Abu Hurairah *radi Allahu anhu* narrated that Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said: “From the first night of Ramadan, the devils and the evil Jinn are chained, the gates of Hell are closed and none of them will be opened. The gates of Paradise are opened and none of them will be closed and a caller will call, ‘O seeker of good! Come, and O seeker of evil! Desist (from committing evil).’ Verily, there are (certain) people who are freed (saved) from the Hell-Fire by Allah and that is during every day and night of the month of Ramadan.” (*Ibn Majah*)
Invocation to be Said on the Sighting the Crescent Moon

اللَّهُمَّ أَهْلِهِ عَلَيْنَا بِالأَمْنِ، وَالإِيَمَانِ وَالسَّلَامَةِ وَالإِسْلَامِ، وَالتَّوْفِيقِ لِمَا تُحِبُّ وَتَرْضَى رَبُّنَا وَرَبِّكَ اللهُ

Allaahumma 'ahillahu 'alayna bi'l'amni wal'eemaani, wassalaamati wal-'Islaami, wattawfeeqi limaa tuhibbu Rabbanaa wa tardhaa, Rabbunaa wa Rabbukallaahu.

“Allah is the Most Great. O Allah, bring us the new moon with security and Faith, with peace and in Islam, and in harmony with what our Lord loves and what pleases Him. Our Lord and your Lord is Allah.”

(Tirmidhi)

Intentions

"The reward of deeds depend upon the intentions and every person will get the reward according to what he has intended." (Bukhari)

To get the maximum reward for our righteous deeds during this month, we need to have the maximum amount of righteous intentions! After all, having the maximum, righteous intentions for any act of worship was considered the trade of the ulema.
The Intentions of Fasting

1. **To carry out the orders of Allah and to attain piety**, as Allah said: "*O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become al-Mutaaqun (pious).*" (*Al-Baqarah, 2:183*)

2. **To get protection from Hell-fire.** Allah's Messenger ﷺ said, "Whoever fasts a day in the way of Allah, Allah will place between him and the Fire a trench like that between the heavens and the earth." (*Tirmidhi*)

3. **To expiate one's past sins.** "He who fasts Ramadan, due to Eemaan and hoping for reward (from Allah) then his previous sins are forgiven." (*Bukhari, Muslim*)

4. **To enter Paradise.** Abu Umaamah (RA) said "I said: 'O Messenger of Allah, tell me of an action by which I may enter Paradise.' He said: 'Take to fasting, there is nothing like it.'" (*an-Nasaaee, ibn Hibbaan*)

5. **To get intercession on the Day of Judgment.** The Prophet ﷺ said, "Fasting and the Qur'an intercede for the servant on the day of Resurrection. Fasting will say: O My Lord, I prevented him from food and desires so accept my intercession for him, and the Qur'an will say: I prevented him from sleep at night, so accept my intercession for him, so their intercession will be accepted." (*Ahmad*)

6. **To get a granted invocation (supplication).** The Prophet ﷺ said, "The du'aa of the fasting person will not be refused."

7. **To enter through the gate of Ar-Rayyan on the Day of Judgment.** The Prophet ﷺ said, "There is a gate in Paradise called Ar-Rayyan, and those who observe fasts will enter through it on the Day of Resurrection and none except them will enter through it. It will be said, 'Where are those who used to observe fasts?' They will get up, and none except them will enter through it. After their entry the gate will be closed and nobody will enter through it." (*Bukhari*)

8. **To receive the reward in full without reckoning:** "Every good action of the son of Adam is multiplied from 10 up to 700, Allah said, "Except for the fasting, for indeed it is for Me, and I reward for it, they leave their desires and their food for My sake." (*Muslim*)
As we begin another day of fasting, let us renew all the intentions and be rewarded with an instant inner joy, and an unimaginable stock full of rewards in the Hereafter, inshaAllah!

When Should the Intention for the Obligatory Fast Be Made?

One can intend to fast daily—that is the intention should be made the night before (prior to dawn), night by night.

- or -

One must make an intention for fasting prior to the dawn at the beginning of Ramadan, and if the fasting is interrupted by sickness, menses, or travel, then the intention should be renewed.

