



Ramadan Reminders

لِلصَّائِمِ فَرْحَتَانِ!

THERE ARE TWO PLEASURES FOR THE FASTING PEOPLE!

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " قَالَ اللَّهُ كُلُّ عَمَلٍ ابْنِ آدَمَ لَهُ إِلَّا الصَّيَامَ، فَإِنَّهُ لِي، وَأَنَا أُجْزِي بِهِ. وَالصَّيَامُ جُنَّةٌ، وَإِذَا كَانَ يَوْمُ صَوْمِ أَحَدِكُمْ، فَلَا يَزِفُّهُ وَلَا يَضْحَبُ، فَإِنْ سَابَهُ أَحَدٌ، أَوْ قَاتَلَهُ فَلْيَقُلْ إِنِّي امْرُؤٌ صَائِمٌ. وَالَّذِي نَفْسُ مُحَمَّدٍ بِيَدِهِ لَخُلُوفٌ فِيهِ الصَّائِمِ أَطْيَبُ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ مِنْ رِيحِ الْمِسْكِ، لِلصَّائِمِ فَرْحَتَانِ يَفْرَحُهُمَا إِذَا أَفْطَرَ فَرِحَ، وَإِذَا لَقِيَ رَبَّهُ فَرِحَ بِصَوْمِهِ."

(رواه البخاري ومسلم)

Abu Huraira narrated that the Messenger (ﷺ) of Allah said: "Allah said, All the deeds of the children of Adam are for them, except fasting, which is only for Me, and I will grant them the reward for it."

Fasting is a shield and protection from fire and from committing sins. If one of you is fasting, he should avoid carnal relations with his wife and quarreling, and if somebody should fight or quarrel with him, he should say, 'I am fasting.'

By Him in Whose Hands my soul is' The unpleasant smell coming out of the mouth of a fasting person (because of an empty stomach) is better in the sight of Allah than the smell of musk.

There are two pleasures for the fasting person, one at the time of breaking his fast and the other at the time when he will meet his Lord; then he will be pleased because of his fasting."

(Sahih al-Bukhari: 1904, Sahih Muslim: 1151d)

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THIS HADITH

- 1 Since ibadaat like Salah (prayer), Zakah (required charity), and Haj are visible to the public, there is a possibility that they could be shown off or that others would compliment or praise a person for them, which will cause their rewards to decrease. Fasting, on the other hand, is not seen by others and is solely done for Allah's pleasure; therefore, the likelihood of losing its reward via showing off or people's praise is far lower than that of other forms of worships (Ibadat).
- 2 Fasting provides an individual with an increased level of resistance against temptations and the lower desires, which in turn serves as a shield against sin.
- 3 A person who is fasting must refrain from losing his anger and getting into fights with other people. If someone starts a fight, he should let them know that he is fasting and must avoid getting into arguments and fights.
- 4 A person who fasts is bestowed with two happy moments: the first occurs here in this world, when he breaks his fast after a long day of abstaining from food and drink; at that time, the taste of the food and drink becomes tastier. The second will occur in the hereafter, when he will meet his Lord and will look at the great reward that Allah has bestowed upon him.



Ramadan Reminders

لِلصَّائِمِ عِنْدَ فِطْرِهِ دَعْوَةٌ لَا تُرَدُّ!

DUA MADE BY A FASTING PERSON AT THE TIME OF BREAKING THE FAST IS NOT TURNED DOWN!

وَإِذَا سَأَلَكَ عِبَادِي عَنِّي فَإِنِّي قَرِيبٌ أُجِيبُ دَعْوَةَ الدَّاعِ إِذَا دَعَانِ فَلْيَسْتَجِيبُوا لِي وَلْيُؤْمِنُوا بِي لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْشُدُونَ.

سورة البقرة: 186

And when My servants ask you, [O Prophet], concerning Me - indeed I am near. I respond to the prayers of the supplicant when he calls upon Me. So let them respond to Me [by obedience] and believe in Me that they may be [rightly] guided. (Al- Baqarah: 186)

وَقَالَ رَبُّكُمْ ادْعُونِي أَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ سورة الغافر: 60

And your Lord says, "Call upon Me; I will respond to you

(Al-Ghafir:60)

Abu Huraira (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah said, "There are three people whose supplication is not rejected:

1. The supplication of a fasting person when he is breaking his fast.
2. The supplication of a just ruler.
3. The supplication of an oppressed person; Allah raises his supplication above the clouds, and the doors of heaven are opened for it. And The Lord says, 'I swear by my might that I will certainly help you, though it will be after some time'.

