



In the name of Allah most Gracious, most Merciful

COMMUNITY NEWS

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JANUARY 2025

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(Shaykh Abu Musa)

HIGHLIGHTS

FAMILY WEEKEND SEMINAR

RAMADAN – THE BEST TIME FOR RENEWAL

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2025; 1- 7 PM

FAMILY BRUNCH

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2025; 10-12 AM

FIRST TARAWEEH (TENTATIVE)

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2025

FIRST OF RAMADAN (TENTATIVE)

SATURDAY MARCH 1, 2025

27TH NIGHT OF RAMADAN (TENTATIVE)

WEDNESDAY MARCH 26, 2025

EID-UL-FITR (TENTATIVE)

SUNDAY MARCH 30, 2025

EID-UL-FITR DINNER

SATURDAY APRIL 5, 2025

PLEASE VISIT OUR SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE FOR UPDATED
INFORMATION, DATES, AND TIMINGS

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Assalaam o Alaikum

I pray and hope that you are all well and in the best of health and Imaan. At the time of writing this article we had just bid farewell to another year. We look forward to 2025, with hope and prayer asking Allah SWT to bring peace and harmony to the world. Alhamdulillah we in Canada are blessed to live in an environment that values peace and diversity. As Muslims, we can perform our acts of Ibadah in relative safety, and we thank Allah SWT for all His boons and favours.

Over the past year, Alhamdulillah, TARIC has experienced another successful year. All our programs and events were well attended and supported by members of our community. The Board of Directors of TARIC extends its heartfelt appreciation to everyone who contributed to our success - whether through time, financial support, or other means. Your generosity and efforts helped us to achieve our goals and objectives year after year. May Allah SWT bless and reward each and everyone for their continued support.

As we look ahead, planning and preparations are already underway for the blessed month of Ramadan, expected to begin on February 28 or March 1, depending on the sighting of the new moon. InshaAllah, we plan to host weekend iftars, with dates and details to be shared in our Ramadan flyer. We pray that Allah SWT grants us the privilege to witness this blessed month of Ramadan.

Before Ramadan, we have two significant events on the horizon. The first is a special day event titled "**Ramadan – The Best Time for Renewal**", scheduled for Saturday, February 15, 2025. This event will focus on preparing our hearts and minds for the blessed month, offering insights and inspiration to help us make the most of Ramadan. Following this, is our annual **Family Day Brunch** which will take place on Sunday, February 16, 2025. The brunch has consistently been a community favorite, with tickets often selling out quickly. We encourage you to

participate in these events and secure your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

While we make plans for our community here, we cannot forget the suffering of our brothers and sisters in other parts of the world. The recent Israeli ceasefire in Gaza offers some hope for relief and peace in a region that has endured immense hardship. However, the scars of the past 15 months remain, with over 45,000 Palestinians losing their lives and countless others struggling to rebuild amid devastation. Humanitarian relief efforts continue to be critical, as many Palestinians still face severe shortages of essential food and medical supplies. We pray to Allah SWT to make this ceasefire a lasting step toward justice and peace, to bring relief to the oppressed, and to protect the innocent. May the global community and Muslim nations rise to their responsibility in protecting the weak and innocent and supporting the path to lasting peace.

In 2024, TARIC made significant financial contributions to humanitarian relief efforts in Gaza, Sudan, and other crisis-stricken areas. We remain committed to supporting organizations that work tirelessly to deliver food and essential medical supplies to those in need, and we look forward to your continued support in these endeavors.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff of TARIC, I extend my warmest wishes for 2025. May Allah SWT bless us all with peace, happiness, and contentment in our lives.

OBSERVING RAMADAN FOR A LASTING IMPACT IN THIS LIFE AND IN THE HEREAFTER

By: Imam Shaykh Abu Musa Imran Ally

Ramadan - the month of fasting

Ramadan is the 9th month of the Islamic calendar and observed by Muslims via daily fasting and many other acts of worship. Fasting (siyam or sawm) is derived from the Arabic root word meaning "to abstain". In the context of fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence), fasting is to abstain daily during the month from food, beverage,

and spousal intimacy between dawn (fajr) to sunset (maghrib), while being careful to avoid all sins. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said, “Whoever does not leave evil words and deeds while fasting, Allaah doesn’t need them to leave food and drink.” Sahih al-Bukhari.

Ramadan is a means of attaining taqwa

Allaah explained the purpose of fasting in the Glorious Qur’aan: **{O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become righteous (attain taqwa).}** surah 2: ayah 183. Fasting in Ramadan is prescribed to help believers develop mindfulness of Allaah and righteousness in their lives. It’s a time for deep spiritual reflection, self-improvement, and devotion to Allaah. It’s a transformative journey that fosters gratitude, generosity, and empathy, enriching not only our spiritual lives but also our relationships with others.

Ramadan teaches compassion

Many people, including Muslims live with food or water insecurity; that is, they’re hungry or thirsty and not by choice. When we feel the pangs of hunger or thirst while fasting, we should be reminded of their suffering and motivate us to remember them in du’a and donate to ease their plight.