According to the statement made by the Prophet ﷺ: "Fasting is not accepted from one who does not make his intention to fast before dawn." (Ahmad, Abu Dawud, Ibn Majah, Tirmidhi)

The Intentions When Taking the Suhur (Pre- Dawn Meal)

1. **To carry out the commandment of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ** when he ﷺ said: "Take the suhur." (Bukhari, Muslim)
2. **To follow the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ**.
3. **To gain the blessings**, because Allah's Messenger ﷺ said: "Take suhur as there is a blessing in it." (Agreed Upon)
4. **To be different from the people of the Scriptures** who do not observe partaking of suhur, as reported by Muslim.
5. **To seek the Salaah of Allah and His angels upon oneself.** The Prophet ﷺ said: "Allah sends His salaah (graces, honours, blessings, mercy, etc.) and also His angels send their salaah (ask Allah to bless and forgive them) upon those who take suhur." (Ibn Hibban, At- Tabarani)
6. To facilitate fasting and gain strength for worshipping.
7. To make du'aa and ask forgiveness after taking suhur at the end of the night.

**Delaying Al-Suhur till the Last Portion of the Night**

The Prophet Messenger ﷺ said: “The people will remain on the right path as long as they hasten the breaking of the fast (Al-Iftar) and delay taking the morning meal (Al-Suhur).” *(Ahmad, Abu Dawud, Tirmidhi)*

**The Best Suhur**

The Prophet ﷺ said, "The best suhur of the believer is dates (Tamr)." *(Ibn Majah, Al-Hakim)*

*(There are no authentic supplications from the Qur’an and Sunnah that must be uttered specifically for the Suhur meal.)*

**Before Eating**

*Bismillah* (In the name of Allah).
If One Forgets to Say *Bismillah Before Eating*

بِسْمِ اللّهِ فِي أُوْلَىٰهُ وَآخَرِهِ

*Bismillaahi* (In the name of Allah) *fee* (in) *awwalahi* (its beginning) *wa* (and) *akhirahi* (its end).

(Ibn Majah 1/557)

After Eating

الْحَمْدُ لِلِّهِ الَّذِي أَطْعَمْنِي هَذَا، وَرَزَقْنِيهِ، مِنْ غَيْرِ حَوْلٍ مِّنِّي وَلَا قُوَّةٍ

*Alhamdu* (All praise) *lillaahil-lathee* (is for Allah who) *at’amanee* (fed me) *haathaa* (this), *wa* (and) *razaqaneehi* (provided it for me), *min ghayri* (without any) *hawlin* (might) *minnee* (from myself) *wa* (and) *laa* (no) *qwwevatine* (power [from myself]).

(At-Tirmithi, Abu Dawud, Ibn Majah)

The Intentions of Breaking the Fast (Iftar)

1. To carry out the orders of Allah by eating at sunset.
2. To gain strength for worshipping Allah.
3. To follow the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in hastening the breaking of the fast. Allah's Messenger ﷺ said: "The people
will continue to be in a good state of affairs as long as they hasten the breaking of the fast." *(Agreed Upon)*

4. **To receive the pleasure (joy) when one will meet his Lord on the Day of Resurrection.** Allah's Messenger ﷺ said: "There are two pleasures for the person observing the fast, one at the time of Iftar (breaking the fast), and the other at the time when he will meet his Lord; then he will be pleased because of his Saum (fasting)." *(Bukhari)*

5. **To receive a granted invocation (prayer) at time of breaking the fast.** Allah's Messenger ﷺ said: "Indeed the fasting person has at the time of breaking fast a prayer (supplication) which is not rejected." *(Ibn Majah, Al-Hakim)*

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**It is Preferable to Break the Fast with Fresh Dates**

Narrated Anas bin Malik (may Allah be pleased with him), "The Prophet ﷺ used to break his fast before offering the (Maghrib) prayer with some fresh dates, if he did not get any then dried dates, and in failing that too, he ﷺ would drink a few mouthfuls of water." *(Ahmad, Ibn Majah, Tirmidhi, Abu Dawud)*

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**Supplication for Breaking the Fast (1)**

*ذَهَبَ الْطَّمَمَا وَأَبْتُلَّتِ الْعُروُقُ، وَتَبْتَ الأَجْرُ إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ*

*Thahaba (Has gone) adh–dhama’u (the thirst) wabtallatil (and are quenched) –‘urooqu (the veins), wa (and) thabatal (is confirmed) –‘ajru (the reward) in shaa’ Allaah (if Allah wills).*

*(Abu Dawud)*
Supplication for Breaking the Fast (2)

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ بِرَحْمَتِكَ الَّتِي وَسِعَتْ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ أَنْ تَغْفِرْ لِي

Allaahumma (O Allah) innee (verily I) as’aluka (ask You) birahmatika (by Your mercy) al-latee (which) wasi’at (envelops) kulla (all) shay’in (things) an taghﬁra (that You forgive) lee (me).

(Ibn Majah)

Supplication of a Guest for the Host
(This supplication is not only for Ramadan.)

