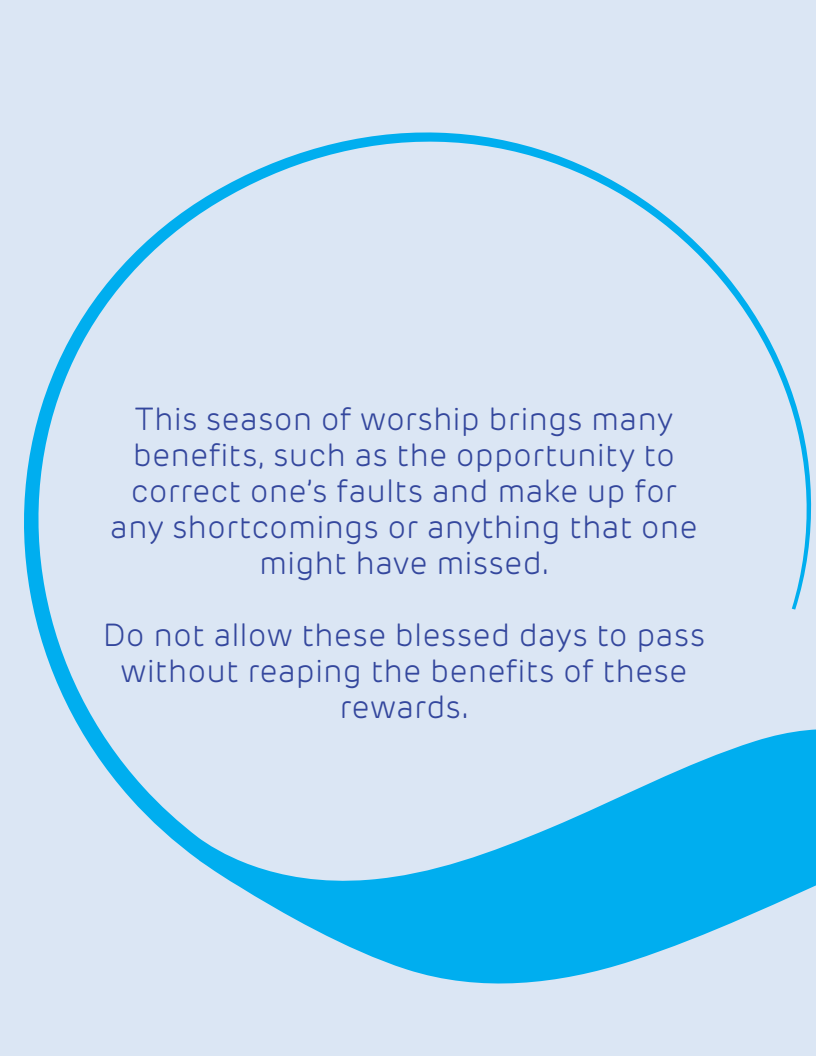




A collection of daily acts of
worship and deeds to practice
on these blessed days.

Praise be to Allah Who has created time and has made some times better than others, some months and days and nights better than others, when rewards are multiplied many times, as a mercy towards His servants. This encourages us to do more righteous deeds and makes us more eager to worship Him.

The blessed days of Hajj are now upon us. Referring to the first ten days of Dhu al-Hijjah, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said, "There are no days in which good works are more beloved to Allah than these days."



This season of worship brings many benefits, such as the opportunity to correct one's faults and make up for any shortcomings or anything that one might have missed.

Do not allow these blessed days to pass without reaping the benefits of these rewards.

Acts of Woship

TO BE IN SOLIDARITY WITH THOSE PERFORMING HAJJ AND UMRAH

Obviously, Hajj is one of the best deeds that one can do during these ten days. However, due to the circumstances most of us cannot attend Hajj this year. But there are still many more ways to earn the pleasure of Allah on these beautiful days.

