

30 DAYS OF MERCY

How to have your
most rewarding
Ramadan ever!

**Your no-nonsense fast-track
guide to your most productive
Ramadan yet**

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Introduction to your 30 day Ramadan Guide

Ramadan is truly a month of blessing and mercy for all those who take part. It's not just about abstaining from food and water between the hours of sunrise to sunset, but it's also about elevating your emaan and boosting your spirituality. The Prophet SAW said:

"When the month of Ramadan starts, the gates of the heaven are opened and the gates of Hell are closed and the devils are chained."

[Bukhari]

Truly no other month in the Islamic calendar holds such mercy for the ones who take the full blessings from it. In fact, so important is this month that the Prophet SAW said:

"Cursed is the unfortunate Muslim who finds Ramadan in good health but does not use the opportunity to seek Allah's mercy."

So taking the seriousness of this hadith, the Pure Matrimony Team have prepared a simple 30 day Ramadan Guide for you, complete with duas and tips, as well as a weekly checklist you can print off and stick to your wall – simply tick off each action as you do it!

We would really encourage you to reap the full blessings of Ramadan, because only Allah SWT knows whether or not this will be your last Ramadan ever or not. We make sincere dua to Allah SWT that He accepts all of our duas and blesses us with the best of this life and the next insha'Allah ameen.

Please also keep Pure Matrimony in your duas too –when Pure Matrimony started as a concept in 2010, many people believed we could not achieve a fully halal service that is Shariah compliant and which actually works.

We're thrilled to tell you that alhamdulillah, with Allah's permission; two people find their right match every week through our service. We've worked very hard to ensure we have the right guidance at all times and adhere very strictly to the Qur'an and Sunnah.

Introduction to your 30 day Ramadan Guide (continued)

Pure Matrimony is very much committed to helping you in this life and the next which is why we work so hard to ensure we keep you educated and informed through our regular webinars, articles, videos and inspirational posts.

Don't forget to share the khair – we can only achieve so much, but thanks to the help of people just like you, we can alhamdulillah help establish marriage as a solution to so many problems in the Ummah today. So please go ahead and share our work with whoever you can, because doing so would be classed as sadaqa jaariyah for you.

May Allah SWT continue to give you and Pure Matrimony success in this life and the next – ameen.

The Pure Matrimony Team

Mercy – Compassion



First ten days (1-10) of the Blessed Month of Ramadan are the days of Mercy. So we should actively seek Allah's Mercy in these days.

Abu Sa'id al Khudri (Allah be pleased with him) reported Allah's Messenger (may peace be upon him) as saying:

"Every servant of Allah who observes fast for a day in the way of Allah, Allah would remove, because of this day, his face farther from the Fire (of Hell) to the extent of seventy years' distance."

(Sahih Muslim)

Day 1

Make sure you make time for Suhoor, it is a blessing that Allah SWT has bestowed upon us and a Sunnah of the Prophet SAW and when we take it Allah SWT and His Angels pray upon us.

Anas bin Maalik RA said that the Prophet SAW said:

"Make Suhoor because verily in As-Suhoor is Barakah (blessing)"

Dua for Suhoor:

وَبِصَوْمِ غَدٍ نَّوَيْتُ مِنْ شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ

Transliteration: Wa bisawmi ghadinn nawaiytu min shahri Ramadan

Translation: I intend to keep fast today for the month of Ramadan

Tips for Suhoor:

- If you can't eat much at Suhoor, eat some dates as this is from the Sunnah
- Milk is a great way to quench your thirst and prevent dehydration
- For fasts which are longer than 12 hours, always ensure you drink plenty of water at Suhoor time
- Avoid the feeling of severe hunger pangs early on during the day by AVOIDING refined carbs such as white bread or anything with sugar or white flour in it – instead, eat wholegrains and ALWAYS include a portion of protein such as eggs, fish, chicken or meat
- Keep thirst at bay with a cooling yogurt – especially good if you live in a hot climate

Day 1

(Continued)



Thought For The Day Ahead:

Narrated Abu Huraira (RA): The Prophet said:

"... Whoever fasts during Ramadan out of sincere faith and hoping to attain Allah's rewards, then all his past sins will be forgiven."

(Sahih Al-Bukhari)

Day 2

If a person says “SubhanAllah” (glory be to Allah) 100 times, a thousand good deeds are recorded for him and a thousand bad deeds are wiped away. Earning a 1000 good deeds and wiping away a 1000 bad deeds in minutes is easy.

Thought For Today:

The Messenger of Allah (may Allah bless him and grant him peace) addressed his companions on the last day of Sha`ban, saying, “Oh people! A great month has come over you; a blessed month; a month in which is a night better than a thousand months; month in which Allah has made it compulsory upon you to fast by day, and voluntary to pray by night. Whoever draws nearer (to Allah) by performing any of the (optional) good deeds in (this month) shall receive the same reward as performing an obligatory deed at any other time, and whoever discharges an obligatory deed in (this month) shall receive the reward of performing seventy obligations at any other time. It is the month of patience, and the reward of patience is Heaven. It is the month of charity, and a month in which a believer’s sustenance is increased. Whoever gives food to a fasting person to break his fast, shall have his sins forgiven, and he will be saved from the Fire of Hell, and he shall have the same reward as the fasting person, without his reward being diminished at all.”

