اسْمَ رَبِّهِ فَصَلَّى ۝١٤

And offered prayer remembering the name of his Lord.

*(Al-A'la 87, Verse 14-15)*

Dear Muslims! Today is the day of Eid. We are ever so grateful that Allah Almighty granted us, the Ummah of the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him, the glorious month of Ramadan full of blessings. Whoever kept the fasts of the month and sacrificed the comfort of their sleep to follow the Sunnah of Sahri, made the intention to fast and performed Fajr Salah, and the rest of Salah with congregation, made the Du'a before Iftar and then partook in Iftar, performed Maghrib Salah and then after Esha, performed Taraweeh Salah. After paying the due respect to the blessed month of Ramadan when Allah Almighty has become pleased with us, he has granted us the gift of Eid.

It is for this reason that our beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has named the night of Eid “Lailatul Jaaizah (The night of reward)”, and thus, the day of Eid is to receive the forgiveness and mercy of Allah Almighty, as it is evident from the essence of a lengthy Hadeeth mentioned in Al-Targheeb Wal Tarheeb narrated by Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Abbas – may Allah be pleased with him – that the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has stated that Allah Almighty makes a general announcement of the day of Eid, “O my servants, ask whatever you wish, I shall fulfil it. I swear by My Dominance and Jalaal, whatever you ask today considering the hereafter, I shall

grant you and whatever worldly fortune you seek, I shall bestow it upon you. I swear by My Dominance and Jalaal, I will continue to hide your shortfalls and mistakes for as long as you continue to strive to obey My Commands. I swear, I shall not turn you hopeless with the oppressors and you will return from Eid Salah completely forgiven and you will have pleased Allah Almighty and He would be pleased with you.

(Ghunyatut Taalibeen p. 372)

### Who deserves the day of Eid

It is clear from the Hadeeth that if Allah Almighty is pleased with His servant, this day would be the day of Eid of him. If our exterior is clean but the inner self is dirty or if we made Ghusl and cleaned our outer body but the heart has the filth of malice, jealousy, hatred, back biting, disobedience towards our parents, negligence towards Salah, fasting, Hajj and Zakah, earning Haram, the curse of speaking lies, arrogance and boastfulness and other shaitaani traits within our inner selves then our soul is definitely corrupt and our hearts are still filthy, then in this state, what is the use of wearing sparkling clean attire if the inner self is so dark with all sorts of dirt?

In today's superficial world, the focus of Muslims is on the material values of body, clothing, houses and cars, and our highest priority goes towards maintain these aspects in Eid. Our focus is on the external self which has no spiritual value. Allah Almighty looks at our inner beauty and focuses on our hearts, and therefore states:

قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ تَزَكَّى ۝۱۴

Undoubtedly, he attained to his goal who purified.

وَذَكَرَ اسْمَ رَبِّهِ فَصَلَّى ۝۱۵

And offered prayer remembering the name of his Lord.

(Al-A'la 87, Verse 14-15)

Meaning that the successful Muslim is he who attains the inner purification and remembers Allah and prays Salah. Every Muslim is addressed by Allah in these verses and we given the spiritual formula of success.

The purpose of celebrating Eid is not through the external means but by the spiritual means of maintaining the same piety which we got accustomed to during the blessed month of Ramadan and to continue in this way, so we may succeed and attain salvation in the path of Allah. If we can manage to keep our spirituality to the same level as we did in Ramadan then not only this day but the entire year will be Eid for us in sha Allah.

### **Supporting an Orphan on the day of Eid**

Hazrat Anas – may Allah be pleased with him – reported that on the day Eid, when the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – left home to perform Eid Salah, the children were celebrating and playing on the way but there was a child who looked very sad and disheartened, sitting on the side of the street. He had torn clothes on and was weeping vigorously. When the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – saw the child he went closer and lovingly asked him, “Why are you crying, son? What has befallen you?” He did not recognize him and replied, “My father had partaken in battle with Allah’s Messenger – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – and got martyred during the battle. I have no one in this world now. If my father was alive, he would also give bathe me and put new clothes on for me and holding my finger, take me to Eidgah with him. Today, when I am seeing these children wearing new clothes and celebrating Eid, I am missing my father which brings tears to my eyes.”

The beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – picked him up and held him to his chest with utmost affection. He took him home, bathed him and put new clothes on him, applied perfume and carried him to Eidgah on his blessed shoulders. The beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – said to him, “How would you like it if I become your father and Ayesha (may Allah be pleased with her) your mother, Ali (may Allah

be pleased with him) as your uncle, Hasan and Husain (may Allah be pleased with them) as your brother and Fatimah (may Allah be pleased with her) as your sister?” Only now the child realized that the one showering him with so much love and mercy was none other than the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him. The child said, “Ya RasoolAllah, there is nothing better I could wish for! When people found out and saw the child showered with so much love by the “Mercy unto the worlds”, they wished...., “We wish our fathers were also martyred so we would deserve this much love and affection from the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him!”

(Zubdatul Waa'izeen)

This beautiful story should inspire us that it is Sunnah to include the orphans and underprivileged in our celebration of Eid.

### Day of Eid defined by the Sahabi

Hazrat Anas – may Allah be pleased with him – has stated:

- ✓ The day of Eid for a believer is the day when he has not committed a single sin.
- ✓ The real Eid of a believer will be the day he will undertake the final journey to the hereafter with Iman.

(Faqeeh Abul Laith Samarqandi)

## Eid in the light of Quran

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When the nation of Hazrat Ibraheem (peace be upon Him) went out to celebrate Eid, He was left behind. He said ***I am not feeling well*** and did not go with them, for He was not on their religion. He took an axe and broke their idols after they had left and then He hanged the axe on the neck of the biggest idol. They inquired Hazrat Ibraheem (peace be upon Him) as to who had done this to their idols. When the intimate friend of Allah Hazrat Ibraheem (peace be upon Him) put Himself into trouble, by breaking the idols, for the sake of His Lord and endangered His life for the love of the Creator of mankind, then Allah Almighty had blessed Him with His friendship, brought the dead birds into life on His hands and created the Prophets and Messengers from His generation, and made Him the great grandfather of Hazrat Muhammad (peace be upon Him), the greatest of personalities in the universe.

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giant snake as big as a fully grown camel, and swallowed their illustrative instruments. The lava was oozing out of both its eyes and it looked extremely ferocious. The snake came forward and swallowed all those sticks and ropes in a single gulp their neither fattened its belly nor did it increase in its width and length, nor did its movement slow. As a result, the magicians fell into prostration. The name of the greatest of them was Sham'oon. They said, "We now became the believers" i.e. they had testified the truthfulness of the Lord of Hazrat Moosa and Haroon (peace be upon Them). Thereafter, the snake proceeded towards the army of Pharaoh and his followers, and they ran away. It is said that 50,000 of them died.

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وَأَخِرِنَا وَآيَةً مِنْكَ وَارْزُقْنَا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّازِقِينَ ﴿١١٤﴾

*Isa son of Maryam submitted, 'O Allah our Lord, 'send down to us a tray of food from the heaven so that it may be an occasion of rejoicing for us, for the first and the last of us and a sign from You, and provide for us and You are the best of Providers.*

(Al-Ma'idah 5, Verse 114)

When His nation asked Him, "Is your Lord capable of sending down a tray of food from the heaven on your request?" Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) instructed them to fear Allah, and said, "if you are true believers, then do not make such demands, because, what if it's sent down and even then you belie it; you will then be served with severe punishment." They said, "We want to eat from it because we are hungry and then our hearts will also be at peace. We will also be sure of your proclamation of Prophethood. When we go to Bani Israel, we will bear witness on the heavenly tray of food."

