



A written extract from the discourses of Shaykh al-Tareeqah Ameer Ahl al-Sunnah,Founder of Dawat-e-Islami, Hazrat Allamah Mawlana Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri Razavi معت برونيزيز

## 23 QUESTIONS POSED TO AMEER AHL AL-SUNNAH REGARDING EID, ALONG WITH HIS ANSWERS



Shaykh e-Tarigat Ameer Ahl e-Sunnah Founder of Davat e-Island Hazrat Allama Maulana Abu Bilal Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadri Rizvi

امیر اہل سنت سے عید کے بارے میں 23 سوال جواب

Ameer e Ahl e Sunnat sy Eid Kay Baray Main 23 Suwal Jawab

### 23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah

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#### **Translation Department (Dawat-e-Islami)**

Aalami Madani Markaz, Faizan-e-Madinah, Mahallah Saudagran, Purani Sabzi Mandi, Bab-ul-Madinah, Karachi, Pakistan UAN: ☎ +92-21-111-25-26-92 – Ext. 7213 Email: 🖃 translation@dawateislami.net

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Ameer e Ahl e Sunnat sy Eid Kay Baray Main 23 Suwal Jawab

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Aalami Madani Markaz, Faizan-e-Madinah Mahallah Saudagran, Purani Sabzi Mandi, Bab al-Madinah, Karachi, Pakistan

Email: maktabaglobal@dawateislami.net
maktaba@dawateislami.net
Phone: +92-21-34921389-93
Web: www.dawateislami.net

ٱلْحَمْدُ لِلَّمِ رَبِّ الْعْلَمِيْنَ وَ الصَّلُوةُ وَ السَّلَامُ عَلَى خاتَمِ النَّبِين

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# اَمَا بَعْدُ فَاعُوْذُ بِاللَّمِ مِنَ الشَّيْطُنِ الرَّجِيْمِ لِسْمِ اللَّمِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

## $Du^{\scriptscriptstyle c}\bar{a}^{\scriptscriptstyle c}$ for reading this book

R ecite the following duʻā' before you read a religious book or begin an Islamic lesson; you will remember whatever you study اِنْ شَـَاءَاللَهِ



O Allah! Open the doors of knowledge and wisdom for us and have mercy on us! O He Who is the Most Glorious and Honourable! *(Al-Mustațraf, vol. 1, p. 40)* 

#### Note:

Recite *salāt* upon the Prophet once before and after.

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#### 23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid<sup>1</sup>

Du'a of Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah's successor

O Lord of al-Muṣṭafā! Whosoever reads or listens to the 19page booklet entitled *23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid*, remove his worries, and forgive him and his parents without accountability.

أُمِيْنْ بِجَاهِ خاتَمِ النَّبِيِّن صلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْه وَالم وَسَلَّمَ

Virtue of sending salāt upon the Prophet The final Prophet مِنَّلَى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَالِهِ وَسَلَّم said:

أكثِرُوْا الصَّلَاةَ عَلَىَّ يَومَ الْجُمُعَةِ فَاِنَّهُ مَشْهُوْدٌ تَشْهَدُهُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَإِنَّ آحَدًا لَنْ يُصلِّى عَلَىَّ إِلَّا عُرِضنَتْ عَلَىَّ صَلَاتُهُ حَتَّى يَغْرُغَ مِنْهَا

"Send abundant ṣalāt upon me on Friday, for it is a day of witnessing; the angels visit on this day (in particularly large numbers). Nobody sends ṣalāt upon me except that it is presented to me until he finishes reciting it."

Sayyidunā Abū Dardā' تَضِى الله عَنْهُ mentions that he asked, "(O Messenger of Allah!) And what will happen after your [physical] passing?"

 $<sup>^1</sup>$  The booklet comprises of questions posed to the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah نَعَالِيَهُ الْحَالِيَهُ and his answers.

23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah He مَنَّى الله عَلَيْهِ وَالِم وَسَنَّم (meaning, it will be presented to me like this).