[Narrated by Ibn Khuzaymah]

Dua for Iftaar:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي لَكَ صُمْتُ وَبِكَ آمَنْتُ [وَعَلَيْكَ تَوَكَّلْتُ] وَعَلَى رِزْقِكَ أَفْطَرْتُ

Transliteration: Allahumma inni laka sumtu wa bika aamantu [wa ‘alayka tawakkaltu] wa ‘ala rizq-ika aftarthu

Translation: O Allah! I fasted for You and I believe in You [and I put my trust in You] and I break my fast with Your sustenance.

[Source: Abu Dawud]

Day 3

Try praying 2 voluntary Raka'ahs 15 to 20 minutes after sunrise.

"Whoever prays Fajr salat in congregation, then sits remembering Allah until sunrise, then prays 2 Rakats of Salat has a complete reward of Hajj and Umrah."

The Prophet SAW repeated the word 'complete' 3 times for emphasis (Tirmidhi)

Tips for Fajr Prayers:

- This is the hardest of the compulsory prayers but can give you a HUGE eemaan boost and set you up for the day ahead
- Take a nap during the day – ideally between Zuhr and Asr as is the Sunnah. This will prevent excessive tiredness and make it easier to wake in the night
- Your body goes through sleep cycles of around 90 minutes each, so whatever time you want to wake in the early hours for your Suhoor/Fajr, make sure it's in cycles of 90 minutes.
 - E.g. You need to wake up at 3am, so whatever happens, you should be asleep by 12 am midnight so you complete 2 full sleep cycles
 - Waking during a sleep cycle is very difficult so ideally you want to be wake up in between cycles – so 90 minutes, 3 hours, 4.5 hours etc after you first went to sleep

Dua for Morning:

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَحْيَانَا بَعْدَ مَا أَمَاتَنَا وَإِلَيْهِ النُّشُورُ

Transliteration: Al-hamdu li-l-lâhi l-ladhî ahyânâ ba'da mâ amâtanâ wa ilayhin-nushûr

Translation: All praise is for Allah who gave us life after having taken it from us and unto Him is the resurrection

Day 4



Keep an eye out for opportunities to help your family or neighbours. Even moving obstacles from people's paths is a great reward. Abu Huraira reported that the Prophet SAW said:

"A man passed by a fallen branch in the middle of the road and said, 'By Allah, I will remove this from the path of the Muslims so that it does not inconvenience them' and he was admitted into the Garden."

Thought for The Day:

"Ramadan is the (month) in which the Qur'an was sent down, as a guide to mankind and a clear guidance and judgment (so that mankind will distinguish from right and wrong)."

(2:183)

Tips for Reading the Qur'an:

- You can easily complete the Qur'an during Ramadan – here's how:
 - Take one chapter a day and split the chapter between the prayers
 - There are 604 pages in the mushaf, meaning that if you want to complete the Qur'an in 30 days, you would need to read around 20 pages a day
 - The easy way - after each salah, make a point of reading at least 4-5 pages of the mushaf
- For the super duper busy amongst you, we suggest listening to the Qur'an WITH translation as much as possible

Day 5



During the year we tend to fall into the bad habit of shortening our Salah. Ramadan is the perfect time to change those bad habits and read those voluntary raka'ahs.

Umm Habibah Ramlah bint Abu Sufyan (RA) narrated she heard the Prophet SAW saying:

"A house will be built in Paradise for every Muslim who offers twelve units of Prayers other than the obligatory ones in day and night, to seek the pleasure of Allah."

The 12 units of optional prayer are:

- 2 Sunnah of Fajr
- 4 Sunnah and 2 Sunnah of Dhuhr
- 2 Sunnah of Maghrib
- 2 Sunnah of Isha

Thought for The Day:

Get into the habit of doing your daily dhikr – especially Istighfar because Allah's promise is that it removes hardship from you, gives you relief from poverty and increases rizq.

This story about "Istighfar" is from the life of Imam Ahmed Bin Hanbal, who is considered as a renowned scholar of Islam and a famous theologian.

During his old age, while Imam Ahmed was travelling he stopped by a town. After the prayers, he wanted to stay for the night in the Masjid yard because he didn't know anyone in the town. Owing to his humility, he hadn't introduced himself to anyone thinking that if he did, he would be welcomed by many people.

Failing to recognize Ahmed bin Hanbal, the caretaker of the mosque refused to let him stay in the mosque. As Imam Ahmed was quite old, the caretaker had to drag him out of the mosque. On seeing this, a baker from a nearby place felt pity for this man (Imam Ahmed) and offered to be the host to him for the night. During his stay with the baker, Imam Ahmed observed that the baker would constantly recite Istighfar (seeking forgiveness from Allah).

Day 5

(Continued)



Imam Ahmed asked the baker if the constant practice of saying Istighfar had any effect on him. The baker responded by telling Imam Ahmed that Allah had accepted all of his duas (supplications), except one.

When he asked him what dua was it that hadn't been accepted, the baker replied that he had been asking Allah to provide him the privilege to meet the famous scholar Imam Ahmed bin Hanbal.

On this, Imam Ahmed bin Hanbal said that Allah had not only listened to his dua but had dragged him onto his (the baker's) doorsteps.

[Summarized from Al Jumuah magazine, vol 19, issue 7]

Day 6



Iftar is only truly enjoyed when surrounded by those that you love, reminding you of the abundance of blessings in your life. Invite family and friends over for this special time of day whether it is family, relatives and friends, people at the local Masjid and especially the poor.

"Whoever provides food for breaking of the fast for a fasting person receives the reward of the fasting person, without the reward of the fasting person being reduced in any way."