(Tirmidhi : 2525)

LESSONS LEARNED

- 1 The term "Dua," which is Arabic for "invocation," refers to a form of devotion in which a person asks Allah for ease, forgiveness, mercy, favors, and or other need. Allah Subhanahu wa tala encourages us to make Duas to Him; He listens and responds to our Duas.
- 2 There are some special times when the Duas of certain people are not rejected, and one of them is the time before breaking the fast. At that time, a servant of Allah is at the peak of his striving after enduring the long day of hunger and thirst, which brings him closer to the mercy of Allah; hence, his Duas are accepted in those moments.
- 3 A leader or ruler who upholds justice for his people and a subjugated person who endures pain due to his oppressor are also bestowed with the ability to have their duas accepted.



Ramadan Reminders

الصَّيَامُ وَالْقُرْآنُ يَشْفَعَانِ لِلْعَبْدِ !

THE FASTING AND THE QURAN WILL INTERCEDE FOR THE SERVANT

فَإِذَا جَاءَتِ الصَّاحَّةُ ﴿٣٣﴾ يَوْمَ يَفِرُّ الْمَرْءُ مِنْ أَخِيهِ ﴿٣٤﴾ وَأُمِّهِ وَأَبِيهِ ﴿٣٥﴾
وَصَاحِبَتِهِ وَبَنِيهِ ﴿٣٦﴾ لِكُلِّ امْرِئٍ مِّنْهُمْ يَوْمَئِذٍ شَأْنٌ يُغْنِيهِ ﴿٣٧﴾

سورة عبس: 33-37

But when the "Deafening Blast" (the second blowing of the trumpet on the Day of Resurrection) occurs, every person will flee and run away from his own brother, his mother, his father, his wife, and his children. Every person on that day will have enough concerns for themselves (about their own salvation and the escape from the hellfire), which will make them careless of others. **Surah 'Abas: 33- 37**

'Abdullah bin 'Amr (may Allah be pleased with him) reported Allah's messenger (ﷺ) as saying, "Fasting and the Qur'an will intercede (on the day of judgment) for the servant (of Allah). Fasting would say, 'O my Lord, I have kept him away from his food and his desires by the entire day, so accept my intercession for him.' And the Qur'an would say, 'I have kept him away from sleep by night, so accept my intercession for him.' Then their intercession will be accepted.

(Musnad Ahmed: 6589, Shaiḥ At-Targeeb:1429)

LESSONS LEARNED

- 1 Very close family members and relatives are a strong support system that helps us stay healthy, safe, and grow. It's amazing how much these relatives give up trying to help each other. Family members—parents, siblings, children, and spouses—often rescue individuals in trouble. On judgment day, however, they will become selfish due to their concerns about their own salvation. Instead of standing by each other and providing the same support they used to, they will run away from their relatives. What will stand by a person is his faith and righteous deeds, especially fasting and reciting, listening, and trying to understand the Quran.
- 2 Al-Hamdu Lillah, most Muslims take their fasting and Taraweeh prayers seriously. This will help them a lot when no one else is around to help them. Those who don't pay attention to Ramadan and the Quran should change and try to return to Allah (Subhanahu wa T'ala).
- 3 This verse of the Quran also teaches us not to displease Allah when we meet the needs and wants of our loved ones, because that will cause us a lot of problems in the hereafter, where the same loved ones will become strangers and won't be able to help us.



Ramadan Reminders

تَسَحَّرُوا فَإِنَّ فِي السَّحُورِ بَرَكَةً

TAKE THE PRE-DAWN MEAL, FOR THERE ARE BLESSINGS IN IT

قال الله عز وجل : وَكُلُوا وَاشْرَبُوا حَتَّى يَتَبَيَّنَ لَكُمُ الْخَيْطُ الْأَبْيَضُ مِنَ الْخَيْطِ

الْأَسْوَدِ مِنَ الْفَجْرِ ^{صلى} ثُمَّ أَتَمُّوا الصِّيَامَ إِلَى اللَّيْلِ ﴿١٨٧﴾

سورة البقرة

And eat and drink until the light of dawn appears from the darkness of night, then (give up eating and drinking, and) complete your fasting until night sets in (sunset).

Surah Al-Baqarah: 187

عَنْ أَنَسِ بْنِ مَالِكٍ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ :

تَسَحَّرُوا فَإِنَّ فِي السَّحُورِ بَرَكَةً. رَوَاهُ الْبُخَارِيُّ (1923). وَمُسْلِمٌ (1095).

Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) narrated that The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: “Eat the pre-dawn meal for there are blessings in this meal.” **Bukhari & Muslim**

LESSONS LEARNED

- 1 The following are a few benefits that the Islamic scholars indicated for eating a meal before dawn, known as Suhoor.:
 - A. By taking a pre-dawn meal, we receive the reward of following the Sunnah of the prophet (ﷺ).
 - B. A pre-dawn meal protects a person who is fasting from the immediate strain of hunger and thirst.
 - C. Eating a meal before dawn protects a fasting individual from the negative emotions that hunger might arouse, such as rage, swearing, or fighting. As they say, "a hungry man is an angry man."
 - D. The time before dawn is the time of acceptance of duas; waking up for a pre-dawn meal also affords one the chance to offer a few Rak'aat prayers, recite the Quran and do zikr of Allah, and make dua for one's necessities.
- 2 While we are free to eat any Halal food we like, it is Sunnah to include dates in Suhoor meals. The Prophet (ﷺ) reportedly remarked, "How good is the believer's meal of dates shortly before dawn!" **Sunan Abi Dawud: 2345**
- 3 Food should be consumed in moderation because eating too much can be harmful and could defeat the purpose of fasting. The Prophet (ﷺ) stated: "A person never fills a container worse than his own stomach. He only needs a few morsels to keep his back straight." **At-Tirmidhi 2380**
- 4 A believer is permitted to have a pre-dawn meal immediately following midnight, but it is preferable that they do so close to the break of dawn and stop eating and drinking a few minutes before the beginning of dawn. Allah (S) said, "And those are the boundaries of Allah; don't go close to them." **Surah Al-Baqarah: 187**



Ramadan Reminders

تَعْجِيلِ الْفِطْرِ بَعْدَ غُرُوبِ الشَّمْسِ

ONE SHOULD BREAK FAST AFTER SUNSET WITHOUT DELAY

عَنْ سَهْلِ بْنِ سَعْدٍ، أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ﷺ قَالَ: "لَا يَزَالُ النَّاسُ بِخَيْرٍ مَا عَجَّلُوا الْفِطْرَ". مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ

عَنْ عُمَرَ بْنِ الْخَطَّابِ قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: "إِذَا أَقْبَلَ اللَّيْلُ مِنْ هَا هُنَا، وَأَذْبَرَ النَّهَارَ مِنْ هَا هُنَا، وَتَمَرَّتِ الشَّمْسُ، فَقَدْ أَفْطَرَ الصَّائِمُ". رَوَاهُ الْبُخَارِيُّ (1954)

عَنْ أَنَسِ بْنِ مَالِكٍ قَالَ "كَانَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ يُفْطِرُ قَبْلَ أَنْ يُصَلِّيَ عَلَى رُطَبَاتٍ فَإِنْ لَمْ تَكُنْ رُطَبَاتٍ فَتَمِيرَاتٍ فَإِنْ لَمْ تَكُنْ تَمِيرَاتٍ حَسًا حَسَوَاتٍ مِنْ مَاءٍ" رَوَاهُ التِّرْمِذِيُّ، وَابُو دَاوُدَ.

Sahl bin Sa'd narrated that Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said, "The people will remain on the right path and goodness as long as they hasten the breaking of the fast (immediately after sunset).

" **Sahih al-Bukhari: 1957**

'Umar bin Al-Khattab narrated that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said, "When night falls from this side and the day vanishes from this side and the sun sets, then the fasting person should break his fast.

" **Sahih al-Bukhari: 1954**

Anas ibn Malik narrated that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) used to break his fast before praying (Maghrib prayer) with some fresh dates, but if there were no fresh dates, he would break his fast with a few dry dates, and if there were no dry dates, he took some sips of water.

Sunan Abi Dawud 2356, Jami' at-Tirmidhi 696

LESSONS LEARNED

- 1 After the sun goes down, one should break their fast right away.
- 2 Muslims get spiritual strength, benefits, and great rewards when they do what Allah tells them to do. During the month of Ramadan, when Allah says "don't eat or drink anything during the day time," we must follow His order and abstain from food and water. When He tells us to "break our fast right after sunset," we must also do what He says.
- 3 Any Halal food is okay to eat for breaking the fast, but the prophet used to eat fresh or dry dates to break his fast.
- 4 At the time of breaking the fast, someone could just drink some water if they don't have anything to eat.