إِنَّ اللهَ حَرَّمَ عَلَى الأَرْضِ أَن تَأْكُلَ أَجْسَادَ الأَنْبِيَاءِ

Indeed, Allah Almighty has made it haram upon the earth to consume the prophets' عَلَيْهِمُ الصَلَّوةُ وَالسَّلَامَ bodies.

فَنَبِيُّ اللهِ حَيٌّ يُرْزَقُ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيْب

A prophet of Allah is alive and given sustenance."1

**Q:** Why is Eid al-Fitr referred to as "sweet Eid"?

صلًّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّد

**A:** Perhaps Eid al-Fitr is referred to as "sweet Eid" because on this Eid, an odd number of dates are eaten before attending Eid salah, and this is *mustahabb* (recommended).<sup>2</sup>

**Q**: What is the ruling in shariah regarding eating something sweet prior to Eid al-Fitr salah?

**A:** It is a sunnah to eat something sweet in an odd number before Eid al-Fitr salah.<sup>3</sup> People act upon this too, as sweet dishes are prepared in homes, and people eat them before going for Eid al-Fitr salah. It is generally my habit to eat a small amount of vermicelli pudding (*sewiyan*) before Eid al-Fitr salah; I do not eat too much as they are made from flour and can be harmful to one's health.

(At this point, the Head of Dawat-e-Islami's Central Executive Committee commented:) Something sweet

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sunan Ibn Mājah, vol. 2, p. 291, Hadith 1,637

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 311

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Fatāwā Hindiyyah, vol. 1, p. 149

 $^{23}$  Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah should be eaten before going for Eid al-Fitr salah. Even before we had a religious environment within our home, we would be given some dates to eat before going for Eid al-Fitr salah.^1

**Q:** Why is Eid al-Fitr celebrated?

**A:** Those who endure difficulties and offer  $tar\bar{a}w\bar{n}h$  salah in Ramadan are given glad tidings of forgiveness. It is a day of joy from Allah Almighty for these people, which they celebrate. The night of Eid is also referred to as *Laylah al-Jā izah* (the Night of Reward).<sup>2</sup>

**Q:** Why is Eid al-Adha known as "Big Eid" and Eid al-Fitr as "Small Eid"?

**A:** Referring to Eid al-Adha as "Big Eid" and Eid al-Fitr as "Small Eid" are just terms which are commonly used among the public. I refer to them as Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha.<sup>3</sup>

**Q:** Is a person rewarded for wearing new clothes on Eid?

**A:** It is mustahabb to wear nice clothes, whether new or washed, on Eid. <sup>4</sup> This is when it is coupled with a praiseworthy intention; if it is done out of pride or to show off, one will be sinful rather than rewarded.<sup>5</sup>

**Q**: When the new moon becomes visible, some people shoot guns into the air. Is this permissible?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 283

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Shuʿab al-Īmān, vol. 3, p. 336, Hadith 3,695; Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 240

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 9, p. 122

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Fatāwā Hindiyyah, vol. 1, p. 149

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 9, p. 179

<sup>23</sup> Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah **A:** In our country (Pakistan), it is illegal to shoot into the sky, and it is possible that it is illegal in other countries too. Despite this, people still fire guns, and echoes of this can be heard all around; this should not be done. When the new moon becomes visible, one should recite the relevant du<sup>c</sup>ā.<sup>1-</sup>

**Q:** Laylah al-Jā'izah (the night of Eid al-Fitr) is arriving soon. Which acts of worship are best to perform on this night?

A: It is difficult to spend the entire night of Eid in worship, as a person must wake up and get ready for Eid salah in the morning. So, it is not the case that everyone will be able to remain awake the entire night. Even if you cannot spend the whole night in worship, if you go to sleep after offering Isha salah in congregation and then offer Fajr salah in congregation, you will be granted the reward of worshipping for the entire night. This virtue is not only specific to the night of Eid, rather, whosoever offers Fajr salah and Isha salah in congregation every day, he will

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> When the Messenger of Allah صنَّلى الله عَلَيْهِ وَاللهِ وَسنَّام would see the new moon (*hilāl*), he would recite this du'a':