[Tirmidhi and Ibn Majah]

Therefore, make an extra effort to feed as many people as you possibly can during this blessed month!

Tips for Making Your Duas Much More Powerful

Here's our top tips for making your dua count:

- Recite your duas between the adhaan and the iqama
- Duas made during the last third of the night are always answered by Allah SWT
- Increase duas during illness, rain and thunder and when travelling as your duas are more likely to be answered
- Make dua after doing a good deed
- Instantly make your duas MUCH more powerful by invoking the beautiful names of Allah SWT:

Say: "Call upon Allah or call upon the Beneficent God; whichever you call upon, He has the Best names." Say: "Invoke Allah, or invoke the Most Gracious: by whichever name you invoke Him, He is always the One -for His are all the attributes of perfection."

(Surah Al Isra 17:110)

Day 7



Use this blessed month as an opportunity to recite more of the Holy Qur'an. Be it a page after every Salah, or a page a day, try and incorporate it into your Ramadan routine.

Something that truly reflects the compassionate nature of Allah (glorified and exalted be He) is that for every letter of the holy Qur'an that we recite, we get 10 rewards! SubhanAllah, another simple yet weighty good deed that we can earn many rewards for.

Thought for The Day:

Allah SWT has made the Qur'an a mercy for mankind, and in it there are answers for EVERY single problem we can possibly think of.

Here's some of the most beautiful surahs and ayahs from the Qur'an and their virtues:

- Surah Mulk after Magrib to protect you from the trials of the grave
- First 10 ayahs of Surah Kahf to protect you from Dajjal
- Last 10 ayahs of Surah Baqarah to protect you from evil
- Surah Yasin to invoke Allah's mercy
- Surah Waqiah to protect you from poverty
- Ayatul Qursi in the morning, evening and after each Salah to protect you from all evil
- Surah TaHa to help your duas be answered

Day 8

Ramadan is the perfect time to engage with children and create positive lasting memories to be handed down to future generations, what a fantastic Sadaqah Jariyah for you!

Ramadan is a wonderful time for children to develop the life-long skill of cooking. Baking biscuits, filling samosas, peeling and chopping fruit and vegetables – these activities are all great fun and children will love learning in a hands on way. Plus, when children get to share their cooking skills with the family during Ramadan, they earn a share of the reward!

Easy Chocolate Chip Cookies



Ingredients

250g plain flour
1/2 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
170g unsalted butter, melted
200g dark brown soft sugar
100g caster sugar
1 tablespoon vanilla extract
1 egg
1 egg yolk
325g chocolate chips

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 170 C / Gas mark 3. Grease 2 baking trays
2. Sift together the flour, bicarbonate of soda and salt; set aside.
3. In a medium bowl, cream together the melted butter, brown sugar and caster sugar until fluffy.
4. Beat in the vanilla, egg and egg yolk until light and creamy.
5. Mix in the sifted ingredients until just blended.
6. Stir in the chocolate chips and mix well.
7. Drop 1tbsp of the dough at a time onto the prepared baking trays, leaving around 8cm between each cookie. Don't flatten them.
8. Bake for 15 to 17 minutes in the preheated oven, or until the edges are lightly toasted. Wait until cooled and then get your children to give them out to guests for Iftaar!

Day 9



Remember to smile! This is free of cost, but also free of ego. People underestimate the power of a simple smile.

Abu Dhar reported that the Messenger of Allah SAW said:

"Your smile to your brother is a sadaqah (charitable act) for you."

Thought for Today:

And speaking of charity, consider giving abundantly this month to as many good causes as possible in sadaqa, for verily the Prophet SAW said:

"Sadaqah extinguishes sin as water extinguishes fire."

Ahmad, Ibn Majah and Tirmidhi
The Prophet Muhammad SAW also said:

"Spend in charity and do not keep count for then Allah will also keep count in giving you provision."

[Bukhari and Muslim]

In another hadith, The Prophet Muhammad SAW said:

"Give charity without delay, for it stands in the way of calamity."

[Al-Tirmidhi]

The Prophet Muhammad SAW said:

"The believer's shade on the day of resurrection will be his sadaqah (charity)."

[Ahmad and Tirmidhi]

Day 10



When fasting, it's important to remember that it is not only the intake of food that should be monitored. All our senses must be guarded as well:

- Keep off unlawful things and objects
- Abstain from hearing unlawful gossip, lies, false statements etc
- No lies or useless tales, no spreading rumours, gossiping and no swearing
- No inflicting or injuring others, keep off haram things like cigarettes etc
- Be clean and pure in your heart – remove hatred, envy or jealousy
- No going to forbidden places, bars, cinemas or any other place that has any element of haram in it

Tips for staying patient during longer fasts:

- Busy yourself in the remembrance of Allah!
- Rush to perform good deeds that keep you busy
- Spend time during Ramadan doing things you wouldn't normally do such as visiting the sick, or doing salat-ul-tasbeeh
- Take time out to visit friends and family you haven't seen in a long time
- Listen to beneficial lectures, seminars and webinars such as the Pure Matrimony webinars which can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/PureMatrimony>
- Whatever you do, don't just sit around – make a point of reading, learning and doing as many good deeds as possible so you busy your time and don't think about the hunger or the thirst
- Avoid doing heavy work which is tiring and can make you thirsty
- This is the month of Mercy and contemplation, so avoid unnecessary stress on yourself and only do those things that bring you closer to Allah and your family

Forgiveness

The second ten days (11-20) of Ramadan are the days of Forgiveness.

