

Blessings of Rajab

(with excellences of Nafil fasts)



Sunnah-Inspiring speech of
weekly Sunnah-Inspiring Ijtima

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ
 أَمَا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Blessings of the Month of Rajab

الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ
 وَعَلَى آلِكَ وَأَصْحَابِكَ يَا حَبِيبَ اللَّهِ
 الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا نَبِيَّ اللَّهِ
 وَعَلَى آلِكَ وَأَصْحَابِكَ يَا نُورَ اللَّهِ

نَوَيْتُ سُنَّتَ الْإِعْتِكَافِ

Translation: I have made the intention of Sunnah I'tikaaf.

Whenever you enter a Masjid, observe the intention of 'I'tikaaf' as you remember it because as long as you stay in the Masjid you will keep obtaining the reward of Nafli (supererogatory) I'tikaafs, and eating & drinking will also become permissible for you in the Masjid.

Excellence of reciting Salat- 'Alan-Nabi ﷺ

Sayyiduna Fudaalah Bin 'Ubayd رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated that the Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was sitting in the Masjid, a man came and offered Salah and made Du'a saying these words: 'اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَارْحَمْنِي' i.e. 'O Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ! Forgive me and have mercy upon me.' The Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said: 'عَجَلْتِ أَيُّهَا الْمُصَلِّعُ' 'O the one who performed Salah, you hurried.'

‘إِذَا صَلَّيْتَ فَقَعَدْتَ فَاحْمِدِ اللَّهَ بِمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ، وَصَلِّ عَلَيَّ ثُمَّ ادْعُهُ،’ *‘When you complete your Salah, so first of all praise Allah ﷺ in a manner He ﷺ deserves, and recite Salaat upon me, then make Du’a.’*

The narrator has further said that after him another person offered Salah, then praised Allah ﷺ and recited Salat upon the Beloved Prophet ﷺ. The Beloved Prophet ﷺ said, ‘أَيُّهَا الْمُصَلِّيُّ ادْعُ تُجِبْ’ *O one who offered Salah! Make Du’a; it will be answered.*

(Tirmizi, Kitab-ud-Da’waat, vol. 5, pp. 290, Hadis 3487)

Dear Islamic brothers! It has become evident from the abovementioned narration that if a person who is making Du’a wants his Du’a to be answered, it is compulsory for him/her to recite Salat-‘Alan-Nabi before and after the Du’a.

بجیوں بے کار باتوں سے پڑھیں اے کاش کثرت سے

ترے محبوب پر ہر دم دُرُودِ پاک ہم مولیٰ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Before listening to the Bayān, let’s make good intentions for attaining rewards. The Beloved Prophet ﷺ has said, ‘نِيَّةُ الْمُؤْمِنِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ عَمَلِهِ’ *The intention of a believer is better than his action.*

(Al-Mu’jam-ul-Kabeer, vol. 6, pp. 185, Hadis 5942)

Two Madani pearls

1. Without a good intention, no reward is granted for a good deed.
2. The more righteous intentions one makes the greater reward he will attain.

Intentions of listening to Bayān

1. Lowering my gaze, I will listen to the Bayān attentively.
2. Instead of resting against a wall etc., I will sit in the Attahiyyat position as far as possible with the intention of showing respect for religious knowledge.
3. I will make space for others by folding my hands and limbs and by moving slightly.
4. If someone pushes me, I will remain patient and avoid staring, snapping or arguing with them.
5. When I hear **صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ**, **أَذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ**, **تُؤْتُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ**, etc., I will reply loudly with the intention of gaining reward and encouraging others to also recite.
6. After the Bayān, I will approach other people by making Salām, shaking hands, and for making individual efforts upon them.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Intentions for delivering a Bayān

1. I also make the intention that I would deliver this speech (Bayān) in order to seek the pleasure of Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ** and for reaping the rewards.
2. I will deliver my speech (Bayān) by reading from a book of an authentic Sunni scholar.