They were the Hawaris (Helpers) when Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) passed by them while they were in Bait Al-Maqdis; they believed in Him. They used to keep their clothes white; this was also the reason that they were called Hawaris. They were 12 people. Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) said:

فَلَمَّا أَحَسَّ عِيسَى مِنْهُمْ الْكُفْرَ قَالَ مَنْ أَنْصَارِي إِلَى اللَّهِ قَالَ الْحَوَارِيُّونَ نَحْنُ أَنْصَارُ  
اللَّهِ أَمَنَّا بِاللَّهِ وَآشْهَدُ بِأَنَّا مُسْلِمُونَ ﴿٥٢﴾

*Then again when Is a found infidelity in them, said, 'who become my helpers towards Allah'. The disciples said, 'We are the helpers of the religion of God; We have believed in Allah and bear, you, witness that we are Muslims.*

(Aale Imran 3, Vesre 52)

They followed and obeyed Him in the oneness of Allah. Wherever they approached in earth, recited the glory of Allah Almighty. They used to observe the miracles of Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him). When they felt hungry and needed to eat, Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) used to take out two slices of bread onto the ground for each and every one of them and then for Himself as well. Hazrat Jibra'eel (peace be upon Him) used to walk along with Him and show Him the amazing things and provide Him help and support. The more Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) kept on showing Bani Israel His miracles the more they disobeyed Him, until the day came when the 5,000 Bani Israel travellers along with the Hawaris asked Him for the tray of food from the heaven. Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon him) then asked Allah:

قَالَ عِيسَى ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ اللَّهُمَّ رَبَّنَا أَنْزِلْ عَلَيْنَا مَائِدَةً مِنَ السَّمَاءِ تَكُونُ لَنَا عِيدًا لِأَوَّلِنَا  
وَأَخِرِنَا وَآيَةً مِنْكَ وَارْزُقْنَا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّازِقِينَ ﴿١١٤﴾

*Isa son of Maryam submitted, 'O Allah our Lord, 'send down to us a tray of food from the heaven so that it may be an occasion of rejoicing for us, for the first and the last of us and a sign from You, and provide for us and You are the best of Providers.*

(Al-Ma'idah 5, Verse 114)

Allah Almighty then answered His Du'a in the following manner:

قَالَ اللَّهُ إِنِّي مُنَزِّلُهَا عَلَيْكُمْ فَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بَعْدُ مِنْكُمْ فَإِنِّي أُعَذِّبُهُ عَذَابًا لَا أُعَذِّبُهُ أَحَدًا مِّنَ  
الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿١١٥﴾

*Allah said, 'I send it down to you, now therefore whoso of you will commit infidelity, then undoubtedly. I shall torment him with a torment wherewith I shall not punish to anyone in the entire Universe.*

(Al-Ma'idah 5, Verse 115)

Allah almighty had sent down to them the tray of food from the heaven on Sunday, which contained fish, bread (roties) and dates, and according to another narration it was the tray containing fried fish with salt towards its head and vinegar towards its tail. It had five slices of bread and each had olive on it, five pomegranates few dates encircled by vegetables excluding garlic.

All and sundry ate from it to the full of their capacity and expressed gratitude to their Lord. Whichever poor ate from it became rich and remained rich for the rest of his life and whichever cripple or sick ate from it also became healthy.

Hazrat Muqaatil states: Hazrat 'Isa called and asked the nation, "Have you all eaten?" They said, "Yes, we did." He then told them, "Do not keep anything." They said, "We will not keep anything," but they did keep and saved the remainder which was equivalent to 24 yardsticks. Only then they believed in Hazrat 'Isa (peace be upon Him) and bore witness. When they met their nation Bani Israel with the remainder food, Bani Israel did not spare them until they turned to be disbelievers. They denied Allah Almighty and also the tray of food that was sent down to them. When they were sleeping, Allah Almighty metamorphosed their faces into a lower species and turned them into pigs. They all were men; there was no child or women among them. (*Ghunyat Al-Taalibeen*, p. 475-479)

### **Eid of different nations Vs. our Eid**

Every nation has their own days of rejoicing festivals and Eids coming from all walks of life, culture and religion at once or more times throughout a year but their way of celebrating Eid involves committing various types of vices; such as, singing, dancing, drinking, gambling and acts of indecency which includes but not limited to, freely mixing of sexes and so on. Fortunately, Allah Almighty has granted us, the Muslim Ummah, the pure religion of Islam through His beloved