So we should seek Allah's forgiveness and repent for sins in those days.

Sahl ibn Sa'd reported that the Prophet *salla Allahu alaihi wa sallam* said:

"There is a gate to Paradise that is called ar-Rayyan. On the Day of Resurrection it will say: 'Where are those who fasted?' When the last [one] has passed through the gate, it will be locked."

[al-Bukhari and Muslim]

"He who is amongst those who pray will be called from the gate of the prayer (in Paradise) and he who is from the people of Jihad will be called from the gate of Jihad, and he who is from those who give in charity (i.e. Zakat) will be called from the gate of charity, and he who is amongst those who observe fast will be called from the gate of fasting, the gate of Raiyan." Abu Bakr said, "He who is called from all those gates will need nothing," He added, "Will anyone be called from all those gates, O Allah's Apostle?" He said, "Yes, and I hope you will be among those, O Abu Bakr."

[Bukhari]

Day 11

Dua for Forgiveness:

Seek forgiveness from Allah – seeking sincere forgiveness from Allah for all your shortcomings. This increases one's humility and humbleness and makes one realize his true position as a slave, which results in the heart being delighted, subhanAllah!

The Prophet SAW said:

Indeed the major supplication for forgiveness is to say:

أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ اللَّهِمَّ أَنْتَ رَبِّي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ خَلَقْتَنِي وَأَنَا عَبْدُكَ وَأَنَا عَلَى
عَهْدِكَ وَوَعْدِكَ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُ إِنَّهُ لَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ إِلَّا أَنْ تَشْرَ مَا صَنَعْتُ أَبُوءُ
لَكَ بِنِعْمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ وَأَبُوءُ لَكَ بِذُنُوبِي فَاعْفِرْ لِي فَ

Transliteration: "Allaahumma anta rabbee, la ilaha illa anta, Khalaqtanee, wa ana abduka, wa ana ala ahdika wa wa'dika mastata'tu, a'outhu bika min sharri ma sanatu, aboo'u laka bini'matika alayya, wa aboo'u bitahmbee, faghfirlee fa'innahu la yaghfiru ath-thunooba 'illa 'anta"

Translation: "O Allah You are my Lord, there is none worthy of worship in truth except You, You created me and I am Your slave and I am abiding to Your covenant and promise as best as I can, I seek refuge in You from the evil that I have committed, I profess to you my sins and I acknowledge Your favour upon me, so forgive me verily no one forgives sins except you."

[Sahih Bukhari]

So if the worshipper says this when the morning arrives, truly believing in it and he dies enters Paradise, and if he says this when the evening arrives truly believing in it enters Paradise.

This truly is the dua of all duas for forgiveness, so ensure you say this daily!

Day 12



Help Him help you. Allah SWT promises us forgiveness in the last 1/3 of the night. This last 1/3 of the night is a gift from Allah to His servants; use this time to take advantage of Allah's mercy. He promises us that He will answer us, so all we have to do is call out to Him, azzawajall.

Thoughts for Today:

Abu Hurairah RA narrated that Allah's Messenger SAW said:

"In the last third of every night our Rabb (Cherisher and Sustainer) (Allah SWT) descends to the lowermost heaven and says; "Who is calling Me, so that I may answer him? Who is asking Me so that may I grant him? Who is seeking forgiveness from Me so that I may forgive him?"

[Sahih al-Bukhari, Hadith Qudsi]

Amr ibn Absah narrated that the Prophet said:

"The closest any worshipper can be to His Lord is during the last part of the night, so if you can be amongst those who remember Allah at that time, then do so."

[at-Tirmidhi, Sahih]

Day 13



For the person who recites 'Sub-han'allah hil azeem wa bi-ham'dihi' a date palm will be planted for him in Paradise"

[Tirmidhi]

سبحان الله العظيم وبحمده

Transliteration: Sub-han'allah hil azeem wa bi-ham'dihi

Translation: Pure and perfect is Allah in his glory and praise

Try reciting this before or after your salah, 10, 20 or even 100 times.

Day 14



Ramadan can be the best season to regain your power in salah. You can achieve the power in salah by being punctual and striving to develop khushoo'. Khushoo' means calmness and tranquility of the body and attentiveness of the mind, in the Salah.

Remember, it takes only 21 days to develop a habit. So push yourself to pray in the earliest hours of prayer, make your daily routine around your salah and insha'Allah in just about a month you will find yourself in an amazing level of spirituality.

Tips for Increasing Khushoo':

- Learn the meaning of the surahs you are reciting and concentrate on the meaning as you recite
- Remember death each time you make salah – for this in itself would naturally make your salah deeper and more meaningful
- Learn to perfect your wudhu
- Stand in salah as if it is your last – you are standing before your Lord most High, so be humble in your salah
- Make sincere dua for your family, for the ummah, for yourself and it is sunnah (some scholars have said it is wajib) to seek refuge from 4 things – Dajjal, the grave, hellfire and the trials of the day of judgement
- Crying increases khushoo' - so remember that Allah loves to forgive and seek sincere repentance for all your bad deeds. Crying out of fear of Allah SWT will insha'Allah make Allah more merciful towards you
- Those who weep in solitude in the early hours of the morning before fajr (during Tahajjud or Qiyam-ul-Layl) is most beloved by Allah

Day 15



Take some time out of each day of Ramadan to listen to a beneficial Islamic lecture. Make sure you take notes which will help you to increase your focus and gain maximum benefit from the lecture. Ask Allah to grant you beneficial knowledge that opens up the heart and fills it with happiness.