ٱللَّهُمَّ ٱبَلَّمُ عَلَيْنَا بِالْأَمْنِ وَالْإِيْمَانِ وَالسَّلَامَةِ وَالْإِسْلَامِ رَبِّيْ وَ رَبُّكَ اللهُ

<sup>&</sup>quot;O Allah Almighty! Make it rise over us with peace, faith, safety and Islam. (O moon!) My Lord and your Lord is Allah Almighty." (Mustadrak Hākim, vol. 5, p. 405, Hadith 7,837)

The moon which is seen on the first, second, and third day of the lunar month is referred to as hilāl, and on the days after this, it is known as *qamar*. (Mirqāt al-Mafātīḥ, vol. 5, p. 283) This duʿaʿ can be recited on the first, second or third night.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Sunan Abī Dāwūd, vol. 4, p. 419, Hadith 5,092 Derived

23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah receive a daily reward of worshipping the whole night.<sup>1</sup>

#### Virtue of worshipping on the nights of Eid

There is great virtue for worshipping on Laylah al-Jā'izah, i.e. the night of Eid al-Fitr. The Prophet مندًى الله عليه وأله وسندًم "Whosoever stood on the nights of the two Eids seeking reward, his heart will not die on the day when the hearts (of people) will die."<sup>2</sup>

In addition, Sayyidunā Muʿādh Bin Jabal تَضِى الله عَنْهُ (Whosoever revives five nights [i.e. remains awake and engages in worship], Paradise becomes necessary for him. They are the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> night of Dhū al-Hijjah, the night of Eid al-Fitr and the 15<sup>th</sup> of Shaʿbān (i.e. Laylah al-Barāat)."<sup>3</sup>

#### General announcement of forgiveness

It is mentioned in a narration of Sayyidunā Abdullah Bin 'Abbās زَضِی اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا':

When the night of Eid al-Fitr arrives, it is referred to as Laylah al-Jā'izah [the night of reward]. When the morning of Eid comes, Allah Almighty sends his infallible angels to all the cities. So, the angels descend to earth and station themselves at the top

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The third Caliph of Islam, Sayyidunā 'Uthmān b. 'Affān تَحَتَّى الله مَعَلَيْهِ وَالْلِهِ وَسَنَّم narrates that the Prophet عَنْهُ said, "Whosoever offered Isha salah in congregation, it is as though he stood in worship for half the night, and whosoever offered Fajr salah in congregation, it is as though he stood for the entire night." (Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim, p. 258, Hadith 1,491)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Sunan Ibn Mājah, vol. 2, p. 365, Hadith 1,782

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Al-Targhīb wa al-Tarhīb, vol. 2, p. 98, Hadith 2

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of every street and path, and they call out, "O Ummah of Muhammad! Go to the court of that merciful Lord, who is oft-forgiving and forgives the greatest of sins."

Then Allah Almighty addresses His slaves, "O My slaves! Ask! What do you seek? By My might and honour, in this gathering (of Eid salah) today, I will grant you whatever you ask for regarding your Hereafter, and I will guide you towards goodness in relation to what you ask of for this world [i.e. I will do that which is best for you]. By My might! So long as you be mindful of Me, I will continue to veil your shortcomings. By My might and honour! I will not disgrace you alongside those who exceed the limits (the wrongdoers). Return to your homes forgiven. You have pleased Me, and I am pleased with you."<sup>1</sup>

**Q:** In the passage, "The one who stands on the nights of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, his heart will not die when the hearts of people die", what does the part "his heart will not die" mean?

**A:** It is mentioned in the hadith, "Whosoever stood on the nights of the two Eids whilst seeking reward, his heart will not die on the day when the hearts of people die."<sup>2</sup> In the commentary of this hadith, it is mentioned that the reference to the heart not dying has several meanings:

1) His heart will not be overcome with love for the world

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Al-Targhīb Wa al-Tarhīb, vol. 2, p. 60, Hadith 23; Malfūzāt-e-

Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, pp. 299, 301

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Sunan Ibn Mājah, vol. 2, p. 365, Hadith 1,782

23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah and will not become distant from the Hereafter.

