

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ مَا شَاءَ اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ بِحَقِّ يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ  
 اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ وَعِتْرَتِهِ بِمَدَدِ كُلِّ مُنْقِذٍ تَقَاتَلَتْ أَسْنَانُهُ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ  
 الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ وَاتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَوْمَ تُرْجَعُ الْأَمْثَالُ بِضْعَ ضِعْفٍ

## VIRTUES OF THE MONTH

### *Ramadaan-ul-Mubaarak* رَمَضَانُ الْمُبَارَكُ

#### Hadeeth Shareef:

Hadrat Abdullaah bin Mas'ood رضي الله عنه narrates that the Beloved of Allaah عز وجل, Hadrat Sayyidina wa Maulaanaa Muhammad Mustafa صلوات الله عليه وسلم has said: Whoever fasts from the beginning to the end of Ramadaan-ul-Mubaarak shall come out of his sins as if he is just born from his mother's womb.

#### Hadeeth Shareef:

The Beloved of Allaah عز وجل, Hadrat Sayyidina wa Maulaanaa Muhammad Mustafa صلوات الله عليه وسلم has said: The one who fasts in the month of Ramadaan-ul-Mubaarak, Allaah عز وجل will reward him with a house of emeralds. This house will have 1000 doors and in front of each door will be a tree whose shade will be so vast that a horse rider will not come out of its shade even if he travels for 100 years. (Taqweem Daar-ul-Ehsaan, 1994, pg. 49)

**It is essential to make Niyyah (intention) to fast. It is better if the following Niyyah is made:**

بِصَوْمِ غَدٍ نَوَيْتُ مِنْ شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ

Transliteration: *Bisaumi ghadin nawaitu min shahri Ramadaan.*

Translation: I have the intention to fast tomorrow for the month of Ramadaan.

وَبِصَوْمِ غَدٍ نَوَيْتُ مِنْ شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ

Transliteration: *Wa bisaumi ghadin nawaitu min shahri Ramadaan.*

Translation: I have the intention to keep fast today for the month of Ramadaan.

However, Niyyah in the heart is enough. To eat Sahree (before dawn) is a Sunnah, even if it is one or two morsels.

Breaking the fast (Iftaar) with dates or water is approved.

**At the time of Iftaar, recite the following Du'aa:**

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي لَكَ صُمْتُ وَبِكَ آمَنْتُ وَعَلَيْكَ تَوَكَّلْتُ وَعَلَى رِزْقِكَ أَفْطَرْتُ

Transliteration: *Allaahumma Inni Laka Sumtu wa Bika Aamantu wa 'Alayka Tawakkaltu  
 wa 'Alaa Rizqika Aftartu.*

Translation: Our Dearest and Beloved Allaah, I have fasted for Your Pleasure and I believe in You and I put my trust in You and I break my fast with the provisions You have bestowed.

### **Actions which render the fast void and Kuffaarah (expiation) and Qadaa (repeat) becomes essential:**

To smoke; to eat and drink deliberately; to have sexual intercourse. The expiation is to fast continuously for 60 days or feed twice a day 60 Miskeen (needy).

### **Actions which make the fast Makrooh (defective):**

To chew anything needlessly or taste salt or similar things and then spit them; collect saliva deliberately in the mouth and then swallow it; commit sins like gheebah (backbiting), lying, foul language, pick up fights and quarrel.

### **Actions which do not render the fast void:**

To eat or drink in forgetfulness; dust, mosquito, fly or other insects to enter the throat accidentally; water to enter the ears; involuntary vomiting; seminal discharge during sleep; for the vomit to re-enter (down the throat); to put medicine in the eyes; to do miswaak. These acts do not render the fast void.

### **Actions which make the fast void and Waajib (necessitate) Qadaa (repeating) the fast:**

Illness which robs one of the strength to fast or make it necessary to take medication during the day time; a pregnant woman whose life and the life of the fetus is threatened by fasting; a traveler who is at least traveling 48 miles and there is no food available (to do Iftaar and eat food afterwards); a woman in menstrual period. If a person rises late and takes Sahree meal presuming there is still time and he realizes later that he was out of time, he must repeat the fast. (Ramadaan fast can be only repeated after the month is over.) If a person breaks his fast before sunset by mistake, he will have to repeat the fast. If a person deliberately vomits at least a mouthful of the stomach contents, he must repeat the fast. An old weak person who would suffer pain if he fasts should give 4 Kilos of wheat to a needy person.

### **Conditions under which a fast can be terminated:**

If a person becomes ill during the fast and his life is threatened, or the illness may become worse, or thirst has become severe and it may kill him, it is permissible to terminate the fast and do another one Qadaa.