Umm Salamah said, "The Messenger of Allah said, 'When the ten (days) start and one of you intends to offer Udhiyah (an animal reserved for sacrifice), he has to abstain from having their haircut or clipping of their nails, until he has offered his sacrifice (Eid Day).'" (Muslim).

By not cutting our hair or clipping our nails during this period, we follow the tradition of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and the direction of Allah (swt).

Daily Deed

MAKE HAJJ COME TO YOU - CHALLENGE YOURSELF

This Dhu al-Hijjah, join Islamic Relief's No Meat Till Eid and our Hajj challenges.

Many of our sisters and brothers around the world do not have access to meat most of the year. This Dhu al-Hijjah, let us act in solidarity with them, and challenge ourselves to restrain ourselves from eating meat the first nine days of Dhu al-Hijjah. It sounds simple, but it's a challenge of your spirit to make sure you can do this.

Another challenge you can do is walk with us five miles a day for the first nine days of Dhu al-Hijjah to simulate the distance you would have walked each day if you were at Hajj. This year because of the spread of disease, Hajj is difficult for many around the world. But your body can still physically endure some of the stress of Hajj by walking the amount you would have if you were at Hajj. Each day, learn about what action you would be performing if you were at Hajj this year. Join us via irusa.org/hajjchallenge.

Acts of Woship

FAST ALL NINE DAYS AND ESPECIALLY ON THE 'DAY OF ARAFAH'

The Prophet (pbuh) said: "Anyone who fasts for one day for Allah's pleasure, Allah will keep his face away from the (Hell) fire for (a distance covered by a journey of) seventy years." (Bukhari, Muslim)

The Prophet (pbuh) used to fast on the ninth day of Dhu al-Hijjah and he said, "Fasting the Day of Arafah (9th Dhu al-Hijjah) is an expiation for (all the sins of) the previous year and expiation for (all the sins of) the coming year." (Muslim)

Daily Deed

INVITE A HAJJI, DIM THE LIGHTS AND

What better way to learn about Hajj than to hear it from someone who's done it?

If you have a Hajji (a person who has performed Hajj) in your home, that's even better! Otherwise invite one over virtually, preferably someone skilled in storytelling. You can do this through a simple video call.

Dim the lights and ask people to close their eyes. Then the Hajji should recount the story from A to Z, from when he or she first thought about Hajj to how the whole journey took place. Ask them questions about their journey, how they felt during each part, and what the experience was like overall.

3 Acts of Woship

PERFORM DHIKR AND TAKBEER

The Prophet (pbuh) said, "There are no days on which good deeds are greater or more beloved to Allah than on these ten days, so recite much Tahleel (saying La Ilaha Ila Allah), Takbeer (saying Allahu Akbar) and Tahmeed (saying Alhamdulillah)." (Ahmad, Saheeh)

Ibn 'Umar and Abu Hurayrah used to go out in the marketplace during the first ten days of Dhu al-Hijjah reciting Takbeer, and the people would recite Takbeer when they heard them. (Bukhari)

Takbeer at this time is a Sunnah that has mostly been forgotten, especially during the first few days. So, recite Takbeerat wherever you are, whether at home or walking outside. The Prophet (pbuh) said, "Whoever revives an aspect of my Sunnah that is forgotten after my death, he will have a reward equivalent to that of the people who follow him, without it detracting in the least from their reward." (Tirmidhi- Hasan)

Daily Deed

"TAKE ME, TAKE ME, TAKE ME TO THE KA'ABA!"

It's tempting to think traveling to Hajj is as simple as booking a plane ticket and flying to Mecca. But this is still a luxury most Muslims worldwide cannot afford, which is why you and your family should discuss how people of today and the past traveled to make this journey of a lifetime.

If one of your family member's is a car, plane, ship or train fan, use this to your advantage. Use their beloved toy(s) to show how so many people use different means of transportation to get to the Ka'aba, and how long it takes to get to Mecca using these various methods. Transportation is a key point because Hajj becomes compulsory on an adult Muslim if the means of transportation are available.

