

Sermon of Rasool Allah^(saww) on Merits of the Month of Ramazaan

حَدَّثَنَا مُحَمَّدُ بْنُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ رَجَمَهُ اللَّهُ قَالَ حَدَّثَنَا أَحْمَدُ بْنُ مُحَمَّدٍ الْهَمْدَانِيُّ قَالَ حَدَّثَنَا عَلِيُّ بْنُ الْحَسَنِ بْنِ فَضَّالٍ عَنْ أَبِيهِ عَنْ أَبِي الْحَسَنِ عَلِيِّ بْنِ مُوسَى الرَّضَا عَنْ أَبِيهِ مُوسَى بْنِ جَعْفَرٍ عَنْ أَبِيهِ الصَّادِقِ جَعْفَرِ بْنِ مُحَمَّدٍ عَنْ أَبِيهِ الْبَاقِرِ مُحَمَّدِ بْنِ عَلِيٍّ عَنْ أَبِيهِ زَيْنِ الْعَابِدِينَ عَلِيِّ بْنِ الْحُسَيْنِ عَنْ أَبِيهِ سَيِّدِ الشُّهَدَاءِ الْحُسَيْنِ بْنِ عَلِيٍّ عَنْ أَبِيهِ سَيِّدِ الْوَصِيِّينَ أَمِيرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَلِيِّ بْنِ أَبِي طَالِبٍ قَالَ: إِنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ص خَطَبَنَا ذَاتَ يَوْمٍ

Muhammad Bin Ibrahim narrated to us saying, 'Ahmad Bin Muhammad Al Hamdany narrated to us saying, 'Ali Bin Al Hasan Bin Fazzal narrated to us, from his father,

(It has been narrated) from Abu Al-Hassan Ali^{asws} Bin Musa Al-Reza^{asws}, from his^{asws} father^{asws} Musa^{asws} Bin Ja'far^{asws}, from his^{asws} father^{asws} Al-Sadiq Ja'far^{asws} Bin Muhammad^{asws}, from his^{asws} father^{asws} Al-Baqir Muhammad^{asws} Bin Ali^{asws}, from his^{asws} father^{asws} Zayn Al-Abideen Ali^{asws} Bin Al-Husayn^{asws}, from his^{asws} father^{asws} Syed Al-Shohada Al-Husayn^{asws} Bin Ali^{asws}, from his^{asws} father^{asws} the Chief of the successors^{as} Amir Al-Momineen Ali^{asws} Bin Abu Talib^{asws} having said that Rasool-Allah^{saww} addressed with a sermon one day, so he^{saww} said:

فَقَالَ أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّهُ قَدْ أَقْبَلَ إِلَيْكُمْ شَهْرُ اللَّهِ بِالْبِرْكَاتِ وَالرَّحْمَةِ وَالْمَغْفِرَةِ شَهْرٌ هُوَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَفْضَلُ الشُّهُورِ وَأَيَّامُهُ أَفْضَلُ الْأَيَّامِ وَ لَيَالِيهِ أَفْضَلُ اللَّيَالِيِ وَ سَاعَاتُهُ أَفْضَلُ السَّاعَاتِ هُوَ شَهْرٌ دُعِينُمْ فِيهِ إِلَى ضِيَاقَةِ اللَّهِ وَ جُعِلْتُمْ فِيهِ مِنْ أَهْلِ كَرَامَةِ اللَّهِ إِنَّفَاسَكُمْ فِيهِ تَسْبِيحٌ وَ نُومٌ فِيهِ عِبَادَةٌ وَ عَمَلَكُمْ فِيهِ مَقْبُولٌ وَ دُعَاؤُكُمْ فِيهِ مُسْتَجَابٌ

'O you people! A Month of Allah^{azwj} has come towards you with the Blessings, and the Mercy. A Month which, in the Presence of Allah^{azwj}, is the most superior of the months, and its days are the most superior of the days, and its nights are the most superior of the nights, and its moments are the most superior of the moments. It is a Month in which you are invited to be the guests of Allah^{azwj} and in it you are Made to be among the prestigious people of Allah^{azwj}. Your breathing during it is Glorification, and your sleep during it is (an act of) worship, and your deeds during it are Accepted, and your supplications during it are Answered.