Ramadan is an opportunity to make amends

Ramadan is one of our best opportunities to get a clean record with Allaah, as some acts of worship (fasting and prayers) will make amends for previous sins and shortcomings. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said, “Whoever fasts the month of Ramadan due to faith and seeking reward, their previous sins will be forgiven.” Sahih Muslim.

Ramadan is to build good habits

Ramadan should be transformative; we should finish Ramadan as better Muslims than we were in the beginning of it. The good habits that are inculcated during Ramadan should continue in consistency which is more important than quantity. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said, “Know that the most beloved

deed to Allaah is that which is done regularly, even if it is small.” Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim.

Ramadan should be personalized

There are numerous recommended acts of worship that we can engage in during this month, however, Allaah has blessed everyone with their own strengths, and while it’s easier for someone to pray at night, others find it easier to recite the Qur’aan or to generously donate their wealth or time in service of others. Once we fulfill the basic obligations of observing Ramadan, we’re free to add from any of the recommended acts of worship to increase our rewards.

Ramadan all year long

The companions (may Allaah be pleased with them) would make du’a to Allaah for six months that they would reach Ramadan. Then, they would make du’a to Him for six months afterwards to accept their Ramadan deeds.

Ramadan for reverts

Recently, several persons have shown interest in Islam, and some have reverted at the TARIC Islamic Centre, all praise be to Allaah. May Allaah bless them to become pillars of strength in the ummah.

The following daily Ramadan outline is dedicated to all new reverts, especially those who will be enjoying their first Ramadan, in shaa Allaah.

- Once the month is declared by your local Masjid, please make intention (niyyah) to fast the entire month. A daily intention which can be done before sleeping or at the time of suhur (predawn meal).
- Eat suhur (predawn meal) which must be finished before the adhan for fajr salaah. The Messenger of Allaah ﷺ said, “Eat suhur. Surely, there is blessing in suhur.” Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim.
- The day will obviously include observing the five daily prayers along with many additional opportunities to increase acts of worship, depending on time availability. Please remember to pace yourself and take some time to recharge :)

- Hasten to break the fast (iftar - mainly with dates and water) at the beginning of the adhan (call to prayer) for maghrib salaah. The Messenger of Allaah ﷺ said, *“People will continue in goodness as long as they hasten to break their fast.”* Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim. The du’a to break the fast is, *“O Allaah, I have fasted for Your sake and break the fast with Your provisions.”* After the maghrib prayer it’s time to eat!
- It’s imperative to drink enough water to keep hydrated, so drink-up before suhur and after iftar!
- Attend the Masjid for tarawih prayers - a special night prayer performed only in Ramadan. A full recitation of the Qur’aan would be completed during the month with sequential readings in prayers every night. While the tarawih prayer comes with many rewards, it’s optional, so there is no sin on anyone who misses a night.
- We’re aware of the saying; a hungry person is an angry person. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said, *“When any one of you gets up in the morning in the state of fasting, he should neither use obscene language nor do any act of ignorance. And if anyone slanders him or quarrels with him, he should say: ‘I am fasting, I am fasting.’”* Sahih Muslim.
- In abstaining from food and beverages from sunrise to sunset daily throughout the month of Ramadan, many people ask the question, *“how can I prevent bad breath in Ramadan?”* The Prophet ﷺ said, *“(Allaah said), ‘Every good deed of Adam’s son is for him except fasting; it is for Me, and I shall reward (the fasting person) for it.’ Verily, the smell of the mouth of a fasting person is better to Allaah than the smell of musk.”* Sahih al-Bukhari.

May Allaah accept all our acts of worship in this upcoming auspicious month of Ramadan, and we pray to become better servants who serve Allaah in devotion and through our services to humanity.

Further information

For detailed rulings and/or specific questions pertaining to the Fiqh of Ramadan and/or Eid ul Fitr, please email: imam@taric.org

COMMUNITY NEWS

Over the past few months, Muslim brothers and sisters of our community have returned to Allah SWT. We pray that Allah SWT forgives their shortcomings, grant them Jannat-ul Firdaus, and provide patience and strength to their family and loved ones.

Included in that group are Sis. Zorina Khan, Br. Genghiz Khan, Sis. Sabiha Barbara Chiefari, and Br. Meer Khan.

Sis. Zorina Khan, was the wife of Br. Farouk Khan and mother of Anisa, Nadira, and Naz Khan. Both Sis Zorina and Br. Farouk have been long standing members of TARIC and have worked tirelessly in supporting our goals.

Br. Genghiz Khan and Br Meer Khan have provided immense and selfless service and support to TARIC and the wider Muslim community over many years.

Sis. Sabiha Barbara Chiefari, wife of Br. John, had consistently supported all our events.

Innaa Lillaahi Wa 'Innaa 'Ilayhi-Raaji-'Uun

DONATIONS

May Allah SWT reward you for your donations to TARIC. For e-transfers, use (deposits@taric.org) Include your name, address, and telephone number for your receipts, and a comment for the type of donation, e.g., masjid fund, education, sadaqa, zakaat, etc.

Please continue to generously support the masjid’s programs and the masjid funds so we can continue to provide quality programs, courses, and resources.
