

## RAMZAAN MUBARAK IS HERE

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We all, Surti Sunni Vohras as well as all Muslims from across the globe have very good reasons for waiting for the Holy month of Ramzaan. May the ALMIGHTY ALLAH allow us all to welcome this Holy month and benefit from the special blessings and rewards it brings along with it.

Let us turn to ourselves and try to learn how we Vohras in general go about welcoming the Holy month of Ramzaan and how we in general prepare for it. We all believe and tell others about the importance of this month and how we should make all the attempts necessary to benefit from it. We talk about it and hear others talk about the rewards we will get if we fast and spend as many hours as we possibly can in prayers. Such talking is good but many a times we fail to implement such talking and such thoughts in our daily actions. Our thoughts are usually elsewhere and often far removed from the Holy month and the rewards we should be seeking through our fasting, our prayers and our charitable work.

We feel we should look upon the Holy month of Ramzaan as a month of fasting, prayers, giving charity and feasting. We feel feasting during the month of Ramzaan often comes to occupy a more important position for us than the other religious obligations we are supposed to fulfil and benefit from. Months before the arrival of the eagerly awaited month our households are busy preparing all sorts of food stuffs for Iftari. Our masjid in our Vohra villages and masjid in other villages, towns and cities with remittances sent by their migrants too start preparing for cooking and serving food for Iftari.

Providing food for Iftari at our Masjid for those who are most deserving is

good but unfortunately the better offs are often not satisfied with a few dates and a glass of cold water for breaking their fasts. Such persons are often the power holders or power wielders in the local masjid. Such persons not only sit down for a meal provided by the masjid but they are the ones who are served before the others and they are the ones who are served as much food as they ask for. Very often in most of our masjid the most deserving like the poorer ones from the villages as well as the musafirs are often left out. Whilst the poorer villagers go home to partake in whatever their households had prepared the musafirs have to beg for food by going from house to house to help them have something to eat.

There is nothing wrong in our menfolk getting together at their local masjid for their prayers and for breaking their fasts but for many their attendance at the masjid is often not for prayers and for breaking their fasts but for chatting about all sorts of worldly things and checking up on what is being prepared for Iftari. Besides this those in charge of cooking and supervising the food preparations also have food sent home for their families before Iftari time.

What we have mentioned in the above lines is not particular to any village. Such practices are common to all villages and all masjid. Should we as Muslims not try to bring about changes to our thinking and to our practices? Should those migrants who send money for food for Iftari to their villages not become aware of those millions of Muslims who have very little to eat for their Sehri and very little to eat for their

Iftari? Should such persons in our villages, towns and cities and wherever they may be living not be looked upon as being more eligible and more deserving for assistance from those who have the means during the month of Ramzaan as well as throughout the year?

We feel the Holy month of Ramzaan is for us Muslims a perfect month to think seriously about bringing changes to our thinking and a perfect month to put into practice the changes to our thinking which will help the more deserving members of the UMMAH and please the ALMIGHTY ALLAH.

### Message

We are pleased to announce the following sponsorship for the Medical Student who was born and raised in Alipur, studied primary and secondary in Alipore Highschool is currently studying for MBBS at Southern Medical College / Hospital in Chittagong, Bangladesh.

Who is currently in her third year.

Sponsorship totaling six thousand US dollars, for tuition fees plus lodging and boarding for current year.

In Indian currency this amounts to 5 lakh 5 thousand Indian rupees.

The cheque was presented to student's parents by trusts office bearers and special guest Mr. Mangera at the special assembly convened at trust office in Alipur.

Alipur Education Trust will endeavour and encourage the student to focus on her study, our aim is to remove financial distress, hence empower student to work hard to complete the course and will hope to assist her with the cost that will incur for remaining further two years, (in total five years).

The Medical Students in question is FATIMABIBI Nazir Diwan. Nazirbhai is the son of Moulana Qasim Diwan who served Jumma Masjid and Madressah for 35 years, Alipur is muddarris (teacher). For long period.

The founder for the AET trust, Masumbhai Karolia have promptly addressed the ongoing financing of the said sponsorship of Fatimabibi, which indicates robust approach to focus on educating children of all ages and all cast and religion. It is a privilege to serve community with enduring task to transform within the main stream to provide resolute and durable support in achieving success.

- **Yusuf I. Mayet (Chair, Board of AET trust)**  
**Trustee Alipur Educational Trust.**