Ramadan Reminders

مَنْ أَكَلَ نَاسِيًا وَهُوَ صَائِمٌ، فَلْيَتِمَّ صَوْمَهُ

**IF SOMEONE EATS FORGETFULLY WHILE HE IS FASTING,
HE SHOULD COMPLETE HIS FAST**

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ ﷺ قَالَ " إِذَا نَسِيَ فَأَكَلَ وَشَرِبَ فَلْيَتِمَّ صَوْمَهُ، فَإِنَّمَا أَطْعَمَهُ اللَّهُ وَسَقَاهُ "

رواه البخاري (1933)

عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه أن النبي ﷺ قال: مَنْ أَفْطَرَ فِي رَمَضَانَ نَاسِيًا، فَلَا قِضَاءَ عَلَيْهِ وَلَا كَفَّارَةَ.

أَخْرَجَهُ الْحَاكِمُ (1569) وَاللَّفْظُ لَهُ، وَأَخْرَجَهُ ابْنُ خَزِيمَةَ (1990)، وَابْنُ حِبَّانَ (3521) بِاخْتِلَافٍ يَسِيرٍ. وَحَسَنَهُ الْأَلْبَانِيُّ فِي "صَحِيحِ الْجَامِعِ" (6070).

Abu Huraira narrated that the Prophet (PBUH) said, "If someone eats or drinks forgetfully (while fasting), then he should complete his fast, as what he has eaten or drank is gifted to him by Allah (S)."

Sahih al-Bukhari, 1933.

The Messenger of Allah (PBUH) stated, "Whoever breaks his fast during Ramadan because he forgot is not to make up for the day later or perform an expiation."

Al-Hakim (Vol. 1, Page: 430), Ibn Hibban (Vol. 8, Page: 280), Sahih Al-Jami'a: (6070)

LESSONS LEARNED

- 1 Allah (S) does not place a responsibility on a servant beyond his capacity. The hadith informs us that if a person forgetfully eats or drinks during their fast, it does not impact his fast and does not constitute a sin against him, as it occurred without his intention or will. And there is no difference if he forgetfully ate or drank a little or a lot, one time or more than once. He does not have to make up for it; in fact, the food and drink he has inadvertently consumed are gifts from Allah (S), and he will not lose any rewards for his fast.
- 2 This is from Allâh Almighty's kindness to His servants, making things easy for them, and removing hardship from them.
- 3 Likewise, if the other things that break the fast are done forgetfully, they will also not break the fast.



Ramadan Reminders

وَأَتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَمَا تُقَدِّمُوا لِأَنْفُسِكُمْ مِنْ خَيْرٍ تَجِدُوهُ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ.

AND GIVE ZAKĀH. AND WHATEVER GOOD YOU SEND FORTH FOR YOURSELVES, YOU WILL FIND IT WITH ALLAH. CERTAINLY, ALLAH IS WATCHFUL OF WHAT YOU DO.

..... وَرَحْمَتِي وَسِعَتْ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ فَسَأَكْتُبُهَا لِلَّذِينَ يَتَّقُونَ وَيُؤْتُونَ الزَّكَاةَ وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ بِآيَاتِنَا يُؤْمِنُونَ

البقرة: ١١٠

My mercy encompasses all things, So, I shall write it for those who guard themselves against evil, and pay Zakat, and those who do believe in Our Revelations.

Abu Huraira narrated that the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said, "Anyone whom Allah has given wealth but he does not pay its Zakat, then, on the Day of Resurrection, his wealth will be presented to him in the shape of a bald-headed poisonous male snake with two poisonous glands in its mouth, and it will encircle itself around his neck and bite him over his cheeks and say, "I am your wealth; I am your treasure." Then the Prophet (PBUH) recited this Divine Verse: And do not let those who greedily withhold Allah's bounties think it is good for them—in fact, it is bad for them! They shall be forced, on Doomsday, to put on what they withheld as iron collars around their necks. To Allah belongs the inheritance of the heavens and the earth. Allah is All-Aware of what you do. (Al-Quran: 3:180)

Sahih al-Bukhari, 4565

LESSONS LEARNED

- 1 For Muslims, "Zakat" is one of their religious obligations, and it is the third of the five pillars of Islam.
- 2 Paying Zakat (mandated charity) purifies our wealth and brings barakah (blessings) and growth in our prosperity.
- 3 Once a person is considered Islamically rich (has gained money equal to the value of 85 grams of gold; \$5695 if the gram is worth \$67, for instance), then this is the beginning of his Hawl (Zakah fiscal year). After the passage of one lunar year, if that much money or more is still with him, he has to find out exactly how much money and Zakatable assets he has in his possession, then deduct all due payments (utilities, etc.) and debts for the month in which he is paying the zakat. From the remaining net amount, he takes 2.5% as his zakat and gives it to the poor, needy, and causes that are eligible to receive the Zakat. And he should do it every year in the same month.
- 4 People should try to learn the rules and regulations of Zakah so that they don't miss out on following Allah's instructions in this area.
- 5 Individuals who do not pay Zakat will experience severe consequences in their next life.



