

The Day of Ashura

–AmatUllah–

One of the four holy months in Islam is the month of Muharram, in which is the sacred day of Ashura. Let us look deeper into this day, as it holds great value.

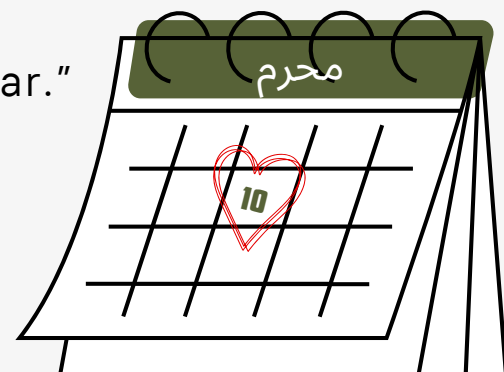
THE HISTORY BEHIND THE 10TH OF MUHARRAM

On the 10th of Muharram, RasoolUllah Salallahu Alaihi wa Sallam came to Madinah Munawwarah and saw that the Jews were fasting. Upon asking them the reason for their fast, they said that it is because it was on this very day that Allah Ta'ala freed Hadhrat Musa Alaihissalam from the tyrant Firawn. After this incident, Musa AS would fast on this day as a form of gratitude to Allah Ta'ala, and commanded his people to do so too. RasoolUllah Salallahu Alaihi wa Sallam then

said, "We are closer to Musa than you." Thereafter RasoolUllah Salallahu Alaihi wa Sallam commanded us to fast on the 10th of Muharram, and along with that to fast an additional fast either the day before or the day after, to oppose the way of the Jews.

THE VIRTUES OF FASTING ON THIS DAY

The fast of the Day of Ashura is the most virtuous fast after those of Ramadhan. RasoolUllah Salallahu Alaihi wa Sallam stated in a Hadeeth, words to the effect, "Fasting on the Day of Ashura expiates the sins of the previous year."
[Muslim]



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SPENDING ON THE DAY OF ASHURA

It is mentioned in a weak Hadeeth that RasoolUllah Salallahu Alaihi wa Sallam said, "Whoever spends generously on the Day of Ashura, Allah will expand his sustenance for him for the rest of the year."

[Tabarani]

Hadhrat Sufyaan Ibn Uyaynah RadhiyAllahu Anhu said that he only attained abundant goodness by practicing on this Hadeeth. The renowned Muhaddith, Imam Nawawi RahmatUllahi Alayh stated that spending on your family on this Day is mustahab (preferable).

Imam Ibn al-Hāj RahmatUllahi Alayh states that generosity on the family, relatives, orphans, poor and increasing expenditure and charity on

Ashura is recommended on the condition that we do not do it to show off to others and we that do not make spending on this day an act that is regarded as necessary, as doing so is disliked. Making sincere intentions is essential. Only then will we truly reap the fruit of our actions.

There are many ways in which we can spend on our families, one of them being through food and drink. It is mentioned that on the Day of Ashura we should widen our food tables. On this day we should prepare our meals more specially than how we would on an ordinary day.

May Allah Ta'ala grant us the ability to gain maximum benefit in this virtuous day.
Aameen.

