

Dear brothers and sisters, Assalamu-Alaykum-wa Rahamatullahi-wa Barakatahu.

I hope and pray that this message finds you all in good health and spirit.

This blessed month of Ramadan is unique and like no other in our lifetime where we will be physically distanced from our friends, and other members of our community. We will all be missing the daily tarawih in congregation at our masajids. Some of you will also be missing out on the daily iftars that you used to have with friends and musallies at your local masjid for the past many years.

Nonetheless, our islam is truly beautiful and gives us an opportunity to look for blessings in every situation. Remember, whatever situation that occurs, happens by the will and order of Allah subhanahu wata'ala.

Let us look at the blessings and ne'mah that Allah (swt) has blessed us with due to this pandemic. If we look at the positive side, we will get to experience this Ramadan in solitude of our homes with our close and loved ones. When was the last time we all had suhoor & Iftar together, read Quran together, prayed together as a family for the full 29 or 30 days of Ramadan? Most of us can also take this opportunity and extra time to read, finish and reflect on the meaning of the Quran as well.

On the bright side, Covid-19 pandemic has positively enabled most of our locations to provide our masjid services through creative means, whether it be online lectures for everyone in our community or Quran & Islamic Studies programs for our children. Thanks to the BCMA IT team, our learned scholars will continue to provide daily online lectures and Quran tafsir from our BCMA locations. The broadcast times will be posted on our BCMA website. For those who'd like to donate to your local masjid can go to our website to pay your *Zakat*, *Fitrana*, or *Sadaqah* at www.thebcma.com or contact your local masjid and we will distribute accordingly.

We ask Allah (swt) to accept all our fasting, charity, prayers & supplications, and we also ask Allah to forgive our sins and our shortcomings. We pray that Allah (swt) alleviates the suffering of humanity throughout the world and we also pray that Allah gives us the taufeeq to frequent our masajids and centers daily once this pandemic is over.

Lastly I would like to convey my condolences to the families of the victims who lost their loved ones in the senseless mass shooting in the province of Nova Scotia and also those who have lost their loved ones due to the Covid-19 crisis. I would also like to sincerely thank our doctors, nurses, truckers, and all those frontline workers who provide essential services for all of us. We are part of the Global Village, so let us all do our share during these difficult times to practice social distancing, and asking the Almighty to keep everyone in our community, our country and the whole world safe.

Ramadan Mubarak to you all.

ILTAF Sahib
President – The BC Muslim Association