This is something you can certainly do as a family and is a beautiful way to not only learn and apply, but also use Ramadan to hopefully create a habit out of doing so.

Here's our pick of some excellent lectures that everyone should listen to (simply click on the links to listen in):

- [Finding True Happiness With Allah SWT](#)
- [What if this is my last Ramadan?](#)
- [The Love of the Messenger in relation to marriage](#)
- [10 Things you need to know before getting married](#)
- [Money - How To Earn It And How To Spend it](#)
- [The spectacle of death](#)
- [Love and mercy](#)
- [10 things you need for success in your marriage](#)

Day 16



'A good deed a day' - sit with the children while they think of lots of good deeds to do such as 'tidy my room', 'get the table ready for Iftar' or practice a surah' etc.

You will be amazed by your children's ideas. Keep going until you have 30 deeds, write them on a chart and cover them with post it notes to create your very own Ramadan advent calendar of good deeds!

Thought for The Day:

Allah SWT says:

"Those who spend their wealth (in Allah's cause) by night and day, in secret and in public, they shall have their reward with their Lord. On them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve."

[Surah Al-Baqarah 2:274]

Any good deed that a Muslim starts during his lifetime, and that is of renewed benefit and ongoing use for the Muslims, will continue to benefit him and augment his record of good deeds, even after his departure - as long as its benefits continue to reach others.

Allah, the Most High, says:

"We record that (deeds) which they have put forward and their traces (that which they have left behind)."

[Al-Qur'an 36:12]

Abu Hurayrah RA, reported that the Prophet SAW said, "When a human being dies, all of his deeds are terminated except for three types: an ongoing sadaqah, a knowledge (of Islam) from which others benefit, and a righteous child who makes dua for him." [Muslim and others]

Day 17



Here's some practical tips for maximising your Worship in these last few days!

- Even though there is an emphasis on striving hard, make sure you do not over do it because this will do more harm than good!
- Pace yourself and plan your worship carefully around daily activities
- Remember the Qur'an is your light and your guidance
- Try to ensure your relationship with the beautiful words are stronger when you leave Ramadan then they were before you entered this month
- Look after your body, because a weak body which is full of pain can't possibly worship Allah in the same way as a healthy body can...so eat lots of fresh fruit and vegetables, keep away from fried foods and sugar and get some exercise in!
- Get yourself a copy of Hisnul Muslim or Fortress of a Muslim –this is THE most indispensable dua book you will ever own!
- Complete as many optional Sunnahs as you possibly can because this will bring you closer to Allah SWT. For example, use the Miswak – a highly stressed but almost forgotten Sunnah of the Prophet SAW
- Last but not least.....ENJOY IT! Worshipping Allah can sometimes feel like a burdensome act but change your attitude and remember why you do everything you are doing and ibadaah will become easier for you

Day 18



During Ramadan the reward for reciting each letter of the Qur'an is increased significantly from up to 700 rewards for each letter to 1400 rewards for those who struggle to recite the Qur'an! – So don't worry if you find it difficult, you will be rewarded even more for your struggles.

Aa'ishah (Ra), relates that the Prophet SAW said:

"Verily the one who recites the Qur'an beautifully, smoothly, and precisely, he will be in the company of the noble and obedient angels. And as for the one who recites with difficulty, stammering or stumbling through its verses, then he will have TWICE that reward."

[Al-Bukhari]

Tips for Improving Your Recitation:

- Listen to recitations as much as possible. We use www.houseofquran.com/ which is one of the best resources we have come across for those who want to ensure their recitations are correct
- Find a Sheikh whose recitations you enjoy listening to and make a habit of listening to them on a regular basis. Not only will it help you memorize the ayahs, but it will also help you recite more clearly
- You can take tajweed classes online – simply Google them as there are so many available.
- Reciting with tajweed is wajib – when you recite without tajweed, you are in danger of changing the meaning of the words of Allah, and therefore falling into MAJOR sin – even pronouncing one vowel incorrectly can change the meaning of the word

Day 19



The secret to a productive day is taking advantage of the times that Allah SWT put barakah (blessing) in. The Prophet SAW taught us that there is barakah in the early hours of the morning.

By spending the hour before fajr in prayer, recitation of Qur'an, and in the remembrance of Allah, you will get the spiritual nourishment your body requires for that day. Just like we need to eat breakfast every morning to give us energy, the spiritual nourishment our body needs is equally important. Without it, we will not have much barakah in our time and we will find ourselves getting tired easily and not being very productive.

Thought for The Day:

Don't forget to do your dhikr after every Salah, for some scholars have declared that your Salah is incomplete without it – and Allah knows best.

"Whoever glorifies Allah (says Subhaan Allaah) thirty-three times immediately after each prayer, and praises Allah (says Al-hamdu Lillaah) thirty-three times, and magnifies Allah (says Allaahu akbar) thirty-three times, this makes ninety-nine, then to complete one hundred says Laa ilaaha ill-Allaah wahdahu laa shareeka lahu, lahu'l-mulk wa lahu'l-hamd wa huwa 'ala kulli shay'in qadeer (There is no god except Allah Alone, with no partner, His is the power and His is the praise, and He is Able to do all things) – his sins will be forgiven even if they are like the foam of the sea."