أَدْعُ إِلَى سَبِيلِ رَبِّكَ بِالْحُكْمَةِ وَالْمَوْعِظَةِ الْحَسَنَةِ

Translation from Kanz-ul-Īmān: ‘Call towards the path of your Lord with sound planning and good advice.’ (Part 14, Surah An-Nahl, verse 125)

بَلِّغُوا عَنِّي وَلَوْ آيَةً

‘Convey from me even if it is a single verse.’ (Sahih Bukhari, Hadis 4361)

3. I would follow the abovementioned commandments by calling people towards righteousness and will forbid them from committing evil deeds.
4. Whilst reciting poetry or speaking Arabic, English, or pronouncing difficult words, I will focus my attention on the sincerity of my heart. That is to say, I will avoid delivering my speech with the intention to impress the audience with my knowledge.
5. I will encourage the people to travel with Madani Qafilahs, to practise upon the Madani In’aamaat and to join the ‘Ilaaqa’i Daura for Nayki ki Da’wat’ (area visit for calling towards righteousness).
6. I will avoid laughing and prevent others from laughing as well.
7. In order to develop the habit of protecting my eyes from sins I will, as far as possible, lower my gaze.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Respect of Rajab and its reward

Shaykh-e-Tareeqat, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, the founder of Dawat-e-Islami, ‘Allaamah Maulana Abu Bilal Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri Razawi Ziyaaہ دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَةِ has stated a parable on page 1355 of his renowned book ‘Faizan-e-Sunnat (volume 1)’:

In the time of Sayyiduna Nabī ‘Isā عَلَى نَبِيِّنَا وَعَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ a man was in love with a woman. One day, he kidnapped her, but suddenly he heard a commotion and had the notion that people were talking about the appearance of the moon. He asked the woman as to which month’s moon the people were sighting.

She replied, ‘The month of Rajab.’ Although this person was an unbeliever, as soon as he heard the word ‘Rajab’, he immediately separated himself from the woman in reverence of the blessed month and refrained from committing the sin. Allah ﷺ commanded Sayyiduna Nabī ‘Īsā عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ to go and meet that person, so Sayyiduna Nabī ‘Īsā عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ went and informed him about the message of Allah ﷺ and the purpose of his arrival. Upon hearing this, his heart shined with the Nūr of Islam and he immediately became a Muslim. (*Faizan-e-Sunnat, vol. 1, pp. 1355*)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Have you seen the ‘blessings of Rajab?’ An unbeliever was blessed with the treasure of Īmān (faith) due to respecting the sacred month of Rajab. So if a Muslim respects ‘Rajab’ and commits no sin such as: tale-telling, backbiting, cheating and breaching of promises etc., or makes his best to refrain from these sins, moreover, spending the entire month devoting himself in worshipping & devotion, performing Salah regularly, performing Nawaafil (supererogatory prayers) Tahajjud, Ishraaq, Chaasht Salah, observing Nafli (supererogatory) fasts as well and reciting the Blessed Quran in the nights too then how great will be the favours & honours for such a person. However! We should devote ourselves to engage in additional ‘Ibadaat (worships) so that we deserve Divine mercy & blessings.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Diverse meanings of the word ‘Rajab’

Shaykh-e-Tareeqat, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat دامت بركاتهم العالیه has stated on page 2 of his booklet ‘Return of the Shroud (with blessings of Rajab):

Hujjat-ul-Islam Sayyiduna Imām Muhammad bin Muhammad bin Muhammad Ghazālī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْوَالِي has stated in his famous book ‘Mukāshafa-tul-Qulūb’,

'Rajab has actually been derived from the word 'تَرْجِيبُ' (Tarjeeb) which means 'to honour.' It is also known as 'الْأَصْبُ' (Al-Asab) (i.e. fastest flow), because the flow of mercy is increased for those who repent in this blessed month. Further, the light of acceptance descends upon the worshippers in this month. It is also called 'الْأَصَمُ' (Al-Asam) (i.e. not hearing) because the sound of war and weapons isn't heard at all during this month. Yet another name of 'رَجَبُ' is the name of a Heavenly stream whose water is whiter than milk, sweeter than honey and cooler than snow. Only those who fast in the month of Rajab will drink from it.' (*Mukāshafa-tul-Qulūb*, pp. 301)