Ramadan Reminders

الرَّيَّانُ لِلصَّائِمِينَ

AR-RAIYAN WILL BE OPENED ONLY FOR FASTING PEOPLE.

عَنْ سَهْلِ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " إِنَّ فِي الْجَنَّةِ بَابًا يُقَالُ لَهُ الرَّيَّانُ، يَدْخُلُ مِنْهُ الصَّائِمُونَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ، لَا يَدْخُلُ مِنْهُ أَحَدٌ غَيْرُهُمْ يُقَالُ أَيْنَ الصَّائِمُونَ فَيَقُومُونَ، لَا يَدْخُلُ مِنْهُ أَحَدٌ غَيْرُهُمْ، فَإِذَا رَخَّلُوا أُغْلِقَ، فَلَمْ يَدْخُلْ مِنْهُ أَحَدٌ "

(متفق عليه)

Sahl bin Sa'd (may Allah be pleased with him) narrated that The Prophet (PBUH) said, "In Jannah (Paradise), there is a gate called "Ar-Raiyan" through which only those who observe Saum (fasting) will enter on the Day of Resurrection; otherwise, no one will be allowed to enter through it. It will be called out, "Where are those who used to fast?" So they (people who used to fast in the world) will stand up and proceed towards it. When the last one of them has entered, the gate will be closed, and then no one will enter through that gate."

Sahih al-Bukhari 1896

LESSONS LEARNED

- 1 As observing Saum (fasting) is an exceptional form of 'Ibadah (worship), Allah promises great blessings and rewards to those who observe the fast during their current lives.
- 2 They will be honored to enter Jannah (paradise) through the special gate known as Ar-Rayyan after being respectfully called out in front of all people.
- 3 This hadith not only gives the As-Saimoon (the fasting people) the glad tidings of Jannah, but also that they will enter the Jannah before many other people.



Ramadan Reminders

غَزْوَةُ بَدْرِ الْكُبْرَى

THE GREAT BATTLE OF “BADR”

سورة آل عمران ﴿١٢٣﴾ وَلَقَدْ نَصَرَكُمُ اللَّهُ بِبَدْرِ وَأَنْتُمْ أَذِلَّةٌ فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

Indeed, Allah made you victorious at Badr, when you were a weak little force. Be mindful of Allah, so that you may be grateful. ‘Remember, O Prophet, ’ when you said to the believers, “is it not enough that your Lord will send down a reinforcement of three thousand angels for your aid?”

Of course, if you ‘believers’ are firm and mindful ‘of Allah’ and the enemy launches a sudden attack on you, Allah will reinforce you with five thousand angels designated ‘for battle’.

Allah ordained this ‘reinforcement’ only as good news for you and reassurance for your hearts. And victory comes only from Allah—the Almighty, All-Wise—

Surah Aal ‘Imran: 123- 126

‘Abdullah Ibn Masud narrated: I witnessed Al-Miqdad bin Al-Aswad in a scene that would have been dearer to me than anything had I been the hero of that scene. He (i.e., Al-Miqdad) came to the Prophet (PBUH) while the Prophet (PBUH) was urging the Muslims to fight with the pagans. Al-Miqdad said, "We will not say as the People of Moses said: Go you and your Lord and fight you two." (5.27). But we shall fight on your right side and on your left side, in front of you and behind you." I saw the face of the Prophet (PBUH) getting bright with happiness, because that saying delighted him.