4 Acts of Worship

STAND THE NIGHT IN PRAYER

Seeking Allah's forgiveness and humbling ourselves in front of Him in supplication and prayers during the latter part of the night is an act of worship that is very beloved to Allah, Glorified and Exalted be He.

Allah (SWT) calls out to His servants in the latter part of the night: "Is there anyone to invoke Me, so that I may respond to his invocation? Is there anyone to ask Me, so that I may grant him his request? Is there anyone seeking My forgiveness, so that I may forgive him?" (Bukhaari, Muslim)

We should seize this opportunity and beg Him for His divine generosity and mercy. We should ask Him as our Prophet (pbuh) taught us, "Our Lord, bless us with the best of this world and the best of hereafter and save us from the fire of Hell."

Daily Deed

TELL IT LIKE IT IS: THE STORY OF PROPHET IBRAHIM

Forego family movie night and replace it with storytelling hour so you can share the incredible story of Prophet Ibrahim (as). Make it as exciting and interactive as you can, adding sound effects, movement, and awesome narrative.

What was it like when this great Prophet was thrown into the fire? What was it like when he built the Ka'aba with his son Ismail (as)?

At the end of sharing his story, also discuss how Jews and Christians revere Prophet Ibrahim (as). You can watch IRUSA's "An Imam, A Reverend, A Rabbi" video to learn more about the connection between each religion's story (find it at irusa.org/qurbani).

5 Acts of Worship

MAKE SINCERE REPENTANCE

Allah (SWT) loves those who repent to Him in complete submission. The act of sincere repentance to Allah with intention to never return to disobedience and sin is very dear to Him. Return to Allah by giving up all the deeds, open and secret, that He dislikes. Be regretful of your sins and disobedience, and resolve to never return to sin and to firmly adhere to the path which Allah loves.

Allah (SWT) says, "But as for him who repented, believed, and did righteous deeds, then he will be among those who are successful." (Qur'an 28:67)

5 Daily Deed

HAJJ FILM NIGHT

In the last 20 years, Hajj has been caught on film through various documentaries, and more recently, an IMAX film. You can look up different documentaries on popular channels such as PBS, National Geographic, and BBC.

Pop that popcorn, get comfy, and don't forget to follow up with a discussion of what you've just seen.

Acts of Woship

RETURN TO THE BOOK OF ALLAH

Now is a great time to reconnect with the Holy Qur'an and establish a beautiful new relationship with the book of Allah (swt). Recite its verses and you will reap its blessings insha'Allah. This relationship with the Qur'an will open for you the doors of wisdom and happiness in your life, and it will ultimately lead to guidance and success in this life and the Hereafter insha'Allah.

Daily Deed

SHARE WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED

Create an online post about Hajj and share with your family and friends. Be creative with your post: consider using video or a photo collage to describe the journey of Hajj. Share why this time of year is important to you through your presentation.

Acts of Woship

INCREASE IN DOING ALL GOOD DEEDS

Since most of us are not able to go for Hajj this year, fill your time on these blessed days by doing as many good deeds as you can. Every act that is done with sincerity for the pleasure of Allah (SWT) will bring you closer to Him.

Increase your donations. One way to do so is to sign up for our daily donations this Dhu al-Hijjah with Islamic Relief USA. Visit irusa.org/mytendays to get started.

"So whoever 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)

Daily Deed

ENGAGE YOUR TONGUE IN THE REMEMBRANCE OF ALLAH

Every person, individually, should regularly remember Allah by saying “La ilaha illa Allah” (there is no god but Allah), “Allahu Akbar” (Allah is great), and “Alhamdulillah” (praise be to Allah).

Also, talk about the Talbiya (what pilgrims recite during Hajj) and the meaning of the words. In addition, we should all recite the Takbeer of Eid as well to increase our dhikr.