## **Lailatul Qadr (The Night of Power)**

### **Hadeeth Shareef:**

Hadrat Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه has narrated that the Beloved of Allaah ﷺ, Hadrat Sayyidina wa Maulaanaa Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ said: The person who is a believer and does Qiyaamul Lail (spends the night in worship) during the Night of Power with the intention of receiving rewards, will be forgiven his future sins and a believer who fasts during the month of Ramadaan considering them to be acts which give him rewards, will have his future sins forgiven. (Bukhari Shareef, Tarteef Shareef, pg. 820)

### **Hadeeth Shareef:**

Hadrat Anas رضي الله عنه has narrated that the Beloved of Allaah ﷺ, Hadrat Sayyidina wa Maulaanaa Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ said: When the Lailatul Qadr arrives, Hadrat Jibreel عليه السلام descends with the Jama'ah of Angels who seek blessings and forgiveness (from Allaah ﷻ) for that slave who is busy with the Dzikr and Worship of Allaah ﷻ sitting or standing. Then on the day of 'Eid for Muslims ('Eid-ul-Fitr), Allaah ﷻ expresses His pride over such slaves of His and says: "O my Angels, what are the wages of a worker who has completed his duty?" The Angels respond respectfully: "O our Lord, his wages are that he should be paid in full." Allaah ﷻ says: "O my Angels, my slaves men and women, have fulfilled their duty and have left their homes to go to the Masjid to make Du'aa. I swear upon My Honor, My Majesty, My Forgiveness, My Generosity

and My Exaltedness that I will accept their Du'aas." Then Allaah ﷺ says: "O my slaves, go back to your homes, I have forgiven you and I have converted your sins into good deeds." The Beloved of Allaah ﷺ, Hadrat Sayyidina wa Maulaanaa Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ said: Then the Muslims return from the Masjid in such a condition that their sins are forgiven. (Baihaqi, Mishkat Shareef, Tarteef Shareef, pgs. 821-822)

One should look for the Lailatul Qadr on the Nights of the 21<sup>st</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and the 29<sup>th</sup> of the Ramadaan.

#### Hadeeth Shareef:

Hadrat 'Aaishah Siddeeqah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا narrates that the Beloved of Allaah ﷺ, Hadrat Sayyidina wa Maulaanaa Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ said: "Seek the Lailatul Qadr among the nights of odd numbers during the last ten nights of Ramadaan." (Bukhari)

#### Hadeeth Shareef:

Hadrat 'Aaishah Siddeeqah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا has narrated that the Beloved of Allaah ﷺ, Hadrat Sayyidina wa Maulaanaa Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ did not devote himself so much to the Remembrance and Worship of Allaah ﷻ as he did during the last ten days of Ramadaan. (Muslim)

### The Taraaweesh Salaah

Taraaweesh is the pause observed after every four Rakaa'ahs of this Salaah performed after the 'Ishaa Salaah during the month of Ramadaan. The Taraaweesh Salaah consists of twenty Rakaa'ahs and is a Sunnatul Maukkidah (Compulsory Sunnah), both for the males and females. It is independent of the fast and should be performed even by the person who does not observe the fast (due to some reason) unless otherwise exempted.

#### Hadeeth Shareef:

The Beloved of Allaah ﷺ, Hadrat Sayyidina wa Maulaanaa Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ addressed his beloved companions (with whom Allaah ﷻ is pleased) on the last day of Sha'baan, on the eve of Ramadaan and said: "There is a night in this month which is greater in excellence than a thousand months. Allaah ﷻ has enjoined an extra Salaat to be performed in the nights of this month. If a person performs a voluntary act of worship (good deed) out of his own free choice during this month, he will be entitled to receive the rewards for a Fard (compulsory) act performed in other months." (Mishkat Shareef)

#### Hadeeth Shareef:

In another Hadeeth, the Beloved of Allaah ﷺ, Hadrat Sayyidina wa Maulaanaa Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ said: "The one who observed the Taraaweesh Salaah at night during the month of Ramadaan with complete faith and devotion only for the sake of receiving Thawaab in the Hereafter, will have all his previous sins forgiven by Allaah ﷻ."

The Taraaweesh Salaah begins from the very evening the Hilaal (visible new moon) of Ramadaan is sighted and discontinued on the evening when the Hilaal of Shawwaal is sighted. The time of performing this Salaah is after Salaatul 'Ishaa till the break of dawn. This Salaat should be performed in Jamaa'ah (congregation).

**Note:** If our beloved readers would like more details about Ramadaan than the scope of "Virtues of Islaamic Life" allows, please refer to an excellent book Everyday Fiqh by Muhammad Yusuf Islahi, which should be easily available in all Islaamic bookstores. If you need information on specific matters about Ramadaan, please write, call or send an email to us. We shall, InshaAllaah Ta'aalaa, do our best to help you.