Sahih al-Bukhari, 3952

IMPORTANT POINTS

- 1 On Friday, the seventeenth day of Ramadan in the second year of the Hijrah, the Great Battle of Badr occurred.
- 2 Under the Prophet's direction, 313 of the Prophet's companions participated in this battle. Compared to pagans, Muslims were small in number and possessed very few weapons. But their Iman (faith) was strong, their deeds were pure, and their unwavering trust in the prophet's leadership and Allah's help was evident. They won the fight with little loss by doing as the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) directed, and they also managed to take 70 prisoners from their rivals.
- 3 In this conflict, many fighting pagans, including Abu Jahl, the Pharaoh of the Muslim nation and Islam's greatest opponent, perished. It is the first conflict between truth and deception in Islamic history, it is known as the Day of Criterion for this reason.
- 4 The Great Battle of Badr had a great impact on the lives of Muslims. It raised their morale and increased their belief that they were on the right path. It strengthened their prestige and authority among other Arabs.



Ramadan Reminders

فَضِيلَةُ اِعْتِكَافِ الْعَشْرِ الْاَوَاخِرِ مِنْ رَمَضَانَ

THE MERITS OF PERFORMING I'TIKAF IN THE LAST 10 DAYS OF RAMADAN

.... وَعَهَدْنَا إِلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْمَاعِيلَ أَنْ طَهِّرَا بَيْتِيَ لِلطَّائِفِينَ وَالْعَاكِفِينَ وَالرُّكَّعِ السُّجُودِ ﴿١٢٥﴾ (سورة البقرة)

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا قَالَتْ: «أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ كَانَ يَغْتَكِفُ الْعَشْرَ الْاَوَاخِرَ مِنْ رَمَضَانَ حَتَّىٰ تَوَفَّاهُ اللَّهُ، ثُمَّ اِعْتَكَفَ اَزْوَاجُهُ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ.» (متفق عليه)

..... And We commanded Abraham and Ishmael (saying): "Purify My House for those who perform ṭawāf (circumambulate around the K'aba) and those who stay in I'tikāf (seclude themselves for the devotion to their lord), and those who bow down and prostrate [in prayer]." Al-Baqarah: 125

'Aishah (May Allah be pleased with her) reported: The Prophet (PBUH) used to engage himself in I'tikaf (seclusion for prayers, remembrance of Allah, recitation of the Quran, and devotion in the Masjid) during the last ten days of the month of Ramadan till he passed away, and then his wives used to practice I'tikaf after him. **Sahih al-Bukhari 2026. Sahih Muslim 1172c**

IMPORTANT POINTS

- 1 'tikaf means staying in a masjid with the intention of getting closer to Allah (SWT). A mu'takif (someone who does I'tikaf) secludes himself from the rest of the world, leaves his comfortable bed, his beloved wife, his dear children, his business, and all the materials of the world, stays in the masjid and focuses only on doing things that please Allah (SWT).
- 2 Performing I'tikaf is a Sunnah and highly rewarded deed; it could be practiced throughout the year for any duration of time. But it is highly recommended during the last 10 days of the month of Ramadan, as the Prophet (PBUH) used to perform I'tikaf regularly in those days.
- 3 The acts of devotion in I'tikaf include performing mandatory and sunnah prayers, engaging in the remembrance of Allah, recitation of the Quran, making Duas to Allah (SWT), studying Islamic books, working to gain religious knowledge, helping others in the Masjid, etc.
- 4 I'tikaf requires the fulfillment of some conditions; they are: **A-** To have a pure and sincere intention. **B-** To stay in the Masjid where daily congregational prayers are performed. **C-** To not to leave the Masjid unless there is a valid reason for it. **D-** A person in I'tikaf should spend all of his time in worship and performing good deeds and avoid using his cell phone, electronic tablet, or computer except when necessary.
- 5 As the last ten days of Ramadan are coming up, to make the most of them, we should do I'tikaf in the Masjid for all ten days, or at least one day or one night. **It should be noted that the I'tikaf of the last 10 days of Ramadan starts on the 20th day of Ramadan before sunset (the night of the 21st of Ramadan).**



Ramadan Reminders

تَحَرَّوْا لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ فِي الْعَشْرِ الْأَوَاخِرِ مِنْ رَمَضَانَ

LOOK FOR THE NIGHT OF QADR IN THE LAST TEN NIGHTS OF THE MONTH OF RAMADAN

لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ ﴿٣﴾ تَنَزَّلُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِّنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ ﴿٤﴾ سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ ﴿٥﴾

سورة القدر
رواه البخاري (2015) عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ. قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: " مَنْ يَقُمْ لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ إِيمَانًا وَاحْتِسَابًا غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ ".

