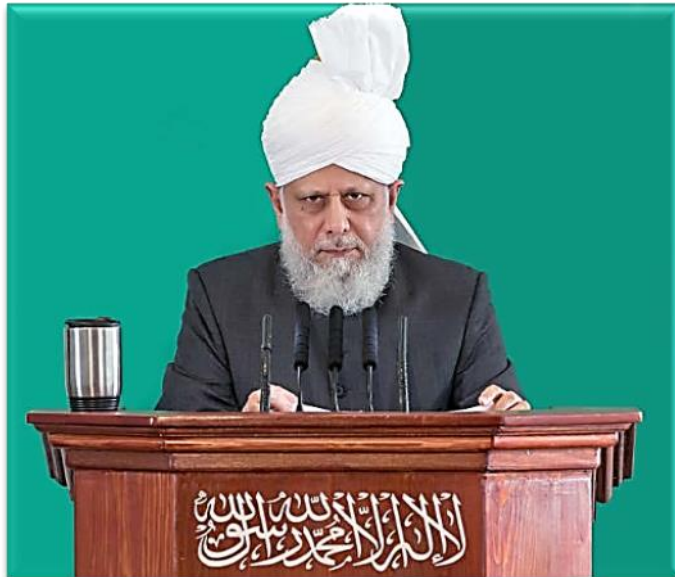
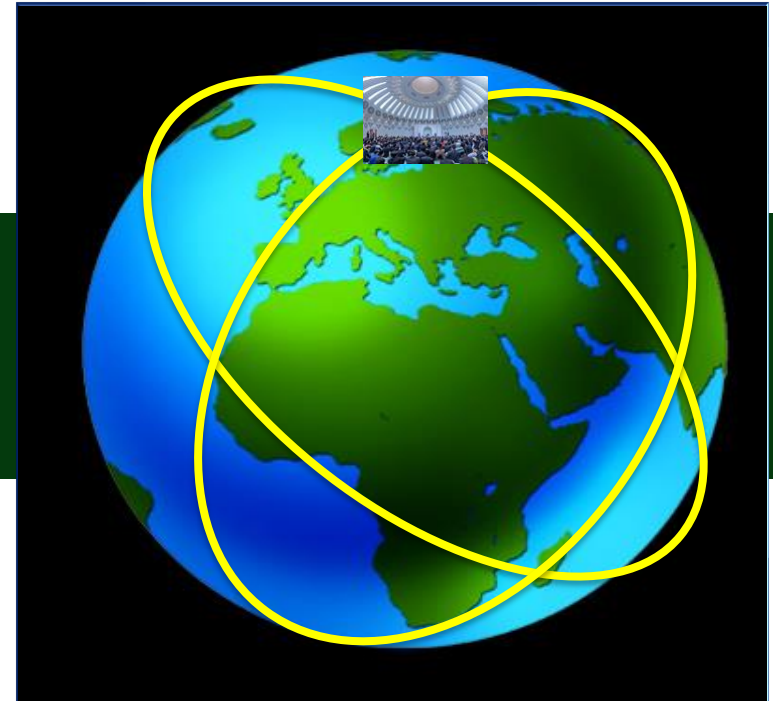


The Last Ashra of Ramadan: Fortify Prayers and Repentance with Durood



Sermon Delivered by Hadhrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba); Head of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community



relayed live all across the globe

30th April 2021

The Last Ashra of Ramadan: Fortify Prayers and Repentance with Durood Summery

Ramadan – A Month of Prayer, Invoking Blessings Upon the Holy Prophet^(sa) & Seeking Forgiveness.

The Holy Prophet's(sa) Standard of Prayer During Ramadan

Invoke Blessings Upon the Holy Prophet^(sa)

Importance of Seeking Forgiveness

An Example of God's Mercy

30th April 2021

Ramadan – A Month of Prayer, Invoking Blessings Upon the Holy Prophet^(sa) & Seeking Forgiveness

After reciting *Tashahhud*, *Ta'awwuz* and *Surah al-Fatihah*, His Holiness, Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad^(aba) said that by the grace of Allah, these days we are passing through the blessed month of Ramadan, and in a few days, will be entering the last ten days of Ramadan.

