

# First Ten Days of Zul-Hijjah

The first ten days of Zul Hijjah are among the most magnificent days in Islamic calendar. The Holy Prophet, Sallallaahu Alayhi Wasallam, has said, "One fast during these days is equal to the fasting of one complete year, and the worship of one night during this period is equal to the worship of "Lailatul-Qadr". (*Tirmizi*)

## *The 9th day of Zul Hijjah*

The 9th day of Zul Hijjah is called *Yowmul-Arafah* (The Day of Arafah). This is the date when the Hujjaj (Haji pilgrims, plural of Haji) assemble on the plain of Arafat, where they perform the most essential duty of hajj, namely, the *Wuqoof* of Arafat.

## *The Fast of Youmul Arafah*

The fast of *Yowmul Arafah* has been emphasized by the Holy Prophet, *Sallallaahu Alayhi Wa Sallam*, as a *Mustahab* (desirable) act. According to a *Hadith*, the fast of this day becomes a cause of forgiveness for sins committed in the past and future year. (*Muslim*)

## *Takbir-e-Tashreeq*

Beginning from the **Fajr of the 9th Zul Hijjah** up to the **Asr prayer of the 13th**, it is obligatory on every Muslim male to recite the *Takbir-e-Tashreeq* after every *Fard Salaah* (in congregation or alone) in the following words: *Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, La Ilaha Illallahu, Wallahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar wa lillahilhamd*. (There is no god but Allah and Allah is the greatest, Allah is the greatest and to Allah belongs all praise.)

For women it is commendable though not obligatory. However, male Muslims should recite it in a loud voice, while females should recite it in a low voice.

**N.B. It is Mustahab (preferable, but not necessary) for a person who intends doing Qurbani to abstain from trimming/removing hair or clipping nails from the first of Zul Hijjah to the 10th of Zul Hijjah when he does his Qurbani.**

May Allah Ta'aala enable us to use these blessed days in attaining His pleasure.

04 Nov. 10

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