وَعَنْ عَائِشَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا قَالَتْ: (قُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ: أَرَأَيْتَ إِنْ عَلِمْتُ أَيَّ لَيْلَةٍ لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ، مَا أَقُولُ فِيهَا قَالَ: " قُولِي:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي ". رواد الترمذي (3513)، وابن ماجه (3119)، وأحمد (6/171)

The night of Night of Al-Qadr (Decree) is better than one thousand months. Therein descend the angels and the Ruh [Jibrael] by Allah's Permission with all kinds of decrees. (All that night), there is Peace until the appearance of dawn. (5) **Surah Al-Qadr: 3-5**

Abu Huraira (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: Allah's Messenger (PBUH) said, "Whoever establishes the prayers on the night of Qadr out of sincere faith and hoping to attain Allah's rewards (not to show off) then all his past sins will be forgiven." **Sahih al-Bukhari: 35**

'Aishah (may Allah be pleased with her) reported: I asked, O Messenger of Allah! "If I realize Lailat-ul-Qadr (Night of Decree), what should I supplicate in it?" He (PBUH) replied, "You should supplicate: "O Allah, You are Most Forgiving, and You love forgiveness; so please forgive me." **Tirmizi: 3513**

IMPORTANT POINTS

1

Ramadan is the best month of the year, and the last 10 days are the best of the month of Ramadan, and Lailatul-Qadr, the night of decree, is the best of the last ten days.

On this night, Allah makes decisions about a person's sustenance, life, and other important issues for the upcoming year. The information about who will survive or die in the upcoming year, who will be respected or degraded, and who will witness either salvation or destruction is handed over to the angels..

2

The night of Qadr presents believers with opportunities for:

- Gaining the rewards and blessings of more than one thousand months of worship.
- Receiving forgiveness for the previous sins.
- Receiving peace that prevails on this night.
- Receiving freedom from the hellfire.
- Getting the Duas accepted.

3

The final ten nights of Ramadan should be used to intensify our worship and devotion to Allah; this way, we have a good chance of receiving Lailatul-Qadr's blessings. During these nights, we must offer the mandatory Sunnah, Qiyamul Lail, and Taraweeh prayers, repent to Allah for the previous mistakes, make Dua for our needs and the needs of the Muslim Ummah, recite the Quran, give Sadaqah, strengthen family ties with the relatives (do Silatur-Rahm), and perform any act that will please Allah (SWT),

4

On the night of Qadr, the following Dua should be said with the sincerity of the heart:

AL-LAH-UMMA IN-NAKA 'AFUW-WUN, TUHIB-BUL-'AFWA, FA'FU 'ANNI

(O Allah, You are Most Forgiving, and You love forgiveness; so forgive me.)



Ramadan Reminders

مَا نَقَصَ مَالٌ مِنْ صَدَقَةٍ

OUR WEALTH DOES NOT DECREASE FROM SPENDING IN CHARITY

وَأَنْفِقُوا مِنْ مَا رَزَقْنَاكُمْ مِّن قَبْلِ أَنْ يَأْتِيَّ أَحَدَكُمُ الْمَوْتُ فَيَقُولَ رَبِّ لَوْلَا أَخَّرْتَنِي إِلَىٰ أَجَلٍ قَرِيبٍ فَأَصَّدَّقْتُ وَأَكُن مِّنَ الصَّالِحِينَ ﴿١﴾ وَلَنْ يُؤَخَّرَ اللَّهُ نَفْسًا إِذَا جَاءَ أَجَلُهَا وَاللَّهُ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٢﴾. سورة المنافقون

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: " مَا مِنْ يَوْمٍ يُصْبِحُ الْعِبَادُ فِيهِ إِلَّا مَلَكَانِ يَنْزِلَانِ فَيَقُولُ أَحَدُهُمَا: اللَّهُمَّ أَطْعِ مُنْفِقًا خَلَفًا وَيَقُولُ الْآخَرُ: اللَّهُمَّ أَعْطِ مُمْسِكًا تَلْفًا " (متفق عليه)

Allah (SWT) says: And spend (in Charity) from what We have provided for you before death comes to one of you, and he cries, "My Lord! If only You delayed me for a short while, I would give in charity and be one of the righteous." But Allah never delays a soul (gives extra time) when its appointed time comes. And Allah is All-Aware of what you do. **Surah Al-Munafiqoon: 1-11**

Abu Hurairah (May Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said, "Every morning, two angels descend, and one of them says, 'O Allah! Compensate (more) to the person who gives (in charity)'; while the other one says, 'O Allah, give destruction to him who withholds (his wealth and doesn't give some of it in charity)". **[Al-Bukhari and Muslim]**