The Holy Prophet^(sa) has said that the last ten days of Ramadan are of attaining salvation from Hell.

we must pay special attention towards our prayers especially during the last ten days of Ramadan, so that we may attain the pleasure of God Almighty and be saved from the hellfire.

The Last
Ashra of
Ramadan:
Fortify
Prayers and
Repentance
with Durood

The Holy Prophet's(sa) Standard of Prayer During Ramadan

His Holiness^(aba) said that the Holy Prophet^(sa) is the perfect model for us, and we must try to establish the same standards set by the Holy Prophet^(sa).

Then will Allah Almighty be pleased with us, and then will we be regarded as true believers. Thus, we must immerse ourselves in prayers, especially during these days.

The state of the Holy Prophet's (sa) prayers during the last ten days of Ramadan cannot even be described in words. Regarding the state of his prayers during the month of Ramadan, Hazrat A'ishah^(ra) relates that he strove harder in his prayers than was seen at any other time.

His Holiness^(aba) said that as Ahmadis around the world are facing great hardships. We must pray to be saved from the evil of the opponents of Ahmadiyyat.

His Holiness^(aba) said that we must also pray to be saved from the pandemic which the entire world is currently experiencing.

The Last Ashra
of Ramadan:
Fortify Prayers
and
Repentance
with Durood

Invoke Blessings Upon the Holy Prophet^(sa)

His Holiness^(aba) said that in order to have our prayers heard, it is necessary to send salutations upon the Holy Prophet^(sa)

It is narrated that once the Holy Prophet^(sa) said that one who abandons sending salutations upon him, abandons the path leading to Paradise.

On another occasion, the Holy Prophet^(sa) said that one who sends salutations upon him, God will send ten salutations upon that person, and will raise them up ten ranks and will record ten good deeds under their name.

We must make sending salutations upon the Holy Prophet^(sa) a regular habit in our lives. Not only so that our prayers may be answered, but so that we may establish purity throughout our lives, we may attain the nearness of God and increase in our spirituality.

We should not merely claim to have accepted the true servant of the Holy Prophet^(sa), rather it must also reflect in our actions.

The Last Ashra of Ramadan: Fortify Prayers and Repentance with Durood

A Revelation of the Promised Messiah^(as) Regarding *Durood*

His Holiness^(aba) presented a quotation of the Promised Messiah^(as), explaining a revelation he received in which he was commanded to send salutation upon the Holy Prophet^(sa).



The Promised Messiah^(as) said that this proved that everything he had received was on account of his complete obedience and submission to the Holy Prophet^(sa).



Thus, the rank of the Promised Messiah^(as) was bestowed upon him on account of being the true servant of the Holy Prophet^(sa) and being wholly devoted to him and fulfilling his mission.

The Last Ashra
of Ramadan:
Fortify Prayers
and
Repentance
with Durood

A Revelation of the Promised Messiah^(as) Regarding *Durood*

His Holiness^(aba) narrated an incident of the Promised Messiah^(as), in which he states that one night he sent salutations upon the Holy Prophet^(sa) so profusely that his heart was overcome.



He then saw in a dream, that angels were coming to him with vessels of light filled with pure and sweet water. The angels said to the Promised Messiah^(as) that these were the blessings on account of his sending salutations upon the Holy Prophet^(sa).



On another occasion, the Promised Messiah^(as) saw a dream, in which people were searching for a true servant of the Holy Prophet^(sa). When they came across him, they said, 'this is the person who truly loves the Messenger (sa) of Allah'.

The Last Ashra
of Ramadan:
Fortify Prayers
and
Repentance
with Durood

A Revelation of the Promised Messiah^(as) Regarding *Durood*

His Holiness^(aba) said that as those who have accepted the Promised Messiah^(as) and strive to carry forth his mission, we have understood the true spirit of sending salutations upon him.



During the month of Ramadan especially, not only do we pray for ourselves, but we strive to spread the message of the Holy Prophet^(sa) throughout the entire world



If we do so, then we will see that plots and schemes of the opponents falter right before our eyes. We will see ourselves and our future progenies strive and prosper in spirituality. We will see magnificent examples of the acceptance of prayer, both on an individual level and collectively. However, the condition is that we must have sent salutations upon the Holy Prophet^(sa) with true sincerity.

