

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Minister state for Foreign Affairs
registering with our embassy consulate

EDITORIAL

Continue good deeds after Lent, Ramadhan

Christians are currently observing Lent, while Muslims are also observing Ramadhan. The Christian holy period of Lent started on Wednesday, February 18 and will end on Thursday, April 2.

The Muslim holy period of Ramadhan began on Tuesday, February 17 and is expected to end on Wednesday, March 18 or Thursday, March 19, depending on the moon sighting.

The two holy periods bear striking similarities: Adherents of the two religions are required to fast, repent from sins, forgive those who wrong them, and do charitable acts such as giving to the less fortunate members of society.

Many of the acts regarded as sins against God (Allah) are also considered offences against the law, and misdeeds against individuals.

These include acts such as killing people, stealing, adultery, and dishonesty in trade, among others. Religion plays a big role in curbing these bad deeds, guiding people on the right path and fostering a harmonious relationship between people.

The issue:

Spiritual reflection.

Our view:

We call upon Christians and Muslims to maintain the good deeds that they exhibit during Lent and Ramadhan after the holy periods have ended. Have a heart, help the less fortunate members of the society.

Religion also brings out the best in people, such as the kindness exhibited during the Lent and Ramadhan periods.

During these periods, many Christians and Muslims go out of their way to feed, give shelter to, pay medical bills of, and cloth the needy, among others.

It is quite commendable that these acts of charity are carried out in a non-discriminatory manner, with the benefactors coming to the aid of not only members of their religion, but also non-believers.

Forgiveness, a key component of Lent and Ramadhan, has been scientifically proven to improve the health of individuals.

According to health experts, holding grudges cause chronic stress, high blood pressure, heart problems, and depression, among others.

So forgiveness is not only spiritually uplifting, but also physically nourishing.

However, it is unfortunate that some

Muslims and Christians only perform these good deeds during Ramadhan and Lent.

After Ramadhan and Lent ends, they return to stealing, killing, dishonesty, among other sins and crimes. They let themselves be consumed by greed, robbing even the needy.

We, therefore, call upon Christians and Muslims to maintain the good deeds that they exhibit during Lent and Ramadhan after the holy periods have ended.

Have a heart, help the less fortunate members of the society. Give to the poor instead of taking away the little that they have.

Do not let the allure of material things lead you into crime and sin such as dishonesty in trade, and robbery.

Make a honest living, forgive transgressions committed against you, and strive to be your brother and sister's keeper.

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