

The Month of Sha'baan & Laylatul Bara'ah

The month of Sha'baan enjoys a very special place in the Islamic Calendar because in this month lies a very auspicious night known as LAYLATUL- BARAA'AH (The Night of Emancipation; The night of Freedom from fire). The word Sha'baan means branches of good a'maal (deeds).

FASTING IN SHA'BAAN:

In this month Nabi(sallallahu alaiyhi wassallam) used to fast more than in the preceding months. Hadhrat Ayesha(radhiyallahu anha) reports that: "*I never saw the Messenger of Allah(sallallahu alaiyhi wassallam) fasting in a month so profusely as he did in the month of Sha'baan. He used to fast in that month leaving only a few days, rather, he used to fast almost the whole of the month.*" (Tirmizi)

However, Nabi(sallallahu alaiyhi wassallam) advised in several other Ahaadeeth that when the (first) half of Sha'baan has passed, one should not fast (i.e. during the second half of the month). Ulama explain that one should not unduly exert and strain one's self by fasting much (in the second half), for fear of one's health deteriorating before Ramadhaan begins; instead one should rather build strength and prepare one's self for the fasts of Ramadhaan. However, should one have the strength and health, then it would be meritorious and virtuous to keep fasts according to one's ability.

SPECIAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE NIGHT OF BARAA'AH

On this night Allah's Special Mercy and Forgiveness descends upon His fortunate servants from the commencement of the night (i.e. from Maghrib) until dawn. Furthermore, the announcements seeking out those who want forgiveness well exceed those, which occur every other night of the year.

It is narrated from Hadhrat Abdullah bin Amr(radhiyallahu anhu) that Rasullullah(sallallahu alaiyhi wassallam) said: "*Allah looks with special attention towards His creation on the fifteenth night of Sha'baan and forgives all His servants except two categories of people, the person who harbors enmity(hatred) and a murderer.*" (Imam Ahmad reports this Hadith with a slightly weak chain of narrators- Targhib-wat-Tarhib)

Hadhrat Uthmaan bin Abil 'Aas(radhiyallahu anhu) narrates that Rasullullah(sallallahu alaiyhi wassallam) said: : "*On the fifteenth night of Sha'baan Allah's (special mercy) descends to the nearest heavens. Thereafter, a proclaimer announces: "Is there anyone who seeks forgiveness so that I may forgive him? Is there anyone who desires anything so that I may grant his wishes? Allah thus fulfills the requests of all accept the adulteress and idolator."* (Baihaqi has reported this Hadith -Durre Manthur Page 27 Vol.6)

UNFORTUNATE PEOPLE

According to the Ahaadeeth, certain people are deprived of Allah's mercy even on this auspicious night. These unfortunate souls are:

- 1) Those who ascribe partners unto Allah.
- 2) Those who harbour enmity against others.
- 3) Those who habitually consume alcohol.
- 4) Those who disobey their parents.
- 5) Those men who wear their trousers etc.below their ankles.
- 6) Those who commit adultery and murder.
- 7) Those who sever family ties.

Every Muslim should take stock of oneself and if one is involved in any of the above vices, one should turn to Allah and sincerely implore for forgiveness, lest one be deprived on this night.

SINCERE TAUBAH(REPENTANCE)

Allah Ta'aala says in the Noble Qur'aan: "*O you who believe, turn to Allah with sincere repentance, in the hope that your Lord will remove from you your evil deeds.*" (Quran: Surah Tahreem - Para 28).

One should turn towards Allah with sincere regret and shame for the sins that one has committed. One should seek Allah's forgiveness for one's sins and make a firm resolution and promise not to commit sin again. However, sins relating to the rights of fellow beings will not be forgiven by mere taubah alone. Allah will only forgive such sins if forgiveness is first sought from the person who had been harmed and a sincere effort to redress the wrong committed against him/her is made.

What should one do on this night?

During this night one should engage oneself in Salaah, Qur'aan Tilaawat, Du'aa, Istighfaar and Zikr, according to one's ability and strength.

PREPARATIONS FOR RAMADHAAN

Nabi(sallallahu alaiyhi wassallam) frequently recited the following du'aa: "*O Allah bless us in Rajab and Sha'baan and make us reach Ramadhaan.*"

We should earnestly begin preparing for Ramadhaan during this month of Sha'baan by making Istighfaar and cleansing ourselves of sins. We must endeavour to curtail our desires of committing sins, especially with the eyes, ears, tongue, mind and heart. Then we should begin inculcating good practices and bring about a spiritual and moral transformation in our lives in anticipation and eagerness for Ramadhaan.