It is stated in *Ghunya-tut-Tālibeen* that this month is also called 'شَهْرُ الرِّجْمِ' because the devils are stoned in this month so that they may not harm the Muslims. This blessed month is also known as 'الْأَصَمُ' (not hearing) because nobody has heard about any Ummaḥ (nation) that has been punished by Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ in this month, whereas previously Divine retribution took place in all other months. (*Ghunya-tut-Tālibeen*, pp. 229)

4 Sacred months

Dear Islamic brothers! There are four months that are especially sacred in the court of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. It is stated in Surah At-Taubah:

إِنَّ عِدَّةَ الشُّهُورِ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ اثْنَا عَشَرَ شَهْرًا فِي كِتَابِ اللَّهِ يَوْمَ خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ
وَالْأَرْضَ مِنْهَا أَرْبَعَةٌ حُرُمٌ ۗ ذَلِكَ الدِّينُ الْقَيِّمُ ۗ

Translation from Kanz-ul-Iman: Indeed the number of months with Allah is twelve; in the book of Allah since the day He created the heavens and the earth. Four of them are sacred; this is the straight religion.

(Part 10, Surah At-Taubaḥ, verse 36)

Commenting on the abovementioned verse, Hakeem-ul-Ummat, Mufti Ahmad Yaar Khan عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْكَرِيمِ has said: (Out of the four sacred months) three are consecutive: Zul-Qa'dah, Zul-Hijjah and Muharram and one is separate, and that is Rajab. All these four months used to be regarded sacred and venerable even in the pre-Islamic era. (He رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ further states) and the sacredness of these months have not been lessened; so continue worshipping and refrain from sins in these months. We have also come to know that when all months, all days and even all organisations are not equal in terms of excellence then how can all humans be equal. *(Tafseer Khazain-ul-'Irfan, pp. 306)*

Dear Islamic brothers! It is indeed a point to note that if all months are not equal in rank then how can it be possible for all humans to be equal? Surely, all the blessed Prophets عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام and all Blessed saints of Islam occupy a particular status and rank in the court of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. These blessed & virtuous personalities are highly distinctive and prominent as compared to the common people. Furthermore, we came to know that these blessed months were also regarded sacred & venerable during the pre-Islamic era and Islam retained their sacredness, rather Islam has instructed the believers to refrain from sins especially in these sacred months, as the Blessed Quran says:

فَلَا تَظْلِمُوا فِيهِنَّ أَنْفُسَكُمْ

Translation from Kanz-ul-Iman: So do not wrong yourselves in those months.

(Part 10, Surah At-Taubah, verse 36)

It is stated here that show reverence for these blessed months, do not commit sins, especially in these four sacred months; committing sins in especially these sanctified months is tantamount to inflicting cruelty to your own selves. *(Tafseer Khazain-ul-'Irfan, pp. 306)*

Therefore, upon the advent of this blessed month, we should also engage in increasing our 'Ibadaat (prayers) in conjunction with the forbidding of sins and by developing a deep attachment to Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. Refrain from lies, backbiting,

carrying tales, breaking promises, using foul language, hurting Muslims, breaking ties, watching movies & dramas and committing all other sins as well as seek true forgiveness from Allah ﷻ for your past sins and make a firm intention not to commit sins in the future. Furthermore, keep yourselves engaged in performing Nawaafil (supererogatory) and Mustahabbaat (recommended) prayers along with Salah and other obligatory prayers.