2) His heart will be protected from a bad end.<sup>1</sup>

3) His heart will remain at ease when questioned in the grave and on the Day of Judgement.<sup>2</sup>

The scholars state that this virtue is also attained by worshipping for most of the night. For example, if the night is eight hours long, a person will gain this virtue by worshipping for five hours.<sup>3</sup> There is also an opinion that one will attain this virtue by offering Tahajjud salah on the nights of Eid.<sup>4</sup>

After reading the commentary of this hadith, it is possible that every person will make an intention to stand in worship on the night of Eid at least once in their lifetime.<sup>5</sup>

Q: Is it wājib (necessary) for a woman to offer Eid salah?

A: No, it is not wājib upon a woman to offer Eid salah.<sup>6</sup>

**Q:** Did the noble Companions عَلَيْهُ الرِّضنوان congratulate one another on Eid?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Fayd al-Qadīr, vol. 6, p. 248, Hadith 8,903

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Hāshiyah al- Ṣāwī 'alā al-Sharḥ al-Saghīr, vol. 1, p. 527

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Whosoever remains awake for most or half the night and engages in worship, the reward of remaining awake the entire night will be recorded for him. (Qūt al-Qulūb, vol. 1, p. 74)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Mir'āt al-Manājīh, vol. 2, p. 262

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Malfūzāt -e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 305

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Fatāwā Ridawiyyah, vol 27, p. 615; Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 284

23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah A: Yes, the noble Companions عَلَيْهُ الرَصْوَانَ would congratulate each other on Eid and make this du'a too:

### تَقَبَّلَ اللهُ مِنَّا وَمِنْكَ

"May Allah Almighty accept our deeds and yours."1

When congratulating others for Eid, we should also make this du'a' for them. When giving greetings for Eid, it is mustahabb to also make du'a' using these words: عَقَبَلَ اللهُ 2

Q: Is the correct word 'Eid mubārak' or Eid mubārik'?

A: Some people pronounce this with a *kasra* on the letter *raa* (...), but the correct way is to pronounce it with a *fatḥa*, i.e. mubārak. The word 'mubārak' appears in the Quran too.<sup>3</sup>

**Q:** Can all people congratulate each other for Eid? It is often seen that when congratulating one another for Eid, cousins, brothers-in-law, and sisters-in-law shake hands. Sometimes, the elder brother-in-law also places his hand on the sister-in-law's head. Is this correct?

**A:** All Muslims can congratulate one another, but there are guidelines stipulated by the shariah in every matter. In accordance with these guidelines, non-*mahrams* cannot congratulate each other. Likewise, brother-in-law and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sunan al-Kubrā lī al-Bayhaqī, vol. 3, p. 446, Hadith 2,694

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Al-Durr al-Mukhtār, vol. 3, p. 56; Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 311

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Al-Quran, part 17, Surah al-Anbiyā', verse 50; Malfūzāt-e-Ameere-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 131

<sup>23</sup> Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah sister-in-law should not congratulate each other, as this will increase the friendliness between them and open the doors to sin. It is mentioned in a hadith, "The brother-in-law is death for the sister-in-law." <sup>1</sup> A non-mahram is someone with whom marriage is not haram forever [i.e. someone with whom marriage is permissible].

It is also necessary for the brother-in-law not to place his hand on the head of his brother's wife. As far as shaking hands is concerned, then this is even more serious and an act which leads to Hell. There is nobody who was more protected from Satan than the Prophet متلّى الله عَلَيْهِ وَالْلِهِ وَسَلَّم he never took the pledge of allegiance from a woman by taking her hand in his own.<sup>2</sup> There are ignorant "spiritual guides" in our society who take pledges of allegiance from women by grasping their hands and even allow their hands to be kissed by women. Such "spiritual guides" must be avoided.<sup>3</sup>

**Q:** There are some people who live far away from home and are unable to return home on the day of Eid. Such people celebrate Eid with their staff members or friends by listening to songs and music. Is this correct?