The virtue of this night as established from Ahaadeeth, is that from the very beginning of the night, Allah Ta'ala turns with special mercy and attention towards the creation and forgives those who repent and seeks forgiveness. Every Muslim should therefore value this night. Turn towards Allah Ta'ala with sincere regret and shame over sins committed and make a firm promise not to return to sin and seek forgiveness from Allah Ta'ala. Have firm hope and resolution in the heart that Allah Ta'ala will surely show mercy and forgiveness. We should value and treasure this night and derive maximum benefit therefrom; remembering to make duaa for the entire Ummah, the living and the deceased. Let us not be deprived of its tremendous blessings due to sheer negligence and indifference.

HOW TO WELCOME THIS NIGHT

On this auspicious night, perform fresh Ghusal and Wudhu and perform the two Rakaat of Tahhiyatul Wudhu. In every Rakaat, after the Suratul Fatiha, recite Ayatul Kursi once and Surah Al Ikhlas three times.

WHAT TO RECITE IMMEDIATELY AFTER SUNSET

After sunset, you should recite "La Hawla wala Quwwata illa Billahil-aliyil Azeem" 40 times with 3 times Durood Shareef before and after. It is mentioned that by reciting this, Almighty Allah will forgive forty years of your sins and forty Hours will await to serve you in Jannatul Firdous.

SALAAT, DUA AND WAZEEFA IN SHAB-E-BARAAT **THE FIFTEENTH NIGHT OF SHA'BAN**

SALAT FOR INCREMENT OF {RIZK}SUBSISTANCE:

In the fifteenth night of **Sha'ban**, perform two raka'at[cycle]prayer,in each raka'at after Sura-tul-Fatiha recite once Aya-tul-kursi and fifteen times Sura-tul-Ikhlas. After salam recite 100 times **Salat And Salam upon Prophet Muhammad{peace be upon him}**. Make Dua for the increment of [rizk]subsistence,Insha Allah, Allah ta'ala will increase his subsistence..

SEVENTY NEEDS IN THIS WORLD AND SEVENTY HEREAFTER ARE ACCEPTED . In the fifteenth night of Sha'ban,if someone recites seven times Sura Dukhan{the 44 sura},Insha Allah,his or her 70 needs in this world and 70 hereafter will be accepted.

SIX NAWAFIL SALAT AFTER THE PRAYER OF MAGHRIB

. In the fifteenth night of Sha'ban after the prayer of Maghrib perform six raka'ats with three slams.

The niyyat [intention] of the first two is for **"the long pious life "**,

the niyyat of the second two is for **"being safe from the calamities and misfortunes"**

and the niyyat for the third two is **"for the increment of {rizq}subsistence"**.

After every two rak'at ,recite once Sura Yaseen and at the end, Surah Al Ikhlas 21 times and [Dua of Sha'ban-Nisf Shaban](#)

SALVATION FROM THE PUNISHMENT OF GRAVE BY THIS SALAT . In the fifteenth night of **Sha'ban** ,perform eight rak'at[cycle] salat with two [salams.in](#) each rak'at after **Sura-tul- Fatiha** ,recite ten times **Sura-tul-Ikhlas** [the 112 sura]. As a result of that ,**Allah ta'ala** will appoint countless angels,who will give the glad news to receive salvation from the punishment of grave and to enter into the Heaven.

FORGIVNESS FROM SINS BY THIS SALAT . In the fifteenth night of **Sha'ban** .perform eight rak'at salat with four slams.In each rak'at after **Sura-tul-Fatiha** once **Sura-tul- Qadr** [the 97 sura] and twenty five times **Sura-tul-ikhlas** .Insha Allah,Allah subhanahu ta'ala will forgive his or her all sins .

ANY DUA[SUPPLICATION] WHETHER FOR WORLD OR HEREAFTER IS ACCEPTED BY THIS SALAT.

In the fifteenth night of **Sha'ban** ,say **fourteen rak'at** salat with seven slams.In each rak'at after **Sura-tul- Fatiha** ,once , **Sura Kafiroon** [the 109 sura] once, Sura **Ikhlas** once , **Sura Falaq** [the 113 sura] once , **Sura Naas** [the last sura]once.After every

salam **Ayat-ul-Kursi** once and the last three verses of **Sura Tauba** [the 9 sura] i.e., from ' **laqad ja'akum rasoolum to Azeem** ”Make Dua after the completion of eight rak'at. Whatever he or she will ask for, Allah subhanahu ta'ala will bestow. Insha'a Allah.

100 Rak'ah Nawafil, in each rakah surah fatiha one time and surah Ikhlas 10 times.

Hazrat Hassan basri said 300 Sahabas has told me that if some one offers this prayer, Allah swt will shower 70 times His blessing towards that person, each blessing will fulfil his/her 70 wishes and the minimum would be of his/her forgiveness.