Muslims, engaged in sinning

Dear Islamic brothers! Alas, things are getting bad to worse day by day instead of improving. At present, the miserable and pathetic and downward spiral of too many Muslims and their despicable ethical values are not hidden from anyone. The means of committing sins are increasingly prevalent, that every step of a human leads towards sins willingly or unwillingly. It was not too long ago when people used to listen to songs & dramas on the radio, followed by the invention of the TV which brought pictures which only allowed viewers to view what was broadcasted, however with the invasion of the VCR this deficiency was overcome, then storm of Dish antennas and Cable TV multiplied sins speedily by introducing plenty of opportunities of showing vulgarity and obscenity. As the TV is rather big in size and listeners & viewers have to sit a long time at one place in order to watch and since it is not possible to carry it everywhere, small devices such as the MP3 players, MP4 players and mobile phones were all equipped with net services breaking all remaining obstacles in the way of committing sins. Thus, a large number of people living in our society have drowned into the marsh of sins by misusing these devices.

The more regrettable thing is that countless of sins, willingly or unwillingly are committed all the daylong but there is not even a slightest realization of it, let alone repentance & showing remorse. Who feels shame & regret after watching movies & dramas, listening to music & songs, speaking lies, committing backbiting, slandering, tale bearing, breaking promises, committing evil suspicion, using foul language, disobeying parents, hurting Muslims, stealing, robbing, killing, drinking alcohol and committing other grave sins? Who feels deep regret after committing these sins? Who feels deep regret

after missing Salah? Even those who seem punctual with their Salah also show laziness probably for Salat-ul-Fajr nowadays and they feel no remorse for this. On the contrary, if they wake up at 8:30 and they start work at 9:00, then being overwhelmed by tension & fear over being late for the office, they feel regret but there is no feelings of shame over waking up late for Salat-ul-Fajr. There is a fear of deduction from salary upon being late from the office but there is no fear of the horrible torment that awaits for missing Salat-ul-Fajr etc. The male youth in today's modern world adorn themselves with gold chains, rings, and bracelets made of different metals; they wear such thin or transparent clothing which causes their concealed areas to be exposed, they feel pride to grow long hair like women and roam around; the father is proud to see his loving daughter embracing modern fashion and exposing all that must be concealed; people become overjoyed when their fiancée commits many impermissible and Haraam (forbidden) acts, like by holding the girl's hand when putting the ring on; similarly, people feel pride in wearing western clothing and shaving their beards.

In short, there are innumerable kinds of impermissible, Haraam (forbidden) acts leading to Hell which are not just committed unfortunately by Muslims today, but also with pride they advertise these sins despite their forbiddance by Allah ﷻ and His Beloved Rasool ﷺ; the condition has turned so bad that if any Islamic brother aspires to carry out any good deed by virtue of the Madani environment or if any Islamic sister wants to observe the veil or any Islamic brother desires to grow beard in conformity with the Sunnah then hurdles are created in their ways and they are taunted and made fun of, simply for performing their good deeds.

اے خاصہ خاصانِ رُسلِ وقتِ دُعا ہے اُمتِ پہ تری آ کے عَجَبِ وقتِ پڑا ہے

Why are sins always committed?

Dear Islamic brothers! Ponder seriously! We are drowning in the marsh of sins but turn a deaf ear; all the daylong and night we are immersed in sins but we do not feel embarrassment or remorse, why is this so? Perhaps we have

developed the habit of committing sins to such an extent that sin is not regarded as a sin.

Remember! Do not be lazy due to the hardness of your heart because of sins, but in fact, keep a close eye on your heart, since many scholars رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى have stated that hearts are darkened with the continuous adherence of sins. The darkness of the heart can be felt by a person in a way that the person does not become worried by sinning, he does not get a chance to worship, and he does not heed any advice given to him.

(Gheebat ki Tabahkariyan, pp. 429)

The Greatest and Holiest Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: When a person commits a sin, a black spot is appears on his heart. If he commits another sin, then another black spot is appears on his heart (and this continues) until his (entire) heart becomes black. Then advice has no effect on his heart.