The Last Ashra
of Ramadan:
Fortify Prayers
and
Repentance
with Durood

Understanding *Durood*

His Holiness^(aba) said that when we say, 'O Allah, bless Muhammad^(sa)' it means that may Allah bestow all that is good upon the Holy Prophet^(sa); thus we leave it to God to bestow all the good which is in His infinite knowledge, upon the Holy Prophet^(sa).

Then, when we pray 'O Allah, prosper Muhammad^(sa)', we are praying for God to increase those blessings which he bestowed upon the Holy Prophet^(sa) as was previously prayed for.

His Holiness^(aba) said that one can truly and sincerely pray only when one knows what they are saying. His Holiness^(aba) presented the meanings of the *durood* in light of the writings of Hazrat Mirza Bashirdduin Mahmud Ahmad^(ra), the Second Caliph of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community.

'Allah and His angels send blessings on the Prophet. O ye who believe, you too should invoke blessings on him and salute him with the salutation of peace.' [\(33:57\)](#)

**The Last Ashra
of Ramadan:
Fortify Prayers
and
Repentance
with Durood**

Understanding *Durood*

His Holiness^(aba) prayed that may we be able to fulfill the responsibility of sending salutations upon the Holy Prophet^(sa). He then recited the *durood sharif*:

Bless O Allah, Muhammad and the people of Muhammad, as You did bless Abraham and the people of Abraham; You are indeed the Praiseworthy, the Glorious! Prosper, O Allah, Muhammad and the people of Muhammad, as You did prosper Abraham, and the people of Abraham; You are indeed the Praiseworthy, the Glorious!

The Last Ashra
of Ramadan:
Fortify Prayers
and
Repentance
with Durood

Importance of Seeking Forgiveness

'I seek forgiveness from Allah, my Lord, for all my sins, and turn to Him.'

This prayer means that may God cover the faults which have been committed, and may God save the person seeking repentance from the innate weakness which every person possesses.

This prayer should not be prayed only after one commits a fault, rather it should be done on a continuous basis, so that one may also be saved from the potential of committing future faults, and thus attain nearness to God.

Satan is ever-ready to strike at any time. Thus, God states that in order to be saved from such attacks, we must constantly make use of this prayer.

The Last Ashra
of Ramadan:
Fortify Prayers
and
Repentance
with Durood

An Example of God's Mercy

There was a person who had committed 99 murders. He felt bad and went to a person to ask if he could be forgiven. That man said that after having committed 99 murders, there was no way for him to be forgiven; so he killed that man.

The man who had now committed 100 murders, again wanted to repent..He asked a man of wisdom who told him that the door to God's mercy is always open, and told him that he should travel to such and such place. He should seek forgiveness. However, he could never return to his former city, as true repentance is to never return.

Thus, he set out for that place, but died along the way. The angels for mercy and punishment came. When they measured, he was only slightly closer to his destination, and so God showed mercy and he was taken to Paradise.

His Holiness (aba) explained that it is a known fact that God turns with mercy to those who turn to him.

The Last Ashra
of Ramadan:
Fortify Prayers
and
Repentance
with Durood

Month of Ramadan and Prayers

His Holiness^(aba) said that as Ahmadis who are facing great hardships, the one solution is for us to establish a connection with God Almighty.

When we do so, and when our *durood* and our seeking forgiveness is accepted by God, then we will be saved from the grasps of the opponents.

The Holy Prophet^(sa) has said that one who walks towards God, God runs towards them. Thus, the month of Ramadan is the prime opportunity for turning to God, and seeking forgiveness and repenting.

His Holiness^(aba) prayed that may we become those who sincerely send salutations upon the Holy Prophet^(sa) and truly seek forgiveness.

His Holiness^(aba) said that in our prayers during Ramadan, we must pray to be saved from the evil of opponents. We should pray for those who are going through hardships. The Ahmadis in Pakistan should particularly pray as well.

The Last Ashra
of Ramadan:
Fortify Prayers
and
Repentance
with Durood