فَاسْأَلُوا اللَّهَ رَبَّكُمْ بِنِيَّاتٍ صَادِقَةٍ وَ قُلُوبٍ طَاهِرَةٍ أَنْ يُوفِّقَكُمْ لِصِيَامِهِ وَ تِلَاوَةِ كِتَابِهِ فَإِنَّ الشَّقِيَّ مَنْ حُرِمَ غُفْرَانَ اللَّهِ فِي هَذَا الشَّهْرِ الْعَظِيمِ وَ الذَّكْرُ بِجُوعِكُمْ وَ عَطَشِكُمْ فِيهِ جُوعٌ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَ عَطَشُهُ

Therefore, ask your Lord^{azwj} with sincere intentions and clean hearts that He^{azwj} would Bestow success for its Fasts, and the recitation of His^{azwj} Book, for the most unfortunate one is the one who is deprived of the Forgiveness of Allah^{azwj} during this Magnificent Month, and Remind you by your hunger and your thirst, the hunger of the Day of Judgement and its thirst.

وَ تَصَدَّقُوا عَلَى فَقْرَائِكُمْ وَ مَسَاكِينِكُمْ وَ وَقَرُوا كِبَارَكُمْ وَ ارْحَمُوا صِغَارَكُمْ وَ صَلُّوا أَرْحَامَكُمْ وَ اخْفَظُوا أَلْسِنَتَكُمْ وَ غَضُّوا عَمَّا لَا يَجِلُّ النَّظَرُ إِلَيْهِ أَبْصَارَكُمْ وَ عَمَّا لَا يَجِلُّ الْإِسْتِمَاعُ إِلَيْهِ أَسْمَاعَكُمْ وَ تَحَنَّنُوا عَلَى أَيِّتَامِ النَّاسِ يُنَحِّنَنَّ عَلَى أَيِّتَامِكُمْ

And give charity upon your needy ones and the poor ones, and revere your elders, and be merciful upon your young ones, and maintain good relations with your relatives, and preserve your tongues, and lower your gazes from what is not Permissible to look towards with your vision, and from what is not Permissible to listen to with your hearing,

and be sympathetic upon the orphans of the people (so that) your orphans would be sympathised with.

وَتُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ مِنْ ذُنُوبِكُمْ وَارْفَعُوا إِلَيْهِ أَيْدِيَكُمْ بِالْأَدْعَاءِ فِي أَوْقَاتِ صَلَاتِكُمْ فَإِنَّهَا أَفْضَلُ السَّاعَاتِ يَنْظُرُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ فِيهَا بِالرَّحْمَةِ إِلَى عِبَادِهِ يُجِيبُهُمْ إِذَا نَادَوْهُ وَيُلْتَبِئُهُمْ إِذَا نَادَوْهُ وَيُعْطِيهِمْ إِذَا سَأَلُوهُ وَيَسْتَجِيبُ لَهُمْ إِذَا دَعَوْهُ

And repent to Allah^{azwj} from your sins, and raise your hands towards Him^{azwj} with the supplication during the timings of your Prayers, for these are the most superior of the moments in which Allah^{azwj} Mighty and Majestic Considers with the Mercy towards His^{azwj} servants, Answers them when they whisper to Him^{azwj}, Responds to them when they call out to Him^{azwj}, and Grants them when they ask Him^{azwj}, Answering them when they supplicate to Him^{azwj}.

أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّ أَنْفُسَكُمْ مَرْهُونَةٌ بِأَعْمَالِكُمْ فَكُفُّوا بِاسْتِعْفَارِكُمْ وَظُهُورِكُمْ تَقَبُّلَةً مِنْ أَوْزَارِكُمْ فَحَفِّفُوا عَنْهَا بِطَوْلِ سُجُودِكُمْ وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ تَعَالَى ذَكَرَهُ أَقْسَمَ بِعِزَّتِهِ أَنْ لَا يُعَذِّبَ الْمُصَلِّينَ وَالسَّاجِدِينَ وَأَنْ لَا يُرَوِّعَهُمْ بِالنَّارِ يَوْمَ يَقُومُ النَّاسُ لِرَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

O you people! Pledge yourselves to your deeds, therefore free them with your seeking of Forgiveness; and your backs are heavy from your burdens (sins), so lighten these from them by prolonging your prostrations. And know that Allah^{azwj}, Exalted is His^{azwj} Mention, has Sworn by His^{azwj} Honour that He^{azwj} will not Punish the praying ones and the prostrating ones, and would not be Horrifying them with the Fire on the Day the people would be standing to the Lord^{azwj} of the worlds.

أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ مَنْ فَطَرَ مِنْكُمْ صَائِمًا مُؤْمِنًا فِي هَذَا الشَّهْرِ كَانَ لَهُ بِذَلِكَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ عِنَقٌ نَسَمَةٍ وَ مَغْفِرَةٌ لِمَا مَضَى مِنْ ذُنُوبِهِ

O you people! The one from you who provides for the breaking of a Fast of a Believer during this Month, for him would be, due to that, in the Presence of Allah^{azwj}, an emancipation of a person, and Forgiveness for what has passed from his sins’.

قَبِيلَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَ لَيْسَ كُلُّنَا يَقْدِرُ عَلَى ذَلِكَ فَقَالَ ص اتَّقُوا النَّارَ وَ لَوْ بِشِقِّ تَمْرَةٍ اتَّقُوا النَّارَ وَ لَوْ بِشَرْبَةِ مِنْ مَاءٍ أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ مَنْ حَسَّنَ مِنْكُمْ فِي هَذَا الشَّهْرِ خُلِقَهُ كَانَ لَهُ جَوَازٌ عَلَى الصِّرَاطِ يَوْمَ تَزُلُ فِيهِ الْأَقْدَامُ وَ مَنْ حَفَّفَ فِي هَذَا الشَّهْرِ عَمَّا مَلَكَتْ يَمِينُهُ حَفَّفَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ حِسَابَهُ

So it was said, ‘O Rasool-Allah^{saww}! And all of us are not able upon that’. So he^{saww} said: ‘Fear the Fire, and even if it is by (providing) a part of a date! Fear the Fire, and even if it is by (providing) a drink of water! O you people! The one from you who improves his manners during this Month, would have a permit for him upon the Bridge, the Day in which the feet would waver. The one who is lenient in this Month, upon what his right hand possesses, Allah^{azwj} would be Lenient upon him in his Reckoning.

وَ مَنْ كَفَّ فِيهِ شَرُّهُ كَفَّ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ غَضَبَهُ يَوْمَ يَلْقَاهُ وَ مَنْ أَكْرَمَ فِيهِ يَتِيمًا أَكْرَمَهُ اللَّهُ يَوْمَ يَلْقَاهُ وَ مَنْ وَصَلَ فِيهِ رَحِمَهُ وَصَلَهُ اللَّهُ بِرَحْمَتِهِ يَوْمَ يَلْقَاهُ وَ مَنْ قَطَعَ فِيهِ رَحِمَهُ قَطَعَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ رَحْمَتَهُ يَوْمَ يَلْقَاهُ

And the one who restrains his evil during this Month, Allah^{azwj} would Restrain His^{azwj} Anger on the Day he meets Him^{azwj}; and the one who honours an orphan during it, Allah^{azwj} would Honour him of the Day he Meets Him^{azwj}; and the one who maintains his

relationships during it, Allah^{azwj} would Maintain His^{azwj} Mercy (upon him) on the Day he Meets Him^{azwj}; and the one who cuts-off his relationships during it, Allah^{azwj} would Cut-off from him.