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِك لَهُمْ فِيمَا رَزَقْتَهُمْ، وَاغْفِرْ لَهُمْ وَارْحَمْهُمْ

Allaahumma (O Allah) baarik (bless) lahum (for them) feemaa (that which) razaqtahum (You have provided them), waghfir (and forgive) lahum (them) warhamhum (and have mercy upon them).

(Muslim)
Supplication Said for a Family Who Invites You to Break Your Fast with Them

أَفْطَرْ عِنْدَكُمْ الصَّائِمُونَ، وَأَكُلْ طَعَامُكُمْ الأَبْرَارُ، وَصَلَّتْ عَلَيْكُمْ الْمَلَائِكَةُ

*Aftara* (May break their fast) ‘*indakum* (with you) *us-saa’imoona* (the ones who fast), *wa* (and) *akala* (may eat) *ta’aamakum* (your food) *ul-‘abraaru* (the pious), *wa* (and) *sallat* (may send prayers) ‘*alaykum* (upon you) *ul-malaa’ikatu* (the angels).

*(Abu Dawud, Ibn Majah, An-Nasa’i)*

The Intentions when Reciting the Qur’an

1. **To receive the intercession.** Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said, “Read the Qur’an as it shall come on the Day of Resurrection as an intercessor for its readers.” *(Muslim)*
2. **To receive healing for that which is in the breasts** (diseases of ignorance, doubts, etc.).
3. **To be raised in grades (ranks) in paradise.**
4. **To make it a protection (and a shield) from Hell-fire.**
5. **To attain a high rank and to be with the angels.**
6. **To be one of Allah’s special people.**
7. **To receive the light with which one can be guided in the darkness** (i.e. a light in the heart, in the face, in the grave and on the bridge (As-Sirat) on the Day of Resurrection).
8. To receive an increased amount of reward and to attain Allah’s love.
9. To receive the guidance and mercy from Allah.

The Intentions of Qiyaam
(Establishing the Night with Prayers)

1. **To expiate one’s past sins.** Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said, “Whoever establishes (nawafil, voluntary) prayers during the nights of Ramadan, faithfully, out of sincere faith and hoping to attain Allah’s rewards, all his past sins will be forgiven.” (Bukhari)

2. **To search for Lailatul-Qadr (the night of Qadr).** Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said, “Search for the night of Qadr in the odd nights of the last nights of Ramadan.” (Bukhari)

3. **To enter Paradise with peace.** Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said, “O, people! Spread salam (greetings), feed others, join your kin, and pray at night while people are sleeping, you will enter paradise with peace.” (Ibn Majah, Tirmidhi)

4. **To be one of the muhsinun (good doers) who,** “They used to sleep but little by night and in the hours before dawn, they were (found) asking (Allah) for forgiveness.” (Adh-Dhariat, 51:17-18)

5. **To imitate and follow the way of the righteous predecessors.** Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said, “Exert your utmost to offer night prayer, because it is the way of the righteous predecessors before you, it is nearness to your Lord, it expiates sins and prevents one from committing evil deeds or sins.” (Tirmidhi, Authenticated by Al-Albani)

6. **To receive the great booty that comes from reciting the Qur’an in the night prayer.** Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said, “Whoever establishes the night prayer and recites 10 verses, will not be written down as one of the heedless, and whoever prays at night reciting a 100 verses will be written down as one of the sincere devotees, and whoever prays at night reciting 1,000 verses will be written down as one of al-muqantarín (i.e. those for whom is written a qintar (a weight-measure) of reward).” (Abu Dawud, Authenticated by al-Albani)
Special Invocation for the Night of Decree

اللَّهُمَّ أَنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ نَحْبُبُ الْعَفُوَّ فَاعْفُ عَنَا

Allahumma innaka 'afuwun tuhibbul 'afwa fa'fu 'anna.

"O Allah, You are Oft-Pardoning and You love to pardon, so pardon us." (Ahmad, Ibn Majah, Tirmidhi)

A‘ishah radi Allahu anha asked the Prophet ﷺ, “If I knew which night is Laylatul Qadr, what should I say during it?” The Prophet ﷺ told her to say: Allahumma innaka ‘afuwun tuhibul ‘afwa fa’fu ‘anni, O Allah indeed You are the Pardoner, You love to Pardon, so Pardon me. (Tirmidhi)
Al Huda Sisters are a group of dedicated Muslim women committed to providing authentic, insightful, and enlightening Islamic education for the Muslim and non-Muslim women and girls of our community.

We are a non-profit organization with members from various backgrounds and cultures coming together under the banner of (Laa ilaaha illallaah).

To many of us, Al Huda has become our second home: a place where we not only bond with our sisters for the sake of Allah, but also nourish our hearts and souls in the hope of coming closer to our Lord.