According to some scholars if a person offers two rakah of nafal in this night he/she will get the reward as if he/she has been doing prayer for 400 years.

The performing of Salaatul Tasbeeh on this night is also very virtuous.

Salatul Tasbih

Just an article on how to pray Salatut Tasbih. Many of us know that it is a prayer that we should pray at least once in our lifetimes, although we should make a regular habit of praying it as it is a prayer full of many virtues and benefits. May Allah ta'ala reward every person that benefits from reading and learning from this article....Ameen.

Salatul Tasbih is read as follows:

This salaah (namaz) is offered by reading four rakaats. At a time and can be read in any part of the day and night besides the three makrooh times, keeping in mind the forbidden times for performing Salat. The Tasbih to be read in Salaat-UI-Tasbeeh is the third kahalimah:

” Subhaan Allahi Wal Hamdulillaahi Wa Laa ilaaha illal Laahu Wallaahu Akbar ”

Method:

The above Tasbih is to be read 300 times in the four Rakaats. In the first rakaat, after reading Sana “Subhaana Kallahumma...”, read the above tasbih 15 times. Now recite Aaoz and “Bismillah...”, Then read sura Fatiha and a Surah then read the tasbih again 10 times. (this will total 25 times) Go into ruku saying Takbeer (Allah Hoo Akbar), after reciting “Subhaana Rabbiyal Azeem” minimum of three times read the tasbih 10 times in Ruku. (Total 35) Saying “Samee Allahu Liman Hamidah Rabbana Lakal Hamdh” get up from ruku. Now read the tasbih 10 times again. (Total 45) Go into Sajdah saying Takbeer (Allah Hoo Akbar) and after reciting “Subhaana Rabbiyal A'la” minimum of three times read the tasbih 10 times in the first Sajdah. (Total 55) Now sit-up from the first Sajdah and sit in the “At-tahiyah” position (sitting position) saying Takbeer (Allah Hoo Akbar). Sitting in this position read tasbih 10 times (total 65) Go into the second sajda and again read Takbeer (Allah Hoo Akbar) and after reciting “Subhaana Rabbiyal A'la” minimum of three times read the tasbih 10 times in the second Sajdah again. (total 75)

Get up to begin 2nd rakat saying Takbeer (Allah Hoo Akbar). Do rakah #2 in same fashion, but before reading Bismillah “Bismillah...”, and Surah Fatiha, read the tasbih 15 times. Follow the rest as you did in first Rakat. After second Sajdah of Second Rakat sit in Qaidah Oola (first sitting) read Attahiyat, Durood and Dua then get up for 3rd rakaat without saying Salam. Begin third Rakat, just like the first Rakat, with Sana “Subhaana Kallahumma...”, read the above tasbih 15 times.

Follow the rest as you did in first Rakat untill you sit for Qaidah Akihra (last sitting) after second sajdah of fourth Rakah. In Qaidah Akihra Attahiyat (the last sitting position of namaz), Durood, Dua finish Salah with Salam.

Special notes for Salat-UI-Tasbih:

- 1) Do not count loudly. It will break your namaz
- 2) Do not count on fingers or by holding a Bead Tasbih in hand.

3) You may count by pressing the fingers as a reminder. For example if you are in Ruku. You may press pinky of your right hand first for the first count, then the finger next to it for second count, then the middle finger for third count, following this method until you reach the pinky of left hand will give you an exact count of ten. Use the same method in Qayam, Sajdah and Jalsa.

4) If missed a count then make it up in the next posture. For example if forgot to recite Tasbeeh after Surah in Qayam. Then you may recite Tasbeeh 20 times instead of 10 in Ruku after "Subhaana Rabbiyal Azeem". Missed Tasbeeh cannot be recited in Qayam after ruku and Jalsa between Sajdah. If you missed the Tasbeeh in Ruku then recite 20 in the first Sajdah instead of the Qayam after ruku. Similarly if missed the Tasbeeh in first Sajdah then do not make it up in Jalsa. Instead recite missed tasbeeh in the second Sajdah. If Tasbeeh has been missed in last sajdah of second or fourth Rakah then you can recite the missed ones before Attahiyat in Qaidah.

5) If you miss a wajib in Salah and have to do Sajdah Sahaw. You don't have to recite Tasbeeh in Sajdah sahooh, since the 300 count has been established. But if you had missed Tasbeeh in any of the postures and remember it later, then you may recite the missed Tasbeeh in Sajdah Sahaw now.

6) It is preferable to recite after Surah Fatiha Surah Takathuur in the first raka', Surah Wal A'sr in the second raka', Surah Kaferoon (qul ya aiyuhal Kafiroom) in the third and Surah Akhlas (Qul hu Allah-hu ahd) in the fourth raka'. If one does not remember these surah they can recite the ones they prefer.