(Sunan-ut-Tirmizi, vol. 5, pp. 220, Hadis 3345)

مُحِيطٌ دَلِ بِهِ بُؤَا بَائِئِ نَفْسِ أَمَارِهِ دماغ پر مرے ابلیس چھا گیا یا رَبِّ!
میں کر کے توبہ پلٹ کر گناہ کرتا ہوں حقیقی توبہ کا کردے شرف عطا یا رَبِّ!

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Rajab is the month of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ

Sayyiduna Anas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated, the Beloved and Blessed Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: خَيْرُ أَيَّامِ اللَّهِ مِنْ الشُّهُورِ شَهْرُ رَجَبٍ وَهُوَ شَهْرُ اللَّهِ i.e. the month of Rajab is one of the favourite months of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. It is a month of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. مَنْ عَظَّمَ شَهْرَ رَجَبٍ فَقَدْ عَظَّمَ أَمْرَ اللَّهِ وَ مَنْ عَظَّمَ أَمْرَ اللَّهِ أَدْخَلَهُ جَنَّاتِ النَّعِيمِ وَ أَوْجَبَ لَهُ رِضْوَانَهُ الْأَكْبَرَ. عَزَّوَجَلَّ. And one who respects and reveres the command of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ

will enter that person into the orchards of blessings and will make His Pleasure Waajib (obligatory) for him. (*Shu'ab-ul-Iman, vol. 3, pp. 374, Hadis 3813*)

Dear Islamic brothers! Certainly! This blessed Hadis conveys the greater glory & dignity of this sacred month of Rajab. Indeed all months are created by Allah ﷻ but the month of 'Rajab-ul-Murajjab' is mentioned specifically as the month of Allah ﷻ. Furthermore, it has also been mentioned in this blessed Hadis that one who respects and show reverence for Rajab, Allah ﷻ will grant him orchards of blessings and will become pleased with him. Certainly, every one of us has this desire that Allah ﷻ remains pleased with us and everyone wants that he attain salvation and enter Jannah. A method to achieve this is by showing reverence for the holy month of 'Rajab'.

We should respect this month by making greater efforts to refrain from sins and by increasing our 'Ibadaat like, reciting the Blessed Quran more often, performing Nawaafil (supererogatory prayers, e.g. 'Tahajjud', 'Ishraaq', 'Chaasht', 'Awwaabeen' etc.). But alas! Majority of people do not respect this sacred month. They do not even know when it starts nor ends, let alone increasing their worshipping. They do not deem it to be a sacred month; this is the reason people spend this sacred month like other days, in negligence and laziness. The main cause behind it is that people are deprived of a good & beneficial environment where the mindset of respecting this blessed month is given with the expression of gratitude and refraining from sins.

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ ﷻ! In this Madani (pure Islamic) environment of Dawat-e-Islami, people not only attain the mindset of respecting and revering these sacred months but they are also persuaded to perform virtuous deeds. If we associate ourselves with the Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami, performing virtues, refraining from sins and respecting the sacred months will become incredibly easy. Believe in this fact that the Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami is no less than a great blessing. Therefore, we should not only keep ourselves associated with this Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami but also continue persuading & motivating others to join this Madani environment.

Remember! Even if just a single person gets inspired, came on the straight path, loved the Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami, adopted the Sunan, attained the pleasure & essence of Salah and changed their lives due to your efforts of calling towards righteousness; **إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ** you will become remarkably successful.

Addressing Ameer-ul-Mu`mineen, Sayyidunā ‘Alī-ul-Murtadā **كَرَّمَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى وَجْهَهُ الْكَرِيمَ**, the Revered and Renowned Prophet **صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** said: O ‘Ali! [If] Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ** guides any person towards the right path through you, this is better for you than all such things that the sun rises over (i.e. it is better than all things of the world). (*Al-Mu’jam-ul-Kabeer lit-Tabarani, vol. 1, pp. 332, Hadis 994*)

رہیں بھلائی کی راہوں میں گامزن ہر دم کریں نہ رُخِ مرے پاؤں گناہ کا یا رَبِّ!
 کرم سے نیکی کی دعوت کا خوب جذبہ دے دوں دھوم سنّتِ محبوب کی مچا یا رَبِّ!