وَمَنْ تَطَوَّعَ فِيهِ بِصَلَاةٍ كَتَبَ اللَّهُ لَهُ بِرَاءَةً مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَنْ أَدَى فِيهِ فَرَضًا كَانَ لَهُ ثَوَابٌ مِمَّنْ أَدَى سَبْعِينَ فَرِيضَةً فِيمَا سِوَاهُ مِنَ الشُّهُورِ وَمَنْ أَكْثَرَ فِيهِ مِنَ الصَّلَوَاتِ عَلَيَّ نَقَلَ اللَّهُ مِيزَانَهُ يَوْمَ تَخْفُ الْمَوَازِينُ وَمَنْ تَلَا فِيهِ آيَةً مِنَ الْقُرْآنِ كَانَ لَهُ مِثْلُ أَجْرِ مَنْ حَتَمَ الْقُرْآنَ فِي غَيْرِهِ مِنَ الشُّهُورِ

And the one who volunteers during it with a Prayer, Allah^{azwj} would Write for him freedom from the Fire; and the one who fulfils an Obligatory (Prayer) during it would have the Rewards for him of seventy Obligatory (Prayers) than those which are from other months; and the one who frequents the sending of the *Salawat* upon me^{asws} during it, Allah^{azwj} Make his scale to be heavy on the Day in which the scales would be light; and the one who recites a Verse from the Quran during it would have for him the likes of the Recompense of the one who completed the (recitation of the whole) Quran in others months.

أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّ أَبْوَابَ الْجَنَّةِ فِي هَذَا الشَّهْرِ مُفْتَحَةٌ فَاسْأَلُوا رَبَّكُمْ أَنْ لَا يُغْلِقَهَا عَلَيْكُمْ وَ الشَّيَاطِينِ مَغْلُوبَةٌ فَاسْأَلُوا رَبَّكُمْ أَنْ لَا يُسَلِّطَهَا عَلَيْكُمْ

O you people! The Doors of the Gardens are open during this Month, therefore ask your Lord^{azwj} that He^{azwj} should not Lock them upon you; and the Doors of the Fires are Locked, therefore ask your Lord^{azwj} that He^{azwj} should not Open them upon you; and the devils^{la} are chained, therefore ask your Lord^{azwj} that He^{azwj} should not Let them^{la} overcome upon you'.

قَالَ أَمِيرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ ع فَقُمْتُ فَقُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ مَا أَفْضَلُ الْأَعْمَالِ فِي هَذَا الشَّهْرِ فَقَالَ يَا أَبَا الْحَسَنِ أَفْضَلُ الْأَعْمَالِ فِي هَذَا الشَّهْرِ الْوَرَعُ عَنِ مَحَارِمِ اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ ثُمَّ بَكَى فَقُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ مَا يُبْكِيكَ فَقَالَ يَا عَلِيُّ أَلْبَسِي لِمَا يُسْتَحَلُّ مِنْكَ فِي هَذَا الشَّهْرِ كَانِي بِكَ وَأَنْتَ تُصَلِّي لِرَبِّكَ وَقَدْ أَنْبَعْتَ أَشْقَى الْأَوْلِيَيْنِ وَالْآخِرِينَ شَفِيقٌ عَاقِرٍ نَاقَةٍ تَمُودُ فَضْرَبَكَ ضَرْبَةً عَلَى قَرْنِكَ فَخَضَبَ مِنْهَا لِحْيَتَكَ

Amir Al-Momineen^{asws} said: 'So I^{asws} stood up, and I^{asws} said: 'O Rasool-Allah^{saww}! What are the most superior of the deeds during this Month?' So he^{saww} said: 'The abstinence from the Prohibitions of Allah^{azwj} Mighty and Majestic'. Then he^{saww} cried, so I^{asws} said: 'O Rasool-Allah^{saww}! What makes you^{saww} weep?' So he^{saww} said: 'O Ali^{asws}! I^{saww} cry upon what they (people) would be permitting regarding you^{asws} during this Month. It is as if I^{saww} am with you^{asws}, and you^{asws} are Praying to your^{asws} Lord^{azwj}, and he has been sent, the one who is the most wretched of the former ones and the later ones, more wretched than the slayer of the she-camel of Samoud, so he strikes with a strike upon your^{asws} head, so your^{asws} beard gets dyed from it due to that'.

