

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

*In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful*

# Submitters Perspective

Monthly Bulletin of International  
Community of Submitters

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## RAMADAN

### *The month of Thanksgiving*

**Ramadan** (also spelled as ramadhan, ramazan, so on) is the ninth lunar month in the Islamic calendar. Muslims (Submitters) all over the world fast each day of this month from dawn to the sunset.

Contrary to what many people believe, fasting did not start with Muhammad, or any other practices of Islam. They all started with prophet Abraham. All the messengers and prophets who followed Abraham, including Moses and Jesus, observed these religious practices. They were also called Submitters. (2:132, 7:126, 10:84, 51:36...)

Therefore, Muhammad was not the founder of Islam (Submission). He was a follower of Abraham to

whom God taught the religious duties the Submitters practice today (2:128). Muhammad's role was to deliver the Quran to mankind, and purify the message and the practices of religion distorted by the idol worshippers.

The Submitters believe and respect all God's scriptures. They also believe in all messengers of God, and do not make distinction among them.

*Say, "We believe in GOD, and in what was sent down to us, and in what was sent down to Abraham, Ismail, Isaac, Jacob, and the Patriarchs, and in what was given to Moses, Jesus, and the prophets from their Lord. We make no distinction among any of them. To*

*Him alone we are submitters."*  
(3:84)

#### **Only One Religion**

Although God sent various scriptures to different communities at different times, the message of God delivered through these scriptures, the messengers and the prophets never changed with time. There is only one God; worship Him alone.

*He decreed for you the same religion decreed for Noah, and what we inspired to you, and what we decreed for Abraham, Moses, and Jesus: "You shall uphold this ONE RELIGION, and do not divide it...."(42:13)*

*Cont'd on page 2*

## Ramadan

*Cont'd from page 1*

### Ramadan and Blessings

God revealed the Quran into Muhammad's memory during the month of Ramadan in the Night of Power (17:1, 44:3, 97:1-5). It was then gradually released from his memory in accordance with God's will and written down by him with the help of Gabriel over a period of 23 years. Therefore Ramadan is a very special month for Muslims.

*Ramadan is the month during which the Quran was revealed, providing guidance for the people, clear teachings, and the statute book. Those of you who witness this month shall fast therein. Those who are ill or traveling may substitute the same number of other days. God wishes for you convenience, not hardship, that you may fulfill your obligations, and to glorify God for guiding you, and to express your appreciation. (2:185)*

The religious practices instituted by God are blessings from God. If we can practice our religious duties as we are supposed to, we get many benefits. Furthermore, these practices allow us to be more conscious

quired for the growth and development of our souls to make it to Heaven. They are for our own good. God is in no need of any of our prayers and worship.

### Fasting During Ramadan

Fasting during the month of Ramadan is one of the obligatory duties for the Submitters. Since Ramadan is a lunar month and the lunar calendar moves through our Gregorian calendar, it makes Ramadan move through the seasons. Fasting allows us to learn self-discipline and restraint. It allows our soul to control our body and not our physical appetites and desires to control us. Fasting is therefore important for our salvation:

*O you who believe, fasting is decreed for you, as it was decreed for those before you, that you may attain salvation. (2:183)*

### Thanking God

We are instructed in the Quran to fast during the month of Ramadan in order to glorify God and to express our appreciation to Him for guiding us.

The Quran gives us specific examples of what happens to the communities when they fail to remain appreciative of God's blessings.

*GOD cites the example of a community that used to be secure and prosperous, with provisions coming to it from everywhere. But then, it turned unappreciative of GOD's blessings. Consequently, GOD caused them to taste the hardships of starvation and insecurity. Such is the requital for what they did. (16:112)*

Furthermore, God gives us the example of Sheba's homeland. When they became unappreciative, God turned their beautiful, productive gardens into gardens with thorny plants and skimpy harvest (34:15-17).

With Thanksgiving Day falling right after Ramadan this year, let us remember that we need to be appreciative and thankful for the blessing God bestowed on us, not only during Ramadan, and not only during Thanksgiving Day or special occasions, but every single day.

*Your Lord has decreed: "The more you thank Me, the more I give you." But if you turn unappreciative, then My retribution is severe. (14:7)*

*Abdullah*

## Ramadan 2003 USA/CANADA

*God willing*

**October 26 - November 23**

To calculate the Ramadan start date: Compare the time of the New Moon with the sunset at your location. If the new moon is born before sunset, you should fast the next day. Similarly to determine the last day of fasting, compare the time of the next New Moon with the sunset at your location. If the new moon is born before sunset, the month of Ramadan is complete on that day. For further details, see the Ramadan page on

[www.masjiduntucson.org](http://www.masjiduntucson.org) or more specifically

<http://www.masjiduntucson.org/submission/practices/ramadan/index.html>

of God in our lives. They essentially constitute the nourishment re-

## Let the world know

God willing, we are starting an extensive project, which we are calling, "Let the world know." Once again, God has blessed us with the opportunity and funding to supply libraries with Qurans. It is our goal to place an English translation of the Quran by Dr. Khalifa in every library possible. The US libraries are priority, but the Canadian and other international libraries will also be given consideration.