**A:** One should make extra effort to worship Allah Almighty and to avoid sins on the day of Eid in particular. We should help the less prosperous by giving charity. We should include those in our celebrations who are unable to celebrate themselves. It is not correct to celebrate Eid with songs and music. What is the matter with Muslims today! By

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sunan al-Tirmidhī, vol. 2, p. 391, Hadith 1,174

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī, vol. 2, p. 217, Hadith 2,713

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 306

23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah commemorating Eid with music, it is as though they are rejoicing over the fact that Satan has been freed on this day, and they are playing music to please him.

Music is sometimes played so loudly that even if a person walking through the streets wishes to keep himself away from it, he is unable to do so. In any case, the ruling in shariah is that if a person walking through the street happens to hear music, he should place his fingers in his ears and pass by quickly. If he intentionally walks slowly so that he can continue hearing the music, he will be sinful.<sup>1</sup>

There is an individual who is observing *i'tikāf*, and his friends have a gift of a cinema ticket waiting for him as soon as he finishes his i'tikāf so that they can all watch a film together. On Eid, boards are seen outside the cinema stating that there is a full house today. Everyone has a phone in their hand, which they can use to access countless films. Muslims today consider themselves to be free and unrestricted, but a Muslim is not truly free, as he is duty-bound to adhere to the laws of Islam.

How far can a Muslim run after committing a sin? Death will catch up with him one day. If Allah Almighty becomes displeased with him due to his sins, then he will be destined for punishment in the grave and Hereafter.

# One should not forget their shroud when wearing new clothes on Eid

Sayyidunā ʿUbaydullāh b. Shumayṭ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Radd al-Muhtār, vol, 9, p. 651

23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah My father, Sayyidunā Shumayṭ b. 'Ajlān زحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْه saw people in an Eid gathering and said, "Clothes that will become old can be seen, and flesh which will become food (in the grave) for insects tomorrow can be seen."

Every Muslim should always be in fear of Allah Almighty. Even if a person wears new clothes on the day of Eid, they should not fall into heedlessness and forget their shroud due to it. These smiles and joys will only remain with a person for a few days, then this body will become food for insects. May Allah Almighty protect us all from the punishment of the grave.<sup>2</sup>

المِيْنْ بِجَاهِ خاتَمِ النَّبِيِّن صلَّى الله عَلَيْه وَالِم وَسَلَّمَ

Q: What should children do on Eid?

**A:** A child who has some understanding, knows how to offer salah, and does not cause trouble in the masjid like other children can be taken to the masjid. If there is a child who causes trouble in the masjid and disturbs other worshippers, he cannot be taken to the masjid. Parents are aware of whether their child causes trouble or not. Generally, children do not have the mindset to worship on Eid; they usually receive Eid gifts from everyone and are occupied with playing games in their new clothes.

Those children who possess some understanding, they should recite سُبُحْنَ اللهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ 300 times and then say, "May

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hilyat al-Awliyā', vol. 3, p. 153, raqm 3,516

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Malfūzāt -e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 308

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the reward of this reach Prophet Ādam عَلَيْهِ السَّادَ and all the Muslims of the world." Similarly, one can mention righteous personalities and transmit its reward to them too by saying, for example, "May its reward reach Shaykh 'Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī and Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān دَحِمَهُمَا اللَّهُ." Additionally, one can also mention their grandparents and other family members. This is known as *īṣāl al-thawāb* (transmitting reward).

Whenever we mention someone's name during  $\bar{1}$ sāl althawāb, it brings joy to them in their grave. This can be understood through the following example. If a host who invited many guests to a meal with many families present turns to a particular family and says, "Please have some more", the person whose name was mentioned by the host will be happy. He will think to himself that he was honoured by being specifically mentioned out of all those present. Therefore, when performing  $\bar{1}$ sāl al-thawāb, we should mention the names of the pious predecessors  $\bar{\zeta}$ , as this pleases them in their resting places.<sup>1</sup>

**Q:** If a person is unable to offer Eid salah in congregation due to some necessity, how will he offer it alone?

**A:** Eid salah cannot be offered alone; <sup>2</sup> a congregation is necessary. Additionally, there are further conditions for this congregation; for example, if there is an imam who fulfils all the conditions of leading the five daily prayers, he cannot [automatically] lead Eid or Friday salah, as there are further conditions for leading these prayers. In any case, if a person

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Malfūzāt -e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 308

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Al-Hidāyah, vol. 1, p. 85

23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah was unable to offer Eid salah due to a mistake on his part and he is unable to find any other Eid salah taking place in the city, he is sinful, and he must repent.<sup>1</sup>

Q: How should one give out monetary Eid gifts?