[Muslim]

Day 20



If you really want your hasanat (reward from good deeds) to soar during Ramadan, make a sincere intention for every little task you perform. When we make a sincere intention before performing these normal everyday tasks, they transform into ibadat and we get rewarded for them

Abdullah ibn `Amr reported that the Messenger of Allah SAW, said:

"The fast and the Qur'an are two intercessors for the servant of Allah on the Day of Resurrection. The fast will say: 'O Lord, I prevented him from his food and desires during the day. Let me intercede for him.' The Qur'an will say: 'I prevented him from sleeping at night. Let me intercede for him.' And their intercession will be accepted."

[Ahmad]

Abu Umamah reported:

"I came to the Messenger of Allah and said: 'Order me to do a deed that will allow me to enter Paradise.' He said: 'Stick to fasting, as there is no equivalent to it.' Then I came to him again and he said: 'Stick to fasting.'"

[Ahmad, an-Nasa'i, and al-Hakim]

Salvation

The last ten days (21-30) of Ramadan are to seek Refuge in Allah from the Hellfire. The Prophet (peace be upon him) used to strive hard (in worship) during the last ten days of Ramadan in a way that he did not strive at any other times. [Muslim]

The last 10 days of Ramadan are also the days which contain Laytul-Qadr or the Night of Power – the night which is better than a thousand months and is hidden in the odd nights of the last ten days and moves from year to year.

It was narrated from ‘Aa’ishah (may Allaah be pleased with her) that the Messenger of Allaah SAW said:

“Seek Laylat ul-Qadr among the odd numbered nights of the last ten nights of Ramadan.”

[Bukhari and Muslim]

The reason why it is hidden is to encourage the Muslim to strive hard in worship, dua and dhikr during all the last ten nights of Ramadaan. Also, it’s worth noting that the reason why many Muslims do Laylat ul-Qadr on the 27th night is because during the Prophet SAW lifetime, it happened more times on the 27th night than any of the other nights.

The Prophet SAW have us signs that would indicate which night is Laylat ul-Qadr:

- The night will be peaceful, neither hot nor cold
- The sky will be clear with very little clouds
- The moon will be shining like a plate of silver
- There will be no shooting stars in the night
- At sunrise the sun will rise without any rays

Day 21



Time is of the essence. Every moment counts. Whatever you do for the next ten days to make the most in Ibadah, the rewards for your actions are going to be multiplied.

Abu Hurairah reported that the Prophet SAW said:

"The time between the five prayers, two consecutive Friday Prayers, and two consecutive Ramadans are expiations for all that has happened during that period, provided that one has avoided the grave (major) sins."

[Muslim]

In another hadith, the Messenger of SAW says:

"Ramadan has come to you. (It is) a month of blessing, in which Allah covers you with blessing, for He sends down Mercy, decreases sins and answers prayers. In it, Allah looks at your competition (in good deeds), and boasts about you to His angels. So show Allah goodness from yourselves, for the unfortunate one is he who is deprived in (this month) of the mercy of Allah, the Mighty, the Exalted."

[Narrated by Tabarani]

Thought for The Day:

Perform I'tikaf! It is one of the most beloved of act of Ibadah during Ramadan and an action that the Prophet SAW never abandoned during his lifetime. It is a spiritual retreat done in seclusion away from the dunya and is usually performed during the last ten days of Ramadan.

Aishah (RA) reported that the Prophet SAW used to perform i'tikaf in the last ten days of Ramadan until Allah the Mighty & Majestic, took him.

[Bukhari & Muslim]

*Abu Said reported that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said:
"Whoever makes I'tikaf with me is to make I'tikaf during the last ten [nights]."*

[Bukhari]

Day 22



Schedule and monitor daily worship. What better way to maximise our worship during the last 10 days of Ramadan than to plan and schedule our time so that we can spend it as effectively as possible. By setting ourselves daily targets we can ensure that we are more likely to achieve them.

Thought for The Day:

The Prophet Muhammad SAW demonstrated to his followers the pleasures of sharing as opposed to over-indulgence in the good things of life. The sharing of food with neighbours, relatives, friends, the needy, and the destitute is emphasized. Ibn Abbas (May Allah be pleased with him) reported that he heard the Messenger of Allah SAW saying:

"He is not a believer who eats to his fill but his neighbour goes without food."

[Sahih Bukhari]

The Prophet Muhammad SAW elaborated on the duty of the Muslim to suppress greed, especially in eating. This appears in a very specific situation reported by Ibn Umar, in which the Prophet SAW prohibited anyone taking two dates together before asking permission from his companions.

[Sahih Bukhari]

Day 23



We should increase our recitation even more during the last ten days and nights. The pious predecessors used to increase the amount of Qur'an they recited during the last ten days and nights.

You should try and aim to complete the Qur'an at least once if not more by the end of the last 10 days of Ramadan. Along with recitation we should also read and learn the meanings of the Qur'an. We should contemplate and ponder over the verses and implement what we read and learn into our daily lives

Tip – Seeking Forgiveness Using Salah-ul-Tasbih:

It is recorded in Sunan Abi Dawud and other books of hadith that the Prophet SAW once said to his uncle Hadrat `Abbas RA:

“O Abbas! O my uncle! Shall I not give you a gift? Shall I not show you something by means of which Allah Ta`ala will forgive your sins, the first and the last of them, the past and recent, the unintentional and the intentional, the small and huge, the secret and open?”

The Prophet SAW then taught him the Salah al-Tasbih. Furthermore he advised him that it be offered daily, if possible. If not then every Friday or once a month or once a year or at least once in one's life time.

