Dear Children,

All Praise is for Allah, Lord of the worlds, prayers and peace be upon Muhammad صلی الله عليه و سلم his family, his Companions and all those who follow in his صلی الله عليه و سلم footsteps until the Last Day.

Ramadhan is a very important month in the Muslim calendar. It was in this month that the Noble Qur’aan was revealed to our Prophet Muhammad صلی الله عليه و سلم.

In this book we have tried to show some of the benefits of this great month. We hope Insha Allah you will enjoy reading it and make the best of this month.

Umm Ilhaam
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When Ramadhan comes
The month of Ramadhan is the ninth month in the Islamic calendar.

It begins when we sight the new moon called the Hilal.

If it is cloudy and we are unable to see the Hilal, then we have to complete the month of Sha'ban with 30 days.
When Ramadhan comes

It is a blessed month.*

It is in this month that the Qur’aan was revealed to our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

It is said that Jibreel ﷺ used to meet with the Prophet ﷺ every night of Ramadhan and they would study the Qur’aan together.**

*Ahmad, an Nasa’ee  **Sahih al Bukhari, Muslim
Allah ﷺ has asked us to fast during this month.*

In this month we should fast while having firm faith in Allah ﷺ.

And we should do it only for Allah's sake and because He ﷺ has asked us to.

We should fast sincerely, hoping for Allah's reward.

If we do this Allah ﷺ has promised to forgive us for our past sins.
Ramadhan is a month which is very special. In this month Allah has given us different ways in which to get rewards.

And He wants to see who will do extra good deeds and who will not.
Sometimes Allah ﷺ gives us duties to see if we will obey His command or disobey it.

So fasting in the month of Ramadhan is one of these.

We ask Allah ﷺ to help us to obey Him and be of those whom He has blessed.
The Prophet ﷺ has told us, that in this month the gates of heaven are opened, and the gates of Hellfire are closed.*

So we must take this opportunity to do as many goods as we can.

By doing good deeds we will Insha Allah draw closer to Allah ﷺ our Creator.**

*Ahmad, an Nasa’ee
**Sahih al Bukhari
We must be on our very best behaviour during this month.

Allah makes it easy for us to do this by tying up the Shayateen (plural of Shaytaan)

Alhamdulillah, the Shayateen will not come and tempt us to do evil deeds.

Sahih al Bukhari
Also this is a month in which we must ask Allah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَلَّى for a lot of forgiveness.

We should not be lazy.

We should make a lot of effort to ask for forgiveness, because those who are not forgiven during this month of Ramadhan will indeed be losers.*

*Ahmad
We must try our best to avoid doing bad deeds.

We should not tell lies, or talk bad about others or disobey our parents.

All these sins will lead us to the Hellfire.

We must ask Allah لطیب الامام to protect us from the Hellfire.
In this month of Ramadhan we should become more obedient to Allah ﷺ than we were before.

This is because Allah ﷺ tells us,

"O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you that you may become people having Taqwaa."

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We should be obedient to Allah, hoping for His Mercy.

And we should not be disobedient to Allah because, we fear His punishment.
When Ramadhan comes

We should recite a lot of Qur’aan during this month.

We should read the meaning of the Qur’aan and think about what Allah has said.
We must try to be very kind and helpful to others.

And we must be generous and give a lot of charity.

The Prophet was most generous during Ramadhan.*
We should make a lot of dua during this blessed month of Ramadhan.

Doing plenty of dhikr and extra Sunnah prayers are all very rewarding.

There are so many adkhar (plural of dhikr) that have been taught to us by our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

We should spend our time doing as much of it as possible.

Every good action we do while fasting is rewarded many times.
We should attend the Taraweeh Prayer.

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said, "Whosoever performs qiyaam (night prayer) during Ramadhaan with Eemaan (firm belief) and expectation will have all his past sins forgiven."

Sahih al Bukhari
We should not forget that it was in the month of Ramadhan, that the Battle of Badr took place.

Also the conquest of Makkah took place during this blessed month.
The last ten days of the month of Ramadhan are very special.

During these nights we should spend as much time as possible in prayer.
Another important blessing we must try not to miss during the last ten days of the month of Ramadhan is the night of Laylathul Qadr.

The Prophet ﷺ has asked us to look for this night on the odd nights of the last ten days.

That is the 21st, 23rd, 25th, 27th and 29th nights.

Sahih al Bukhari
This is a very great night, which Allah has made better than a thousand months.

The blessings for doing good deeds in this night are better than deeds done during a thousand months. This is equal to about 83 years.

Would any of us want to miss this great reward?

Surely not. So let us try to do our best and have our past sins forgiven on this great night.
A whole Surah was revealed about this great night.

It is Surah al Qadr which is the 97th Surah in the Qur’aan.

إِنَّا أُنْزِلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقُدْرِ وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقُدْرِ لَيْلَةُ الْقُدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ تَنْزِلُ الْمُلْتَيْكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ فِي هَٰذَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّي مِنْ كُلِّ أَمِّيِّ سَلَمَ هِيَ حَتَّى مَطْلَعَ الْفَجْرِ

In this Surah, Allah ﷻ tell us, (the meaning of the translation is),

“Verily, We have sent it (the Qur’aan) down in the night of al Qadr (Decree). And what will make you know what the night of al Qadr is? The night of al Qadr is better than a thousand months. Therein descend the angels and the Rooh (Jibreel) by their Lord’s permission with all decrees. (All that night) there is peace, until the appearance of dawn.”
On this night the angels come down to the earth with Jibreel.

So we must be careful not to waste away this great night by doing deeds that are useless and will not bring us any benefit.

Ayesha asked the Prophet what she should say on this great night. He said,

اللهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ تَحْبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفِ عَنِّي

"Say: O Allah, indeed you are the Most Forgiving. You love forgiveness, so forgive me."

Ibn Majah, Sahih Jami
Before the blessed month comes to an end the Prophet ﷺ has asked us to give Zakatul Fitr.

Zaqatul Fitr is a charity which must be paid by every Muslim.

This is given so that it will purify us from any wrong actions that we may have done while fasting. Also it is to help the poor and needy.

It is recommended to give it during the last two days of the month of Ramadhan. But it should be given before we pray our Eid prayer.

If it is given after the Eid prayer it will no longer be Zakatul Fitr.

It will be a normal sadaqah.
In the same way we started the month of Ramadhan by sighting the hilal,

We end the month of Ramadhan also, by looking for the hilal of the month of Shawwal.

If we do not sight it we complete thirty days.

We celebrate the Eid ul Fitr on the first of Shawwal.
When Ramadhan comes

So let us ask Allah to make the fasting during this blessed month easy for us.

And to help us to do deeds in the correct manner that will please Him.

To make us of those who are trying to keep away from sin.

And make us of those who are trying to get closer to Allah as much as we can.
A Word to Parents

We as parents are responsible for our children and we should not consider our children too young, to start teaching them the etiquette of Islam.

The Learn About series of books are colour coded, and broadly divided into three levels. Primarily for easy selection and identification. However, all books contain information on morals, manners etc. in Islam, that maybe useful not only for older children, but for adults too.

- **Level One** - These books are primarily designed for very young children. The books may have to be read to them, and explained. It is an initial introduction to Islam.

- **Level Two** - These books are for children who need to be taught more about the basics of Islam and may have started to read already.

- **Level Three** - These books are recommended for older children who already have the basic understanding of Islam.

Please note:- It is recommended to read to children and teach them, irrespective of the level of the books. They retain information, and form perceptions from a very early age. They need to be instructed and taught Islam in their formative years.