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Virtues of Rajab in the light of blessed Ahadees

Dear Islamic brothers! Let’s listen to three blessed Ahadees stating the virtues of ‘Rajab’.

1. The Noble Prophet **صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** had stated to the blessed Sahabah **رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمْ**: It is obligatory upon you to stay awake in the nights in prayer and worship & observe fasts in the days during the month of Rajab; one who performs 50 (Rak’aat) of Salah, reciting the Glorious Quran in every Rak’at according to his ability, Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ** will grant him virtues equal to his hairs. (*Tarikh-e-Dimishq, vol. 43, pp. 291*)
2. While delivering the Jumu’ah (Friday) sermon, in the month of Rajab, the Prophet of Rahmah, the Intercessor of the Ummah **صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** has stated: O people! You have a great month; this blessed month multiplies rewards; prayers are answered, worries are removed, the prayer of a

true believer is not rejected. Hence, whoever carries out a good deed, he is honoured with rewards many times more. (*ibid*)

3. The Beloved Rasool ﷺ has stated: Do 'Istighfār' (seek forgiveness) in abundance; indeed, Allah ﷻ will give salvation to several people from the fire. (*Kanz-ul-'Ummal*, vol. 1, part 1, pp. 243)

Dear Islamic brothers! Have you seen how great the virtues of the blessed month of Rajab are? The first blessed Hadis in particular encourages a wonderful Madani thinking, when our Noble Prophet ﷺ strongly motivated the blessed Sahabah رضى الله تعالى عنهم to perform prayers of worship & devotion and to observe fasts, imagine how crucial it is for us to worship as well. In another blessed Hadis, it is stated, the month of Rajab is such a great month in which prayers are answered and problems are resolved, even the rewards of deeds which are carried out in this month, are multiplied many times more; whereas in the last blessed Hadis, an advice and glad tiding has been stated. We are advised to make Istighfaar (seek forgiveness) in abundance and a glad tiding is that Allah ﷻ grants salvation to many people from Hell-fire, in every moment of this sacred month. Therefore, we should also seek forgiveness in abundance so that Allah ﷻ includes us as well amongst those who seek salvation from Hell, for the Noble Prophet's ﷺ sake.

Remember! It is a great privilege to have an opportunity to seek forgiveness. Generally, the blessed moments of Shab-e-Mi'rāj (the night of Ascension), Shab-e-Baraa`at (the night of salvation) and Shab-e-Qadr (the night of power) always appear in the lives of people but they do not have an urge to seek forgiveness, perhaps, some would have been thinking on such blessed occasions, '*There is still long life ahead of me, we would seek forgiveness some other time*' but alas! Death overcame them and they remain deprived of this privilege, due to heedlessness. In fact, death keeps no calendar; therefore we must not be heedless at all in terms of seeking forgiveness.

The Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ himself used to seek forgiveness many times daily, simply for emphasizing its importance and for persuading his Ummah (nation) to do the same. It is stated on page 164 of 656-page book 'Faizan-e-Riyaad-us-Saaliheen', the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ تَوُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا لَهُ، فَإِنَّ التَّوْبَ فِي الْيَوْمِ إِلَيْهِ مِائَةٌ مَرَّةً عَزَّوَجَلَّ ask repentance from Him; indeed, I seek repentance one hundred times daily.' (Sahih Muslim, pp. 1449, Hadis 2703)

(Faizan-e-Ihya-ul-'Uloom, pp. 164)

Commenting on the abovementioned blessed Hadis, the renowned commentator Hakeem-ul-Ummat Mufti Ahmad Yaar Khan عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْكَرِيمِ has stated: The act of seeking forgiveness is also very much important in addition to performing Salah and observing fasts, therefore, the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ used to seek forgiveness abundantly (for our persuasion), because the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has been made Ma'soom (absolutely sinless and unable to sin), and even no sin ever approaches the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. The mystics state, 'We seek forgiveness after committing sin and those blessed personalities عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَامُ used to seek forgiveness after worshipping.' (Mirat-ul-Manajih, vol. 3, pp. 1353)