Salah al-Tasbih consists of 4 raka`at. It can be performed any time of the day or night except at the *makruh* times.

The following tasbih is recited seventy-five times in each rak`ah totalling 300 in the 4 raka`at.

سبحان الله والحمد لله و لا اله الا الله والله اكبر

Subhaanallaahi walhamdu lillaahi walaa ilaaha illallaahu wallaahu akbar

Day 23

(Continued)



The method of this salah is as follows:

- After beginning the salah by saying Allah-u-Akbar recite the thana , Sura al-Fatiha and a Sura followed by the above tasbih 15 times.
- Then go into Ruku and after reciting the usual tasbih for ruku` recite the above tasbih 10 times.
- After standing up from ruku` recite the usual Rabbana Lakal Hamd and thereafter recite the tasbih 10 times.
- Then go into Sajda and after reciting the usual tasbih for sajda recite the above tasbih 10 times.
- Then sit up from sajda and recite the tasbih 10 times between the two sajdas.
- Thereafter go into sajda again and after reciting the usual tasbih for sajda recite the above tasbih 10 times.
- Then sit after the 2nd sajda (i.e. before standing up for the second rak`ah) and recite the tasbih 10 times.

Day 24



As we approach the end of the month of Mercy, it's time to look back and reflect on all you have accomplished in terms of your worship over these last few weeks.

The question now becomes this: 'what will YOU take with you to your grave from now on?' In other words, which action or good deed which you implemented during Ramadan will you continue taking with you throughout your life from now on?

Maybe it's daily dhikr, or sleeping with wudhu, or waking for Qiyyamul-layl. Perhaps you will stop doing something you used to do such as give up back-biting or foul language.

Whatever it is, don't become a 'Ramadan Muslim' – the kind that only do good deeds during the Holy month and then go back to their ways once it's finished. True piety comes from being humble and accepting and submitting to Allah, no matter how hard it is.

Thought for The Day:

Abu Huraira reported: The Messenger of Allah SAW said:

"Allah has ninety-nine names, and whoever preserves them will enter Paradise."
[Sahih Muslim]

If you learn just three names of Allah each day, it will take you 33 days to learn! If you want to complete them during Ramadan, learn 3-4 names per day insha'Allah.

We've included the most beautiful names of Allah in a separate guide for you, so please take your time to go through them insha'Allah!

Day 25

We should increase our remembrance of Allah during the last 10 days of Ramadan, keeping our lips moist in his glorification and praises.

Here's some of the best dhikr you can do... Try and aim to recite each of these as many times as you possibly can – and don't limit yourself by counting them.

You can recite them whilst sitting, standing, driving, and working – remember Allah at every opportunity you possibly can!

1.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

Allahumma innaka 'afuwwun tuhibbul 'afwa fa'fu 'annee

Recite this abundantly during the last ten nights of Ramadan:

Aisha, may Allah be pleased with her, said:

I asked the Messenger of Allah SAW: "O Messenger of Allah, if I know what night is the night of Qadr, what should I say during it?"

He (The Prophet SAW) said:

"Say: O Allah, You are pardoning and You love to pardon, so pardon me."

[Ahmad, Ibn Majah, and Tirmidhi]

2.

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ

Subhaan'Allah (Glorified is Allah)

3.

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ

Alhamdulillah (all praises belong to Allah)

4.

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ

Allahu Akbar (Allah is great)

5.

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

Laa ilaaha ill Allah (there is no God but Allah)

6.

أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ

Astagfirullah (I seek forgiveness from the Almighty)

Day 26



Worshipping Allah, Our Creator, is the only way our hearts will truly be content. We know this but do we truly act upon it? If we really believed this then we would do whatever it takes to serve Him because every human being living in this world wants to be happy! So if you knew the secret to a happy heart, what's stopping you from being the happiest person in the world? The answer is yourself! It is your desires that will try and take a hold of you especially now in the last 10 nights so, believer of Allah don't give in and be a master of these desires so you can secure true happiness for yourself and others around you.

Reminder!

If you haven't already, make sure you pay your Zakat-ul-fitr!

Zakat ul-Fitr is sometimes referred to as Sadaqat ul-Fitr. The word Fitr means the same as Iftar, breaking a fast and it comes from the same root word as Futur which means breakfast. It is basically the name given to charity which is distributed at the end of the fast of Ramadhan and is compulsory upon Muslims.

The main purpose of Zakat ul-Fitr is to provide those who fasted with the means of making up for their errors during the month of fasting. Zakat ul-Fitr also provides the poor with a means with which they can celebrate the festival of breaking the fast ('Eid ul-Fitr) along with the rest of the Muslims.

Ibn Abbas reported, "The Prophet sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam made Zakat ul-Fitr compulsory so that those who fasted may be purified of their idle deeds and shameful talk (committed during Ramadhan) and so that the poor may be fed. Whoever gives it before Salah will have it accepted as Zakat, while he who gives it after the Salah has given Sadaqat."

[Abu Dawud]

Day 27

Laylat ul-Qadr (the Night of Power) is described in the Qur'an as, 'better than a thousand months' (97:3). Any action done on this night such as reciting the Quran, remembering Allah, etc. is better than acting for one thousand months which do not contain the night of Qadr. Allah's Messenger SAW used to exert himself in devotion during the last ten nights to a greater extent than at any other time.

[Muslim]

The Prophet SAW said:

"Whoever prays during the night of Qadr with faith and hoping for its reward will have all of his previous sins forgiven."

