

Al Maktab

Maktab Pupil's NewsLetter

Haj

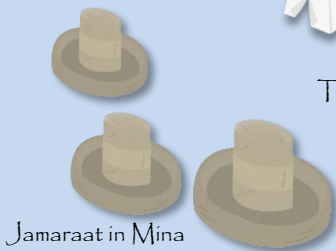
Al-hamdulillah, we have now entered the sacred months of Haj. Haj is the fifth pillar of Islam and every Muslim desires to go for Haj. Allah Ta'ala has made Haj fardh (compulsory) upon all Muslims once in a lifetime for those who can afford to go.

It is mentioned in a Hadith that whoever performs Haj for the pleasure of Allah Ta'ala, does not fight and argue with anyone and does not commit sins openly, will return home like the day his mother had given birth to him (i.e. free of sins).



Mount Arafat

Tents at Mina



Jamaraat in Mina

THE CALL of Hadhrat Ebrahim (alayhis salaam)

Allah Ta'ala had commanded Hadhrat Ebrahim (alayhis salaam) to build the Ka'bah Shareef in Makkah Mukarramah. His son, Hadhrat Ismaaeel (alayhis salaam), helped him to build the first Masjid on the face of the earth. Having built the Kabah Shareef, Allah Ta'ala commanded Hadhrat Ibrahim (alayhis salaam) to call all of mankind to perform Haj. Ibrahim (alayhis salaam) asked Allah Ta'ala, "O Allah! How shall my voice reach them?" Allah Ta'ala replied, "You will call them and I will make your call reach them."

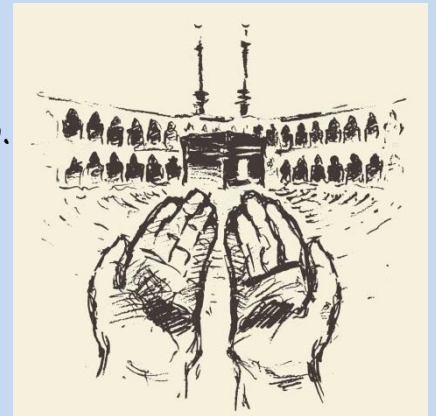
Hence, Hadhrat Ibraaheem (alayhis salaam) called out to the world to come for Haj and Allah Ta'ala made his voice reach everyone in the heavens and the earth.

All those who heard this call and said, "Labbaik" were granted the good fortune of performing Haj. In fact all those who said Labbaik even before they were born, will be guaranteed to perform Haj. Whoever recited the labbaik once will perform Haj once and those who recited labbaik twice will perform Haj twice.

It is necessary for all Muslims to make dua for Haj (The fifth pillar of Islam)

We are presently in a time when the government has stopped people from entering Makkah Mukarramah to perform Haj. Previously, millions of people from all over the world would go to perform Haj. Allah Ta'ala's special rahmat (mercy) would descend on the Ummah and millions of people would make sincere taubah to Allah Ta'ala and change their lives. People would start practicing on the Sunnah, perform the 5 daily Salaah and dress like a good Muslim.

A time has come when the Ummah cannot go for Haj anymore. Only a limited amount of people are allowed to go. What will happen to this great pillar of Islam? It is the compulsory duty of every Muslim to make dua to Allah Ta'ala to forgive us for not appreciating this great favour of His and once again open the doors for us to go easily for Haj without any regulations and restrictions.



O Allah! Forgive us, The Ummah of Nabi Muhammad (sallallahu alayhi wasallam). O Allah! Please open up the Haramain Shareefain once again and allow the Ummah access to come and go freely to Your house. O Allah! Give us that golden opportunity to visit Madinah Munawwarah and send durood and salaam upon our beloved Nabi Muhammad (sallallahu alayhi wasallam). Aameen.