We have already started setting up of a database to include all public libraries by state (over 9000). God willing, we would like to gather a network of volunteers from the various communities to get in touch with the libraries in a structured manner to make sure that the Qurans are placed with receptive libraries. God willing we will keep track of the libraries that placed or are in the process of placing the Qurans.

We set up a web link to communicate the progress of the volunteers and for exchanging ideas for this project. The link is given below. God willing, this link provides more details than what is printed here.

[www.masjiduntucson.org/let\\_the\\_world\\_know/](http://www.masjiduntucson.org/let_the_world_know/)

God rewards those who work in His cause and we are in the month of Ramadan. This is the time of year when people are naturally curious about Islam, and a perfect time to get God's message out, strive in His cause and do constructive work for our souls.

### What is expected of volunteers?

The volunteers' main function would be to provide the contact with the librarians and then let Masjid Tucson know of the receptive libraries. For any interested volunteers, below are a few easy steps to get started:

- 1) Go to the website <http://www.publiclibraries.com/> that appears to have links to libraries all across the country, organized by state. (There are also other web sites available). Find the libraries you want to contact. You can also search internet for a specific library system for more information.
- 2) Look for the Administration, Headquarters or Main branch. If you cannot find the main branch, any of the local branches in the system should have a name and number of the collections, donations, requisitions or acquisitions contact.
- 3) Then simply call and explain that you are a volunteer calling for ICS/Masjid Tucson, a non-profit organization based in Tucson, Arizona, and that our goal is to supply libraries with the contemporary English translation of the Quran by Dr. Rashad Khalifa. It is possible that some librarians will be reluctant at first. You may have to explain to them why this translation has some excellent qualities distinguished from other translations they may already have in their collection. If you need some suggestions on what to say, please refer to the detailed notes in the link above for the "Let the world know" project.
- 4) Send the request to Masjid Tucson via e-mail at [info@masjiduntucson.org](mailto:info@masjiduntucson.org) for shipment with a list of branches in which they will be placed. Of course you can always call us or write to us. If you do call, please leave clearly your name and number on our answering machine.

Masjid Tucson can make arrangements to ship the Qurans to the volunteers if they prefer sending or taking the Qurans to the libraries that request only one copy for review. All multiple requests will be sent from Masjid Tucson.

Thank you for your help and God Bless.

"Let the World Know" Volunteer Team

*[64:17] If you lend GOD a loan of righteousness, He will multiply the reward for you manifold, and forgive you. GOD is Appreciative, Clement.*

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## Worship GOD Alone

All messengers and prophets of God came with the same message: There is no god but GOD, and He is the only one worthy of worship. Therefore, whoever believes in this message, believes in the Hereafter and leads a righteous life, God gives them their recompense (2:62, 5:69). They are submitters in the sight of God.

There is no doubt that the Quran has been perfectly preserved in its original language, Arabic, and contains the most efficient method of getting us to Heaven. It is therefore a tool or prescription for our guidance. But there will be people who will make it to heaven without seeing a Quran, or the translation of the Quran we are blessed to have. It is God's mercy that He directed each one of us, in His miraculous ways, to get the true message in the Quran—worship GOD alone.

God says He made the Quran easy to understand, consistent and fully detailed. The Quran is our ever-living messenger until the Day of Judgment. It is therefore our only source for religious guidance. But the power behind that book is God and we must never forget this. Otherwise we will be like the people

who memorized the Quran by heart, but failed to get the message. Also, uttering buzzwords such as "I follow the Quran alone" will not help us unless we truly seek help and guidance only from God and no one else.

The Quran comes with examinable, verifiable and utterly irrefutable mathematical composition based on the number 19 that the Quran is God's message to the world. One of the functions for this miraculous composition is that it strengthens the faith of the faithful. Because the Quran was sent down to all the people, its miracle based on the number 19 ranges from extreme simplicity to extreme intricacy. This enables people from all levels of education to appreciate the mathematical composition of the Quran.

God does not expect us to understand every intricate detail of the miracle. But we cannot reject the existence of the miraculous composition of the Quran without studying it, or fight against it.

God's message in the Quran is simple and universal: Our God is one and the same. There is only one God and we should worship Him alone. But because of the distortions in religions, the majority of people on earth remain ignorant of this beautiful message and what is

good for their salvation. Therefore, we have a responsibility to spread the message to the best of our ability. However we are responsible only to give the message to the people. We are not responsible for guiding them. God is the only one who guides people in accordance with the knowledge He has about them. Therefore, let us pray: "*Our Lord, let not our hearts waver, now that You have guided us. Shower us with Your mercy; You are the Grantor.* [3:8]

*Abdullah*

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