

# Al-Maktab

## Muharram

### *Bismillahir Ramaanir Raheem*

*Al-hamdulillah* we have just commenced the new Islamic year 1427 which begins with the month of Muharram. Allāh ﷻ says in the Holy Qur'aan: **“Verily the number of months by Allāh ﷻ are twelve from the day Allāh ﷻ had created the skies and the earth. From these twelve months, four are sacred.”** The four sacred months are Rajab, Dhul Qa'dah, Dhul Hijjah and the month of Muharram.

The month of Muharram enjoys specific virtues as compared to other months. Rasulullah ﷺ has described the fasts of this month in the following Hadith: “The best of fasts besides the month of Ramadhaan is the fasting of Allāh's ﷻ month of Muharram.” From this Hadith we see that Allāh ﷻ has referred to the month of Muharram as **HIS MONTH**. The tenth of Muharram is known as the day of Aashurah

Some incidents that occurred on the day of *Aashurah*

1. Aadam's ﷺ tawbah was accepted.
2. The Ark of Nooh ﷺ settled on Mt. Joodi.
3. Firaun was drowned and the Bani Israaeel was saved.

### **The lesson of Aashurah**

Since the Jews also fasted on the tenth of Muharram, Rasulullah ﷺ commanded us to oppose them and fast one day before or one day after Aashurah as well.

Muslims have been taught to always be kind and just to all human beings, Muslims and Non-Muslims. However we must always follow Nabi ﷺ in the way we live. We should never follow the way of life of the Non-Muslims. This is the lesson we learn from the fast of Aashurah.

In everything we do we should follow our beloved Muhammad ﷺ. Our eating, sleeping, talking, in fact everything we do should be in accordance with his way and not the ways of Non-Muslims. Allāh ﷻ will be happy with us and will bless us with every kind of success. May Allāh ﷻ accept us all and give us the ability to follow every sunnah of our beloved Muhammad ﷺ.

### **Fasting on the day of Aashurah**

The tenth of Muharram, known as the day of Aashurah, is a very important and significant day in the Islaamic calendar.

Rasulullah ﷺ encouraged the Ummah to fast on this day. Before it became compulsory to fast in Ramadhaan it was compulsory to fast on Aashurah. When the fast of Ramadhaan became fardh the fast of Aashurah was cancelled.

Rasulullah ﷺ has said that the one who fasts on the tenth of Muharram will have his previous years sins forgiven. We should fast one day before or one day after the day of Aashurah. We should not resemble the Jews who also fast on the tenth of Muharram.

### **Thirty Fasts**

In another Hadith Rasulullah ﷺ has said that the one who fasts in the month of Muharram will receive the reward of thirty fasts for every fast.

**Dear Children**

*Assalamu alaykum wa Rahmatullahi wa barakaatuhu.*

We hope that you are well and ready to get down to some serious work. The holidays were really long and we are sure that you were really missing Madrasah. We hope that during the holidays you revised all your past work.

Our theme for this month is “**The Month of Muharram.**” Coincidentally we just commenced 2006 and very soon thereafter, the new Islaamic year 1427 also commenced. Unlike the disbelievers we do not celebrate the new year. Rather it reminds us that we are one year closer to our graves.

The month of Muharram has a very special place in the Islaamic calendar. Let us make use of these precious moments and ponder over our life in this world.

The last theme on “**A Muslim Home**” was well received (*Masha Allah*). All the projects were very interesting and a lot of hard work was put into it. May Allāh ﷻ accept all your efforts. *Aameen.*

The first 5 correct entries drawn for the quiz were as follows:-

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Zohra Moosa</b>    | <b>Berea West</b>    |
| <b>Saaliha Motara</b> | <b>Esnebe</b>        |
| <b>Yaasir</b>         | <b>Shallcross</b>    |
| <b>Amina Adamjee</b>  | <b>Rockford</b>      |
| <b>Naadira Saib</b>   | <b>Madrasah Noor</b> |

Congratulations to you all. *Masha Allah!* You all have done well.

The winners for the best projects for each grade is as follows:

- |                     |                                |                   |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Grade One:</b>   | <b>Fiaz Muhammad</b>           | <b>Eastview</b>   |
| <b>Grade Two:</b>   | <b>Fiona Mullah</b>            | <b>Eastview</b>   |
| <b>Grade Three:</b> | <b>Anisa Salejee</b>           | <b>Shallcross</b> |
| <b>Grade four:</b>  | 1. <b>Radia Muhammad</b>       | <b>Eastview</b>   |
|                     | 2. <b>Muhammad Zubair Shah</b> | <b>Eastview</b>   |
| <b>Grade five:</b>  | <b>Najiyah Tickly</b>          | <b>Vryheid</b>    |
| <b>Grade six:</b>   | <b>Mariam Hansa</b>            | <b>Vryheid</b>    |
| <b>Grade seven:</b> | 1. <b>Shehnaaz Noor</b>        | <b>Eastview</b>   |
|                     | 2. <b>Rabia Cassim</b>         | <b>Eastview</b>   |

Special congratulations to Eastview Madrasah. They have taken

Answer all 10 questions correctly and submit your entries. The first 5 correct entries will each receive R10-00 cash.

- How many months are there in the Islaamic year?
- Name them.
- Which four months are known as the four sacred months in the Qur'aan?
- Which Sahaabi was martyred in the month of Muharram?
- Which day in the month of Muharram is known as Aashurah?
- What is the virtue of fasting on the day of Aashurah?
- What is the greatest lesson we learn from this noble month?
- Mention 2 significant incidents that occurred on the day of Aashurah
- What does the Sunnah mean?
- Which Islaamic year has just commenced?



**Theme**

This month's theme is “**The month of Muharram**” Do a project on one of the following:

- The Month of Muharram and the significance of Aashurah.
- The Martyrdom of Hadhrat Umar ؓ

All entries must be handed in by 03 March 2006.

**N.B.** In order to qualify please write your name, the name of your Madrasah and your grade on the cover of your project as well as your quiz. *Jazakallah.*