Haj

A Remembrance of the sacrifice of
Hadhrat Ebrahim (alayhis salaam)

Hadhrat Ebrahim (alayhis salaam) is the greatest Nabi of Allah Ta'ala after our beloved Nabi Muhammad (sallallahu alayhi wasallam). At a very young age, he was forced to leave his parents. He lived all alone, only because he wished to worship Allah Ta'ala and not idols made of stone. He lived for many years in Jerusalem until eventually Allah Ta'ala blessed him at the age of 86 with a beautiful son, Hadhrat Ismaaeel (alayhis salaam). Allah Ta'ala ordered him to leave his wife and infant son in the hot desert lands of Arabia with no food and water. Ibraaheem (alayhis salaam) left them in the middle of the desert and made dua to Allah Ta'ala to take care of them.

Ismaaeel (alayhis salaam) began crying out of hunger and thirst. His mother, Haajira (radiyallahu anha), began running between the hills of Safa and Marwa searching for someone to help her and her baby son.

Those who go for Haj and Umrah are required to run between these two hills following the example of Haajira (radiyallahu anha).



Hadhrat Ibraheem (alayhis salaam) had made dua to Allah Ta'ala to take care of his wife and child in this barren land. Allah Ta'ala took pity on them and caused the sweet, tasty water of Zam Zam to gush out of the ground. Both of them quenched their thirst and satisfied their hunger with this special water. We are encouraged to drink a lot of Zam Zam when we go for Haj and Umrah. Hadhrat Ibnu Abbas (radiyallahu anhu) said, "When you drink Zam Zam water, face the Qiblah, take the name of Allah Ta'ala, drink it in three breaths and drink as much as you like. When you finish drinking, praise Allah Ta'ala, for Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) said, 'The difference between us and the hypocrites is that they do not drink the Zam Zam water to their fill.'" The special water of Zam Zam attracted other thirsty travellers to settle in this desert. Soon the city of Makkah Mukarramah flourished.

Ismaaeel (alayhis salaam) grew up into a handsome young boy. Ibraaheem (alayhis salaam) was commanded in a dream to slaughter his beloved son. Hadhrat Ismaaeel (alayhis salaam) accepted the command of Allah Ta'ala. Both left for Mina. Shaytaan, our enemy, tried to mislead them. On seeing him, Hadhrat Ibraaheem (alayhis salaam) said, "Allahu Akbar" pelting shaytaan with seven stones. Shaytaan sank into the ground. He tried this trick another two times but each time Hadhrat Ibraaheem (alayhis salaam) threw stones at him and chased him away.

On reaching the place of slaughter, Ismaaeel (alayhis salaam) was laid down facing the Qiblah. Ibraaheem (alayhis salaam) sharpened his knife. With all his strength he tried slaughtering his son but the knife would not cut the throat of Ismaaeel (alayhis salaam). A voice from the skies echoed, "O Ibraaheem, you have fulfilled the command in your dream."

Verily we reward those who do good.” When father and son realised this was yet another test from Allah Ta’ala which they had passed successfully, they were overjoyed. A sheep from Jannah was sent by Allah Ta’ala and slaughtered by Ibraaheem (alayhis salaam).

Thereafter, Allah Ta’ala ordered Hadhrat Ibraaheem (alayhis salaam) to build the first Masjid on the face of the earth in Makkah. Hadhrat Ismaaeel (alayhis salaam) helped his father build the Ka’bah Shareef.

Allah Ta’ala sent a stone from Jannah to be placed in the Ka’bah. This stone is known as the Hajr-e-Aswad.

After building the Ka’bah, Hadhrat Ibraaheem (alayhis salaam) made the following dua;

“Rabbana Taqabbal Minna, Innaka Antas Samee’ul ‘Aleem. Wa tub alayna innaka antat tawaabur Raheem.” (O Allah accept from us (this act of building the Ka’bah), Verily you are all Hearing, and forgive us for verily You are The Being that forgives and is Most Merciful).

This House of Allah Ta’ala eventually became the Qiblah for all Muslims all over the world. Every Masjid in the world faces the Ka’bah. Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) has said, “One who performs a single salaah in this Masjid will receive the reward of performing 100 000 salaah.”

May Allah Ta’ala bless us all with such sincerity and dedication and may He also bless us in this world and the next. Aameen.



