Koran Reciting

Written by: Sk. Omar Kadrawi

Translated by: Dr. Faheem Bukhatwa

14 Jumada Al-Akhirah 1431 28 May 2010

In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful

Allah has honored the Islamic nation over any other by the revelation of the holy Koran on to them. Allah says: {then We gave the Scripture as inheritance unto those whom We elected of Our slaves} 35:32.

Dear brothers, today we talk about another type of remembering Allah which is Reciting Koran. For one of the greatest types of remembering Allah is reciting and studying His words.

1) Allah praises and complements this who recites Allah's book

One of the greatest graces of the Koran is that it is the word of Allah, and Allah praises and commends it when he says: {and this is a blessed book we sent down} 6:92.

Dear Muslims, this Koran is the glory, pride and dignity of this nation and its happiness in this life and the life after. Whoever seeks glory in other than the Koran will be let down, and whoever seeks pride in other than the Koran will only find degradation. And whoever seeks dignity in other than the Koran will only find humiliation. And whoever seeks happiness in other than the Koran will only find misery. This is the truth; and listen to Allah's words: {But if there comes unto you from Me a guidance, then whose follows My guidance, he will not go astray nor come to grief. (123) But he who turns away from remembrance of Me, his will be a narrow life, and I shall bring him blind to the assembly on the Day of Resurrection. (124) He will say: My Lord! Why have You gathered me blind, when I was able to see? (125)He will say: So (it must be). Our revelations came unto you but you did forget them. In like manner on this day you are forgotten. (126) Thus do We reward him who is reckless and who does not believe the revelations of his Lord; and verily the doom of the Hereafter will be sterner and more lasting} 20:122-126.

Allah says: {Those unto whom We have given the Scripture, who recite it with its deserving recitation, they believe in it. And whoso disbelieves in it, those are the losers} 2:121. Allah also says: {Those who recite the book of Allah, and establish worship prayers, and spend of that which We have bestowed on them secretly and openly, they look forward to a business of imperishable gain. That He will pay them their earnings and increase them of His grace. He is Forgiving and Thankful} 35:28-29.

2) The messenger ppbu complementing this who recites Allah's book

The messenger ppbu said: {The best of you is this that learns the Koran and teaches it}. The messenger ppbu also said: {This who recites the Koran and is skillful at it then he/she is with the scriber, the noble and the righteous. And this who recites the Koran and he/she stutters or struggles with it and finds it difficult then he/she has two rewards}. The messenger ppbu also said: {the believer or faithful who recites the Koran is like a citron fruit that smells good and tastes good. And the believer or faithful who does not recite the Koran is like the date fruit that has no smell but has a good taste. And the hypocrite who recites the Koran is like the basil flower that has a good smell but has a sour taste. And the hypocrite who does not recite the Koran is like the bitter melon that has no smell and has a sour taste}.

The messenger ppbu said: {There should be no envy except in two matters: A man who was given the Koran by Allah, so he stays up with the Koran part of the night and part of the day. And a man who was given riches and he spends it in charity during the night and during the day}. The messenger ppbu also said: {This who recites the Koran is told: read on and get elevated. Recite as you used to recite in the first life, for your status will be determined at the last verse you read}.

The messenger ppbu also said: {This Koran is the banquette of Allah, so approach His banquette as often and as close as you can. This Koran is the strong robe or tie to Allah, and it is the clear light

and a useful treatment and healing. It is infallibility to those who stick to it and it is an escape for those who follow it. Koran does not go astray such that it needs to be rebuked, nor does it bend such that it needs straightening or correcting. Its wonders never cease or end, it does not become outdated through repetition. Recite it, for Allah is rewarding you for that. Whoever reads one character off the book of Allah then they are rewarded one point. And every good point is worth ten points. I do not mean to say that "ALM" or " " is one character, rather, "A" is a character, and "L" is a character, and "M" is a character}.

The messenger ppbu also said: {Allah may He be exulted says: whoever gets busy or distracted from asking me because of the Koran and because of remembering me; then I will give him/her the best of what I give those who ask. And the grace of the words of Allah over the rest of the spoken words is just like the grace of Allah Himself over his creations}. The messenger ppbu also said: {recite the Koran, for Allah does not punish a heart that is aware of the Koran. And this Koran is a banquette of Allah, whoever includes himself into it then he/she is safe. And glad tidings to this who loves the Koran}.

The messenger ppbu said: {keep on revising the Koran. For I pledge by Allah that the Koran is worse at slipping off; than camels are at slipping off when they are tied down}. So, you Muslims do not desert the Koran. With some of us; days and months pass without them reciting Koran except what they read while doing their daily prayers. A Muslim ought to leave a bit of time each and every day specifically for a part of the Koran and keep up reading so he/she would not be a Koran deserter.

3) How did the companions deal with the Koran?

The companions of the messenger ppbu have a special case with the book of Allah, reading, reciting and studying. The Koran was the banquette round which the messenger ppbu taught them. He was able to get their hearts and minds clinging to the Koran. Abo-Bakr was known to be constantly reciting the Koran, and often used cry while reciting.

Round the messenger's death, the messenger ppbu asked him to lead the people. Aesha his daughter said to the messenger: "He is a weak man who has no control over his eyes when he recites the Koran".

Omar ebn A-Khuttab on the other hand had a special place in his heart and soul for the Koran. He kept his tong busy reciting Koran the most part of night and day. He used to often after Duha prayer (sun up to mid-day) some of the young people to join him and sit to recite and study the Koran. He used to love listening to Koran recitation from someone else. Whenever he saw Musa Al-Ash3ary he used to say to him: "Aba-Musa, remind us of our God" and Musa used to recite for him. Whenever he used to listen to the Koran he used to get overwhelmed and cry, and many times used stay at home as if he was sick.

Authman ebn 3affan never missed one night without looking into the Koran and reciting some of its verses. He said once: "I hate if a day of a night go by without me looking into the Koran". He used to know the entire Koran by heart and many a night he used to be heard reciting Koran in his home.

That is how the companions of the messenger ppbu used to be with the book of Allah: reading, reciting, studying and living by its rulings.

Slaves of Allah, remember that the greatest non-compulsory deed one could do to get closer to his God is reading, reciting, listening and studying and understanding Koran frequently. Khubab said to a man once: "Get closer to Allah as much as you can. And nothing will get you closer to Allah which is more loved to Him than with His words". Othman said: "If your hearts were pure then they would never have enough of Allah's words". Abdul-Allah ben Masoud said: "Whoever loves the Koran then he/she loves Allah and the messenger of Allah".