

## THE THREE HOLY MONTHS: OUR OPPORTUNITY FOR MERCY AND FORGIVENESS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالْعَصْرِ إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لَفِي خُسْرٍ إِلَّا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا

الصَّالِحَاتِ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالْحَقِّ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

قَالَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ يَا ابْنَ آدَمَ تَقَرَّغْ لِعِبَادَتِي أَمَلًا صَدْرَكَ

عَنِّي.

**Honorable Muslims!**

The felicity of the three holy months have bestow upon us, which are our opportunity for mercy and forgiveness as well as affection and barakah. Endless thanks and praise be to our Lord Almighty (swt), who has allowed us to welcome these exceptional days, and salat and salam be to our Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (saw) who taught us how to spend these blessed times.

**Dear Believers!**

The three holy months are signs of the infinite mercy of Allah (swt) on people. It is a season when merits and abundance of divine blessings pour down on us. When our Prophet (saw) reached this very valuable and significant season, he would pray to Allah the Almighty (swt) as follows:

“O Allah, bless us in the month of

Rajab and Sha’ban, and make us reach the month of Ramadan.”<sup>i</sup>

**Dear Believers!**

Without a doubt, what falls upon us is to take advantage of the spiritual climate of the three holy months, which our Lord (swt) has bestowed upon us as divine times of grace and as an opportunity to respond to our invocations and forgive our sins. We know, however, that being a servant of Allah (swt) is not limited to certain periods of time. Regardless of any specific month, day or hour, every moment of ours spent with the awareness of servitude to Allah (swt) is valuable.

**Dear Muslims!**

The happiness in this world and in the Afterlife will be attained by those who believe in the Almighty Allah (swt), seek His pleasure only, and fill every moment of theirs with good deeds. I would like to conclude this Friday’s khutbah with the Surah al-‘Asr:

“By Time, surely man is in loss. Except for those who have believed and done righteous deeds and advised each other to truth and advised each other to patience.”<sup>ii</sup>

<sup>i</sup> Tabarani, al-Mu’jam al-Awsat, IV, 189.

<sup>ii</sup> ‘Asr, 103/1-3.