[Bukhari and Muslim recorded from Abu Huraira]

One of the best duas that can be recited on Laylat al-Qadr is that which the Prophet SAW taught 'A'ishah (may Allah be pleased with her). It was narrated by al-Tirmidhi, who classed it as saheeh, that 'A'ishah said:

'I said: "O Messenger of Allah, If I know which night is Laylat al-Qadr, what should I say?"

He said: "Say: *Allahumma innaka 'afuwwun tuhibb al-'afwa fa'fu 'anni*"

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

(O Allah, You are All-Forgiving and You love forgiveness so forgive me)

Tips for Making Laylat ul-Qadr Productive:

- Recite Qur'an abundantly
- Make plenty of dua
- Avoid idle chit chat with anyone and increase dhikr
- Complete as many optional acts of worship as possible
- Read Salat-ul-tasbeeh on every odd night
- Pray all your Salah in congregation to increase your reward if you aren't already doing so

Day 28



Many of us rush our duas and quite often our hearts are not present whilst we are making dua to Allah. That is why we lose out on much of the benefits and blessings of Dua.

Therefore we should not let our minds wonder whilst in dua, we should concentrate more, making sure our hearts are present when asking of Allah. Whilst we are in dua we should imagine Almighty Allah in front of us and so we should humble ourselves in front of Him in a state of meekness and humility.

What better opportunity to make long and sincere duas to Allah than in the last 10 days and nights of Ramadan. If we make dua every night then we may be lucky enough to have made dua in the night of power where all duas are accepted.

The times when duas are most accepted during the last 10 days are:

- The third portion of the night shortly before suhoor ends
- Whilst fasting
- Between Asr and Maghrib
- Just before fast opens
- On Jumma before and after khutba
- Between Adhan and Iqamah
- After Qur'an recitation
- The Night of Qadr
- Whilst it is raining

Day 29



The day of Eid is almost here, so don't spoil or undo all your hard work by going back to your old ways.

Make sincere dua and ask Allah to help guide you throughout your life. As long as you remain steadfast in enjoining in good, forbidding evil and hold fast to the 5 pillars of Islam, then Insha'Allah the fire of hell will be forbidden for you!

Thought for the Day: Benefit of Surah Mulk

This is one of the most out-standing of Surahs in the entire Qur'an. It literally takes minutes to read and has the following virtues:

Ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with them) narrates that the Messenger of Allah SAW said:

"It is a protector; a rescuer; saving from the chastisement of the grave."
[At-Tirmidhi and Al-Hakim]

Abu Hurayra (RA) reports that the Prophet SAW said:

"Verily there is a Surah in the Qur'aan which has 30 Aayats. It had interceded for a person till he was forgiven. That Surah is 'Tabaaraka llaahiy biyadihil mulk'."
[Tirmidhi]

Ibn Mas'ood (RA) is reported to have said:

"A man will be approached in his grave from his legs and from his chest and then from his head. And each time this Surah will defend him by saying, 'You cannot do anything to him, he used to recite Surah Mulk'"

Day 30



Today is sadly the last day of Ramadan (it could also have been yesterday!) and we make sincere dua that Allah SWT accepts our fasting from us all ameen and accepts our good deeds and efforts ameen.

We also make a LOT of dua during this last week that Allah SWT gives us the sincerity, strength and patience to continue with the good work we have done during this month ameen.

Thought For The Day:

This is your last chance to get as much reward possible by doing as many good deeds as you can. You can still give to charity, do your extra Sunnahs, extra dhikr and finish the Qur'an if you haven't already done so!

Conclusion

We hope you have benefited enormously from this Ramadan guide which was designed to be practical and easy to follow with daily inspirational reminders and tips to help you get the most from Ramadan.

Ramadan is a time for increasing our reward and our good deeds and also sharing these with the people we love – our parents, siblings, families and our spouse.

At Pure Matrimony, we're working hard to ensure you have all the tools you need to attain Jannah, but as with everything in life, you can't achieve something amazing without putting in the hard work and effort!

The same goes for our daily lives in anything we do – if you fail to put the effort in, you won't get the results you wanted!

Ramadan is truly a month of mercy and enlightenment and we want to help you continue the good work by completing half of your Deen insha'Allah. If you are already married, your aim should be in perfecting half of your Deen with your spouse to make it easy for you to attain Jannah insha'Allah.

That's why we offer practical webinars, videos, articles and guides like this to help you along the way.

And if you are looking to get married, then Pure Matrimony is the perfect place to find your ideal practicing soul mate insha'Allah!

We help several people every week get married through Pure Matrimony in a halal environment. No one knows better than us that when two people who are firm upon the Deen come together for the sake of Allah and for the sake of marriage, then Allah SWT blesses them and future generations of Muslims to be strong, upright and contributing members of society.

A strong, happy marriage between two practicing people produces stable, content and productive children who are headstrong in the Deen.

This is why it's crucial to marry the right person so that you can perpetuate Islam in a positive way and prevent the breakdown of society – a problem that is unfortunately very common in today's world.

So, to help you find the right person, we have an awesome deal for you, so you can see for yourself exactly what Pure Matrimony is all about – all you need to do is register at www.PureMatrimony.com

We ask Allah SWT to forgive us if we have made any errors in this guide and to reward the Pure Matrimony team for all the hard work and effort they have put into producing this for you! May Allah accept it from all of us, and may He accept all your efforts in wanting to perfect your Ramadan ameen.

Sincerely,

The Pure Matrimony Team

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