

1st Sha'baan 2011
Saturday Morning

Entering the Ka'ba

It is a dream many people may have, but one very few will ever realise.

The experience of physically entering the Ka'bah and performing Salaah within the House of Allah that is beloved to billions of Muslims, is one that does not come easily.

But this Saturday, it was a dream come true for a South African scholar whose educational discourses are well known among millions of listeners worldwide.

Mufti Abdool Kader (AK) Hoosen, resident Mufti at Markaz Sahaba Online, was blessed with this historic opportunity over the weekend when the Ka'bah was opened for its bi-annual washing. The ceremony, which is presided over by the Emir of Makkah, is attended by invited dignitaries and scholars from around the Muslim world.

Mufti AK said he was completely absorbed by the experience and took full liberty of the 25 minutes he spent in the Ka'bah to perform 4 Rak'aat of Salaah and pour his heart out to the Almighty. "On entering the Ka'bah, one observes 3 pillars with a green veil above them," he said. "I performed 2 Rak'aat facing one wall and two facing another wall."

He also engaged in a heartfelt Dua wherein he beseeched Allah for the success of the entire Ummah, an easing of the difficulties of the oppressed and victory for the Mujahideen.

However, the most treasured moment for Mufti AK was his completion of the Quraan within the Blessed House. With tears in his eyes, he recounted how he had begged Allah during Tahajjud to afford him the opportunity to enter the Baytullah. He consequently chose not to complete his Khatam of the Quran at that time, and just hours later he found himself reciting the last 10 chapters of Quraan in the Ka'bah.

He also had the opportunity of meeting a member of the Banu Shaiba family who have been holding the position of the Ka'bah key keepers since pre-Islamic times. The al-Shaiba family has been serving the Holy Ka'bah for the last 15 centuries. The family consists of 370 members and most of them live in Makkah.

According to Mufti AK, entering the Ka'bah also has deep historic significance. The Prophet Muhammed SAW triumphantly entered the Ka'bah on the occasion of the Conquest of Makkah and verses from the Quran were also revealed on that occasion.

Mufti Abdool Kader was at a loss for words in thanking those who made his experience possible.

Ultimately, he said, it was the Mercy and Grace of the Almighty that led to this dream of his coming true.