**A:** There is no specific way of doing this. However, monetary Eid gifts can be given with the intention of bringing joy to other Muslims. Also, when giving it to family members, one can make the intention of maintaining ties of kinship. Likewise, if there are parents who become pleased when their children are given Eid gifts, then one can make the intention of pleasing their parents when giving it to them too. Remember, it is not necessary that every parent will be happy if their child is given Eid gifts, so one should assess the situation.<sup>2</sup>

**Q:** Is it better to give a monetary Eid gift in an envelope or without it?

**A:** It is better to give children monetary Eid gifts without placing them in an envelope, as children become happier when they see the new notes. But when giving money to scholars and shaykhs, one should respectfully place it in an envelope so that it is not revealed to others.<sup>3</sup>

**Q:** How can small children make use of the money that is given to them on Eid?

**A:** Children who are given money on Eid become the owners of that money. Sometimes, the child has some

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 2, p. 452

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 194

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Malfūzāt -e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 195

 $^{23}$  Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah understanding, so he saves his money. They can also give it to their father to keep for them. Parents should save the money children receive on Eid or use it to buy something for the child.^1

**Q:** If parents pass away three or six months before Eid, is it permissible for their family to celebrate the first Eid without them?

**A:** It is permissible to grieve for three days. However, if a woman's husband passes away, the duration of her mourning period is four months and ten days.<sup>2</sup> If a woman loses her young child, the pain of separation will remain with her for life, and she no longer can control her emotions. In any case, Eid can be celebrated after three months or six months [of one's parents passing away]. A person can also wear new clothes and greet others for Eid.

Some family members of the deceased are so foolish they do not offer qurbani on Eid al-Adha, and some even go to the extent of preventing a joyful environment at home. There are some people who, in order to avoid the taunts of people, will give a share in the qurbani animal. Remember that expressing joy on Eid is a sunnah, and it is proven that the Prophet منتَى الله عَلَيْهِ وَاللهِ وَسَنَّم the day of Eid.<sup>3</sup> Allah Almighty states in the Quran:

قُلْ بِفَضْلِ اللهِ وَ بِرَحْمَتِم فَبِذَلِكَ فَلْيَفْرَحُوا "

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Malfūzāt -e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 307

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Bahār-e-Sharīʿat, vol. 1, p. 855, Juzz 4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Mir at al-Manājīh, vol. 2, p. 359

23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah Say you (O beloved), "Only Allah's bounty and His mercy; and only upon it they should rejoice."<sup>1</sup>

Eid is a day of blessings and mercy from Allah Almighty; one should express joy on this day.<sup>2</sup>

**Q:** Is the reward for the fasts observed in Shawwal al-Mukarram (after Ramadan) equal to the fasts of a year or of a lifetime? Also, is it necessary to observe these fasts in Shawwal, or can they be observed afterwards?

A: Here are three sayings of the Prophet صلَّى الله عَلَيْهِ وَالْهِ وَسَلَّم regarding the virtues of fasting in Shawwal:

(1) Whosoever observed the fasts of Ramadan and then observed six fasts in Shawwal, he will be freed of sins as though his mother gave birth to him today.<sup>3</sup>

(2) Whosoever observed the fasts of Ramadan and then observed six fasts in Shawwal, it is as though he fasted a lifetime.<sup>4</sup>

(3) The one who observed six fasts in Shawwal after Eid al-Fitr, it is as though he fasted for an entire year, for the one who does one good deed will be granted ten. The fasts of Ramadan are equal to ten months, and these six fasts are equal to two months, thus, completing a year of fasts.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Al-Quran, part 11, Surah Yūnus, verse 58; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Malfūzāt -e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 265

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Al-Mu'jam al-Awsat, vol. 6, p. 234, Hadith 8,622