قَالَ أَمِيرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ ع قُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَ ذَلِكَ فِي سَلَامَةٍ مِنْ دِينِي فَقَالَ فِي سَلَامَةٍ مِنْ دِينِكَ ثُمَّ قَالَ ص يَا عَلِيُّ مَنْ قَتَلَكَ فَقَدْ قَتَلَنِي وَمَنْ أَبْغَضَكَ فَقَدْ أَبْغَضَنِي وَمَنْ سَبَّكَ فَقَدْ سَبَّنِي لِأَنَّكَ لِمَنِّي كَنَفْسِي رُوحُكَ مِنْ رُوحِي وَ طِينَتُكَ مِنْ طِينَتِي إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَبَارَكَ وَ تَعَالَى خَلَقَنِي وَ إِيَّاكَ وَ اصْطَفَانِي وَ إِيَّاكَ وَ اخْتَارَنِي لِلنُّبُوَّةِ وَ اخْتَارَكَ لِلْإِمَامَةِ فَمَنْ أَنْكَرَ إِمَامَتَكَ فَقَدْ أَنْكَرَ نُبُوتِي

Amir Al-Momineen^{asws} says 'I^{asws} asked: 'O Rasool-Allah^{saww}! And during that my^{asws} Religion would be intact?' So he^{saww} said: 'In safety would be your^{asws} Religion'. Then he^{saww} said: 'O Ali^{asws}! The one who kills you^{asws}, so he has killed me^{saww}, and the one who angers you^{asws}, so he has angered me^{saww}, and the one who insults you^{asws}, so he has insulted me^{saww}, because you^{asws} are from me^{saww} like my^{saww} own self is. Your^{asws} soul is my^{saww} soul, and your^{asws} essence is from my^{saww} essence. Allah^{azwj} Blessed and High Created me^{saww} and you^{asws}, and Chose me^{saww} and you^{asws}, and Chose me^{saww} for the Prophet-hood and Chose you^{asws} for the Imamate. Thus, the one who denies your^{asws} Imamate, so he has denied my^{saww} Prophet-hood'.

يَا عَلِيُّ أَنْتَ وَصِيِّي وَ أَبُو وُلْدِي وَ زَوْجُ ابْنَتِي وَ خَلِيفَتِي عَلَيَّ أُمَّتِي فِي حَيَاتِي وَ بَعْدَ مَوْتِي أَمْرُكَ أَمْرِي وَ نَهْيُكَ نَهْيِي أَقْسَمُ بِالَّذِي بَعَثَنِي بِالنُّبُوَّةِ وَ جَعَلَنِي خَيْرَ الْبَرِيَّةِ إِنَّكَ لِحُجَّةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيَّ خَلْفَهُ وَ أَمِينُهُ عَلَيَّ سِرَّهُ وَ خَلِيفَتُهُ عَلَيَّ عِبَادِهِ.

O Ali^{asws}! You^{asws} are my^{saww} successor^{asws}, and a father^{asws} of my^{saww} two (grand) sons^{asws}, and husband of my^{saww} daughter^{asws}, and my^{asws} Caliph in my^{saww} community during my^{saww} lifetime and after my^{saww} passing away, and, your^{asws} forbidding is my^{saww} forbidding. I^{saww} swear by the One^{azwj} Whom Sent me^{saww} with the Prophet-hood, and Made me^{saww} to be the best of the Created beings, you^{asws} are the Proof of Allah^{azwj} upon His^{azwj} creatures, and His^{azwj} Trustee upon His^{azwj} Secrets, and His^{azwj} Caliph upon His^{azwj} servants'.¹

¹ (ابن بابويه، محمد بن علي، الأُمالي (للصدوق) - تهران، چاپ: ششم، 1376ش.).