

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ كَانَتْ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتُ الْفِرْدَوْسِ نُزُلًا

fulfilling an obligatory duty takes precedence over voluntary (nafil) worship.

Respected Believers!

The fast of Shawwal is a beautiful sign of continuing one's devotion after Ramadan. This fast reminds us of the following: The believer does not worship seasonally, but continuously. Righteous deeds are the believer's adornment, and steadfastness (istiqamah) is the path to salvation. Therefore, let us consider these blessed days of Shawwal as a prize, not neglect the six days of fasting, and preserve the consciousness of servitude we gained in Ramadan.

I conclude my khutbah with this blessed hadith of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ: "**The most beloved deed to Allah is the one that is consistent, even if it is small.**" (Bukhari, Riqaq, 18)

وَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: مَنْ صَامَ رَمَضَانَ ثُمَّ أَتْبَعَهُ سِنًّا مِنْ شَوَّالٍ كَانَ كَصِيَامِ الدَّهْرِ

Respected Muslims!

The topic of today's khutbah is the month of Shawwal and the six days of fasting observed in this month.

Our Supreme Lord states in the Noble Qur'an: "**Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds - they will have the Gardens of Paradise as a lodging.**" (Al-Kahf, 18:107)

Dear Believers!

We have left the blessed month of Ramadan behind. In those sacred days, we fasted, paid closer attention to our prayers, occupied ourselves with the Noble Qur'an, and vied in goodness and charity. Now, our duty is not to abandon this beautiful state we gained in the blessed month along with the Eid. Because our Lord is not only the Lord of Ramadan, but the Lord of all times. Servitude should also be extended not just to one month, but to one's entire life.

The six days of fasting to be observed in the month of Shawwal is a great opportunity for the believer. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: "**Whoever fasts Ramadan and then follows it with six days of fasting in Shawwal, it is as if he has fasted the entire year.**" (Muslim, Siyam, 204)

My Respected Brothers and Sisters!

The six days of fasting in Shawwal can be observed on any days of the month, except for the first day of Eid. These fasts do not necessarily have to be observed consecutively. A person may fast them consecutively or on separate days. Nevertheless, it is considered more virtuous to fast them on Mondays and Thursdays, or on the 13th, 14th, and 15th days of the month, known as the "White Days" (Ayyam al-Beed). However, we must also not forget that if a person has missed fasts (qada) remaining from Ramadan, it is preferable to make up for those first. Because