Finally, don't forget to make dua'a for those who are suffering whether that is sickness, abuse, or injustice of any sort. Ask Allah to guide humanity.

Acts of Worship

SACRIFICE AN ANIMAL AND DISTRIBUTE THE MEAT

"That they may witness benefits for themselves and mention the name of Allah on known days over what He has provided for them of cattle. So eat of them and feed the poor."

(Qur'an 22:28)

Fulfill your Qurbani and Udhiyah. Visit irusa.org/qurbani.

Ibn Umar said, "The Prophet (pbuh) lived in Medina for ten years and every year he slaughtered an animal." (Ahmad-Saheeh by al-Albaani)

From farm to families, you can provide meat to those suffering from hunger all over the world. For some, this is the only time they have meat all year.

Daily Deed

LEARN ABOUT THE CONCEPT OF A SACRIFICE

A sacrifice is an act of giving up something valued for the sake of something else regarded as more important or worthy. It means to give up something for someone else, or something else.

From the story of Prophet Ibrahim (as), we learned of his sacrifice. He was willing to give up his son for Allah (swt). But Allah, with His infinite mercy, replaced the sacrifice of Prophet Ibrahim with a ram. On this day, learn about this specific story of Prophet Ibrahim and his son Ismail (asws).

And sacrifice something that we love for the love of Allah. This can be giving up a few minutes of watching television to pray on time, or taking some of our allowance and donating it to someone in need.

What will your sacrifice be?

Acts of Woship

THANK ALLAH

One of the biggest forms of worshipping Allah (SWT) is to thank Him, deeply, sincerely and continuously. After all, it is He who blessed you with all that you have. In fact, you wouldn't even be here if it wasn't for the mercy of your Creator. So thank Him for all that He has given you: the blessing of Islam, the blessing of life, and every blessing you possess.

Thank Him for the opportunity to experience these ten days. Ask Him for His mercy, forgiveness, and guidance.

Alhamdulillah, there is much to be gained during this special season. So make the most of this perfect opportunity offered by these invaluable and irreplaceable ten days. Hasten to do good deeds, appreciate this blessing, and make the most of it.

Daily Deed

FAST & READ ALOUD THE LAST SERMON OF THE PROPHET

Muslims are recommended to fast on this day. The Prophet (pbuh) said, "Fasting the Day of Arafah (ninth day of Dhu al-Hijjah) will be credited with Allah through the forgiveness of sins of the previous year and the following year."

We should sincerely ask Allah for forgiveness for mistakes on this day as the Prophet said, "Allah sets more people free from Hell on the Day of Arafah than on any other day," (Muslim).

And once time to break your fast comes, have a big family iftar with those in your home, and consider adding more loved ones virtually so that you all can break fast together, safely.

Also, read the Prophet's last sermon that day, since it was delivered on the ninth day of Dhu al-Hijjah. After you read the sermon, discuss some of the lessons that you learned and how you can apply them in your life.

Acts of Woship

ATTEND EID PRAYERS

Attending Eid prayers is from the Sunnah of our beloved Prophet (pbuh). While many mosques are opening up this year, some of us still may not be able to attend an in-person Eid prayer—in those cases, you can still perform the prayer from within your home. We should be keen on practicing this Sunnah and performing it according to the teachings of our Prophet (pbuh).

In our Eid prayers, we should remember all of our brothers and sisters in need all around the world, who may not be as fortunate to have enough to enjoy this blessed occasion. We should also remember them as we show our compassion through our donations--this should be a time for our Ummah to come together to serve those in need.

Daily Deed

EID DAY: DECORATE YOUR HOME FOR EID

Decorate your house to create a festive atmosphere. For those who still need to perform their Eid prayer at home, you can follow our prayer online at irusa.org/live and listen to our live khutbah the day of Eid.

Call your family and friends and wish them a blessed Eid al-Adha. Make sure to stay connected with the ones you love on this very special day.



Share
Joy
This
Eid

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