Messenger Hazrat Muhammad – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him. Islam prevents its followers from committing any types vices at all times and occasions, and especially the Day of Eid, which is the day of making Allah's Dhikr in abundance. It is the day when He showers us with His infinite Mercy, and if His servants get involved in any kind of vices Allah Almighty leaves that individual bereft of His Mercy. He has stated in the Holy Quran:

لَئِنْ شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ وَلَئِنْ كَفَرْتُمْ إِنَّ عَذَابِي لَشَدِيدٌ ﴿٧﴾

'If you will be grateful, then I shall give you more, and if you are thankless, then My torment is severe.'

(Ibrahim 14, Verse 7)

When our beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – migrated to Madinah al-Munawwarah, he observed that the locals there has selected two days to celebrate and spent them in activities that opposed the criteria of attaining spiritual state. He instead gave them two Eids; Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, to rejoice in the Mercy of Allah and announced that it is obligatory for the believers to refrain from any vices on these happy occasions and make Allah's Dhikr, and then he loudly proclaimed the Greatness of Allah and His Praises.

(Mishkaat)

### Takbeer of Eid

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ لِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ

Allah is the Greatest. Allah is the Greatest. There is none worthy of worship besides Him and Allah is the Greatest. Allah is the Greatest and all praises belong to Allah alone.

(Ibn Majah p. 91, Mishkaat)

Every Muslim must recite Takbeer on the day of Eid and worship Allah Almighty in Salah. Our beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him

– has taught us that the real Eid of the believers is in worshipping Allah and His remembrance. It is through the Dhikr and Salah that Allah Almighty turns our sorrow into happiness and provide ease in our problems.

## OUR EID

إِذَا كَانَ يَوْمُ عِيدِهِمْ يَعْنِي يَوْمَ فِطْرِهِمْ بَاهَى بِهِمْ مَلَائِكَتَهُ فَقَالَ مَا جَزَاءُ أَجِيرٍ وَفِي  
عَمَلِكُمْ؟ قَالُوا رَبَّنَا جَزَاءُهُ أَنْ يُؤْتِيَ أَجْرَهُ قَالَ مَلَائِكَتِي عِبِيدِي وَإِمَائِي قَضَوْا فَرِيضَتِي  
عَلَيْهِمْ ثُمَّ خَرَجُوا يَعْجُونَ إِلَى الدُّعَاءِ وَعِزَّتِي وَجَلَالِي وَكَرَمِي وَعُلُوِّي وَارْتِقَاءِ مَكَانِي  
لَا جِبْنَئَهُمْ فَيَقُولُ ارْجِعُوا قَدْ غَفَرْتُ لَكُمْ وَبَدَّلْتُ سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ حَسَنَاتٍ قَالَ فَيَرْجِعُونَ  
مَغْفُورًا لَهُمْ - رَوَاهُ الْبَيْهَقِيُّ فِي شُعَبِ الْإِيمَانِ (مَشْكُوتُ الصَّابِيحِ)

Hadeeth: When the day of Eid i.e Eid Al-Fitr comes; Allah shows the superiority of His servants over His angels and says, “What is the wages of a worker who completes his task?” The angels say, “O our Lord, he must be rewarded abundantly.” Allah Almighty states,

“O angels! My male and female slaves have performed the obligation which was due to them from my side. And then they left for Eid Gaah making Du’a. I swear by my majesty, dignity, mercy and high status, I shall answer their prayers.” He then says, “Return my servants. I have forgiven you and changed your sins into virtues.” The Prophet (peace be upon Him) said, “The people return forgiven.”

