

## MUHARRAM AND AASHURA

Written by Administrator

Friday, 23 October 2015 11:00 - Last Updated Friday, 23 October 2015 10:07

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### MUHARRAM AND THE DAY OF AASHURA

The Month of Muharram heralds the commencement of the new Islamic year. During this month the **10<sup>th</sup> Day is called Aashura**. Innumerable great events in the history of the world had occurred on this Day. Qiyaamah too will occur on a Friday which will be the 10<sup>th</sup> Muharram.

It is Sunnah to fast on the Day of Aashura. Since the Yahood also fast on this Day or they used to fast, Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) ordered Muslims to fast on two days, either the 9<sup>th</sup>

and the 10<sup>th</sup>

or the 10<sup>th</sup>

and the 11<sup>th</sup>

. Nabi (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) had commanded the extra day to avoid a resemblance with the Yahood.

*Tashabbuh bil Kuffaar*

(emulating non-Muslim) is a major sin.

Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) had also advised to spend a bit extra on food for the family on this holy Day. This does not mean to be extravagant and wasteful. As far as wealthy people are concerned, every day the meals are lavish and sumptuous, hence it will be best for them to rather spend on extra and sumptuous food for the poor.

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Besides the aforementioned acts, there is no other Sunnah act of ibaadat or activity to be observed on this day. While Ibaadat is always beneficial and encouraged, there is no specific act of Ibaadat associated with the 10<sup>th</sup> Muharram.

The practice of exchanging gifts on this Day is baseless. It has no Islamic significance. All other acts and activities which different groups have innovated on this Day are haraam bid'ah, e.g. the 'new year' celebrations organized by miscreant bid'atis in Cape Town and elsewhere. Ridiculous celebrations on 10<sup>th</sup> Muharram are the hallmark of the Shiahs and of the Barelwi Qabar Pujaari sects (Grave-Worshippers). Participating in any of these haraam practices of bid'ah is haraam.

*9 Muharram 1437 – 23 October 2015*