



# Australian Islamic Mission Inc.

25-33 Matthews Street, Punchbowl NSW

Y2453525, ABN: 40 682 415 215

PO Box 678, Punchbowl NSW 2196, Australia. Tel/Fax: (+612) 9758 1215

Est. 1973

## Ramadan, a month of Remembrance

As we witness the beginning of another blessed Ramadan, I would like to express my heartfelt congratulations and sincere prayers that you are granted the gift of complete obedience to Allah Almighty, and that all your good deeds are accepted and all your sins erased.

Ramadan is a time to count our blessings and remember those less fortunate than ourselves. It is a month to inculcate a sense of belonging to one community, ummah, as Muslims throughout the world fast together and experience the pangs of hunger and thirst. Fasting should instill a sense of togetherness with people of different colours, races, cultures and nationalities.

Ramadan is a month of fasting from all appetites that increase the lusts and subdue the spirit. Let it not be a month of feasting. Amazing is the contradiction in how many people fast yet gain weight during this month by erasing all benefits accrued during the day through over-eating at night. An undisciplined and corrupted stomach stymies the path to increasing taqwa. Let us rather spend in charity to the poor the excess we would have consumed or worse still wasted during our daily night-time feasts -- both acts in violation of the Sunnah of our beloved Prophet Muhammad (s).

Ramadan is also a time to remember the oppressed around the world. Let us beseech Allah the Almighty to shower His infinite mercies on them and bring to an end the reign of all tyrants and oppressors. May all our hearts be guided towards the lights of humanity, compassion and mercy.

Finally, may Allah (swt) grant us success in this month to increase in nearness to Him through blameless servitude, to strengthen our relations through giving, to care for our neighbours with kindness, to purify our property by giving alms, to make peace with those who were hostile to us and to erase our sins through sincere repentance.

Ramadan Mubarak.

Dr Zachariah Matthews  
President  
Ramadan 1429  
September 2008