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim, p. 456, hadith 2,758

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Sunan al-Kubrā lī al-Nasā 'ī, vol. 2, pp. 162-163, Hadith 2,860-2,861

<sup>23</sup> Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah It is mentioned in the marginalia of Bahar-e-Shariat, "It is better to observe these fasts separately, but if one keeps them consecutively six days after Eid, there is no harm in this either."<sup>1</sup> One must not fast on Eid day, i.e. the 1<sup>st</sup> of Shawwal.<sup>2</sup>

**Q:** People say that wedding ceremonies should not be conducted between Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. Is there any truth to this?

**A:** Ceremonies, like weddings, can be held between Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. In fact, they can even be held on the days of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. Many people hold weddings on these days, and there is no harm in doing so. There is no day in the entire year where nikahs and weddings cannot be conducted.<sup>3</sup>

**Q:** Is it necessary to recite the litany سُبُحٰنَ اللهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ 300 times in the masjid, or can it be recited at home? Also, can women recite this litany?

A: This litany of سُبُخْنَ اللهِ وَبِحَمْدِهٖ can be recited by both men and women, and there is no specification of whether it must be read at home or the masjid; one can recite it wherever they find convenient. The virtue of this litany is that the one who recites سُبُخْنَ اللهِ وَبِحَمْدِهٖ 300 times on the day of Eid and transmits its reward to all the Muslims, 1,000 lights will

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bahār-e-Sharīʿat, vol. 1, p. 1010, juzz 5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 2, p. 468

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 231

23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah enter each of their graves, and when the reciter passes away, 1,000 lights will enter his grave too.<sup>1</sup>

The day of Eid starts at the time of Fajr and ends at sunset; this litany can be recited at any point during this time. It is not permissible to fast on the day of Eid.<sup>2</sup>

**Q:** Should sick people be visited on the day of Eid too?

**A:** Yes, sick people should be visited on the day of Eid. Sometimes, the sick person waits for his friends and family to visit him and give him greetings on the first day of Eid. If the friend visits him on the second day of Eid, he will not be as happy as he would have been if he was visited on the first day. Then the friend comes on the second day, making all sorts of excuses like "we had guests" or "we went to so-and-so uncle's house".

If possible, provide some financial support to the sick person, because they are sometimes in an extremely difficult situation where the doctor has told them to get certain medication, but they cannot afford it. Rather than bringing flowers for the sick person, it would be better to give them some money so they can fulfil their needs, like buy medicine.

At times, the visitors unknowingly bring those things which the ailing person should avoid. For example, the unwell person might suffer from diabetes and the visitor brings him some sweet foods to make him happy. The poor man will now suffer from within as he cannot eat anything sweet. Even if he ends up eating the sweet food, it will cause him

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mukāshafat al-Qulūb, p. 308

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Fatāwā Hindiyyah, vol. 1, p. 201

23 Questions and Answers Regarding Eid with the Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah harm later on, as sweet foods contain large amounts of sugar and are like poison for diabetic patients. It can even be fatal for them.

To make things worse, sweet makers sometimes use out-ofdate ingredients, which has a negative impact on a person's health. This is not the case with all sweet makers, but those who do this should fear Allah Almighty.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Malfūzāt-e-Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, vol. 8, p. 310 18

## WEEKLY BOOKLET STUDY

الْحَمْدُ لِلْهُ Every week, the founder of Dawat-e-Islami, Shaykh al-Tareeqah Ameer Ahl al-Sunnah, Founder of Dawat-e-Islami Hazrat Allamah Mawlana Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri Razavi العالي and his successor Al-Haaj Abu Usaid Obaid Raza Madani دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَة, encourage the reading of a booklet. المَاشَاتُ Millions of Islamic brothers and sisters participate in this blessed activity by reading or listening to this booklet, benefiting from the prayers of Ameer Ahl al-Sunnah and his successor. This booklet is available for free download in

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+92 21 111 25 26 92 S 3 0313-1139278 www.maktabatulmadinah.com / www.dawateislami.net feedback@maktabatulmadinah.com / ilmia@dawateislami.net