*(Imam Baihaqi recorded it in Shu’ab Al-Imaan, [Mishkaat])*

Islam recommends the following actions to be performed on the day of Eid:

- To have a hair cut
- Clipping the nails
- To have a bath
- Applying Miswak
- To wear good clothes, preferably new, or else nicely washed clothes
- Wearing a ring
- Applying perfume
- To perform Fajr Salah at the Masjid of one's district
- To be present at Eid Gaah early
- To give charity (Fitr) before Eid Salah
- To take a walk to Eid Gaah (instead of using a mode of transport, provided it's convenient)
- To return through the other way
- To eat a few dates prior to going for Eid Salah; either 3, 5 or 7 (in odd numbers), if one does not have dates, then eat anything sweet. (*'Aammah Kutub*)

كَانَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ لَا يَغْدُو يَوْمَ الْفِطْرِ حَتَّى يَأْكُلَ تَمْرَاتٍ وَيَأْكُلُهُنَّ وَثْرًا - رَوَاهُ الْبُخَارِيُّ  
(مَشْكُوتُ الصَّابِيحِ)

Hadeeth: The Prophet (peace be upon Him) used to leave for Eid Al-Fitr only after He had eaten some dates and He used to eat them in odd numbers.

(*Bukhari, Mishkaat*)

The Scholars of Islam and Hadeeth masters say that the wisdom behind the recommending of eating dates before leaving for Eid Salah is that it contains sugar, and this sweetness helps improve the eyesight that had weakened by continuously fasting. Moreover, sweetness softens the heart and it's suitable for Imaani temperament, and if one sees himself eating sweet in a dream, then its interpretation is that he will be blessed with the sweetness of Imaan, it is for this reason that Iftaar is recommended with something sweet; such as, honey and

dates, but the dates have much more benefits, especially the dates of Madinah Munawwarah.

*(Ma Thabata Minas Sunnah p. 198-199)*

مَنْ صَامَ رَمَضَانَ ثُمَّ أَتْبَعَهُ سِتًّا مِنْ شَوَّالٍ كَانَ كَصِيَامِ الدَّهْرِ - رَوَاهُ الْبُخَارِيُّ وَمُسْلِمٌ  
(مَشْكُوتُ الْمَصَابِيحِ)

Hadeeth: Whoso kept the fasts of the month of Ramadan and then follows it by six fasts of Shawwaal, is as if he fasted for his lifetime.

*(Bukhari, Muslim, Mishkaat)*

#### **Every day is Eid if Allah is pleased**

Once Sayyiduna Ali – may Allah be pleased with him – was eating brown bread on the day of Eid. A visitor came and asked him, “Today is the day of Eid and you are eating dry bread?” Hazrat Ali – may Allah be pleased with him – replied, “Today is the Eid of those who fasts have been accepted in the court of Allah and their sins have been forgiven, and for us too, today and every day is the day of Eid when we have not indulged in sinning.

*(Ghunyat al-Taalibeen p. 377)*

#### **Eid of Ibn Umar – may Allah be pleased with them**

When Sayyiduna Umar – may Allah be pleased him – saw his son wearing old clothes he began to cry. “Why are you crying, father” asked Sayyiduna Ibn Umar – may Allah be pleased with them. He replied, “My son, I am afraid that you will feel hurt when your friends will see you in old and torn clothes today.” Sayyiduna Ibn Umar – may Allah be pleased with him – said, “Those people should feel hurt who have not gained Allah’s pleasure and those who have disobeyed their parents but I hope that through your pleasure, Allah Almighty will also be pleased with me.” Listening to this Sayyiduna Umar – may Allah be pleased with him – cried and hugged his son and made Du’a for him.

*(Mukaashifatul Quloob p. 710)*

Eid of Ghaus Azam – may Allah be pleased with him

Huzoor Ghaus Azam said the following couplets in regards to Eid:

خلق گوید کہ فردا عید است  
خوشی در روح ہر مؤمن پدید است  
دراں روزے کہ با ایمان بمیرم  
مرا در ملک خود آن روز عید است

*Khalq goyad ki farda Eid ast*

*Khushi Dar Roohe har Momin Padeed ast*

*Daraan rozay ki baa Imaan Bameeram*

*Mora dr mulke khud Aan roz Eid ast*

The creation of Allah is saying that tomorrow is Eid

The happiness can be observed in every believer's soul

But my Eid will be on the day

When I will leave the dunya with Imaan

(Ghunyat al-Taalibeen)