IMPORTANT POINTS

- 1 Al-Hamdu Lillah, we are now in the last 10 days of the month of caring and giving, the month of Ramadan. Fasting, performing all the prayers at their time, and staying away from things that are prohibited by Allah all make our Taqwa stronger, which makes it easier for us to do other religious duties.
- 2 "Infaq fi sabeeli lah" (spending some of our wealth in the path of Allah) is one of the important religious duties. This term refers to both the mandated charities (Zakat and Sadaqatul Fitr) and the voluntary charity (Sadaqat an-Nafilah). As the reward for good actions is tremendously increased during this month, so is the reward for charity. Our Prophet, Muhammad(PBUH), used to be very generous in the month of Ramadan, and as his followers, we also need to be very generous this month.
- 3 Our Zakat and Sadaqaat not only help the poor and needy people and provide support to religious causes but also bring treatment to a specific illness of our hearts; that illness is love of wealth. Allah (SWT) says in the Quran: "And whoever is protected from the greed and stinginess of his soul—it is those who will be successful." Surah Al-Hashr: 9
- 4 There is a promise from Allah and his messenger that our wealth will not decrease by giving to charities for the sake of Allah; in fact, it gets purified and increased, plus the rewards of the hereafter are far greater than all we have in this world.
- 5 Our donations should go to the poor and needy, people suffering from war, famine, and riots, as well as to the Islamic centers and schools. Hence, following our Prophet (PBUH), let us be very generous in this month of Ramadan!



Ramadan Reminders

عِمَارَةُ الْمَسَاجِدِ مَسْئُولِيَّةٌ رِيئِيَّةٌ

BUILDING AND TAKING CARE OF THE MASAJID IS A RELIGIOUS DUTY

إِنَّمَا يَعْمُرُ مَسَاجِدَ اللَّهِ مَنْ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَأَقَامَ الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَى الزَّكَاةَ وَلَمْ يَخْشَ إِلَّا اللَّهَ فَعَسَىٰ أُولَٰئِكَ أَن يَكُونُوا مِنَ الْمُهْتَدِينَ.

سورة التوبة: ١٨

.... وَعَهَدْنَا إِلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْمَاعِيلَ أَنَّ طَهِّرَا بَيْتِيَ لِلطَّائِفِينَ وَالْعَاكِفِينَ وَالرُّكَّعِ السُّجُودِ . سورة البقرة: ١٢٥

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا - قَالَتْ : أَمَرَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ - بِنَاءَ الْمَسَاجِدِ فِي الدُّورِ . وَأَنَّ تُنْظَفَ , وَتُطَيَّبَ .
رواد أحمد (6/279) , وأبو داود (455) . والترمذي (594) .

The Masajid of Allah are built, visited, and maintained only by those who believe in Allah and the Last Day, establish Salāh (daily mandatory prayers), pay Zakāh (mandated charity), and fear none but Allah. So, it is they who are expected to be on true guidance. **At-Taubah: 18**

..... And We commanded Ibraheem and Ismaeel (saying): "Purify My House for those who perform ṭawāf (circumambulate around the K'aba) and those who stay in I'tikāf (seclude themselves for the devotion to their lord), and those who bow down and prostrate [in prayer]." **Al-Baqarah: 125**

'Aisha (May Allah be pleased with her) reported that The Messenger of Allah (PBUH) commanded to build mosques in different localities and residential districts, and that they should be kept clean and be perfumed. **Jami` at-Tirmidhi 594**

IMPORTANT POINTS

- 1 Building Masjids and taking care of their maintenance is one of the most noble and highly rewarded services. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) instructed Muslims to build masjids in the cities, villages, and residential districts. The reward for those who build a masjid for the sake of Allah (SWT) is a house in Jannah!
- 2 Prophet Ibraheem and Prophet Ismaeel (peace and blessings of Allah be upon them) together constructed the K'aba and were given the job of its maintenance; similarly, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) not only planned the building of two masjids, one in Quba and one in Madinah, but also actively participated in their construction.
- 3 Once a Masjid is built, it becomes the responsibility of the Muslim community members to take care of its maintenance and keep it in good shape and running.
- 4 Masjids in America serve as hubs for prayers, devotion to Allah, Da'wah services, Islamic education, marriages, funeral prayers, social work, and helping needy members. It is our collective duty to support them through prayers, volunteering, and donations. Let us be generous to our Masjids by donating our money during the blessed month of Ramadan, as the rewards of good deeds multiply many times.