Dear Islamic brothers! Istighfār (seeking forgiveness) contains countless virtues & blessing in it. Remember! 'Istighfār' implies 'asking forgiveness, seeking forgiveness for sins, seeking salvation'. Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ says in the Blessed Quran:

وَالَّذِينَ إِذَا فَعَلُوا فَاحِشَةً أَوْ ظَلَمُوا أَنْفُسَهُمْ ذَكَرُوا اللَّهَ فَاسْتَغْفَرُوا لِذُنُوبِهِمْ
وَمَنْ يَغْفِرِ اللَّهُ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

Translation from Kanz-ul-Iman: And those who, if they commit an immoral act or wrong themselves, remember Allah and seek forgiveness of their sins - and who forgives sins except Allah.

(Part 4, Surah Aal-e-'Imran, verse 135)

It is stated in *Durr-e-Mansoor* that when this blessed verse was revealed, Iblees (the cursed satan) called his assembly, screaming and wailing, throwing dust on his head and crying a lot, even all his minions gathered from the whole universe and they said: O our leader what has happened to you? He replied, 'There is such a verse revealed in Quran, that no sin may harm any human after that.' His followers asked, 'which is that verse?' Iblees told them about the mentioned verse. Upon hearing this, his minions said, 'We shall overcome them by the storm of desires that they would not be able to seek forgiveness and they will remain in this misconception that they are on the right path'. Listening to this, satan became overjoyed.

(*Durr-e-Mansoor*, vol. 2, pp. 326)

Hurdle in the way of repentance

Dear Islamic brothers! The abovementioned quote that the minions of satan had stated that '*we will overcome them by the storm of desires that they would not be able to seek forgiveness and they will remain in this misconception that they are on the right path*,' is a matter of great concern. This claim of these satanic forces appears as a challenge for us; therefore, we should accept this challenge by practicing & carrying out good deeds and should pledge ourselves to not only refrain from evil deeds ourselves but also call others towards righteousness and forbid them from evil; furthermore, in case, on account of human weakness, if any sin happened to get committed by us then immediately seek forgiveness from your Rab ﷺ with full humility and deep shame.

O sinners! Seek forgiveness

Sayyiduna Abu Sa'eed رضى الله تعالى عنه narrated, the Noble Prophet ﷺ has stated: Satan said in the court of Allah ﷻ:

وَعَزَّتْكَ يَا رَبِّ لَا أَبْرِمُ أُغْوِي عِبَادَكَ مَا دَامَتْ أَرْوَاحُهُمْ فِي أَجْسَادِهِمْ

i.e., O my Rab (ﷻ)! I swear oath of Your honour and glory! I will continue trying to misguide Your bondsmen so long as their souls are in their bodies.

Allah ﷻ replied: **وَعِزَّتِي وَجَلَالِي لَا آزَالُ أَنْفِرَ لَهُمْ مَا اسْتَعْفَرُونِي** ‘By My Glory and Majesty, I will continue to forgive them so long as they ask for My forgiveness.

(Musnad Imam Ahmad vol. 4, pp. 58, Hadis 11237)

Remember! Where Istighfār is a source of purifying the spotted heart smeared with filth and darkness due to committing sins, it is also a great prayer and a source of easily earning virtues as well. It is stated in a blessed Hadis: The one who asks for forgiveness on behalf of Muslim men and women, Allah ﷻ bestows him a virtue in exchange of every Mu`min (believing) man and woman.

(Kanz-ul-‘Ummal, vol. 1, part 1, pp. 241)

Therefore, whenever we seek forgiveness for ourselves then we should also include our Islamic brothers and Islamic sisters in our supplication (Du’a).

It is stated on page 140 of the 419-page book ‘Madani Treasure of Blessings’ – published by Maktaba-tul-Madinah, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami: It is narrated by Sayyiduna ‘Abdullāh Bin ‘Abbās رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا that the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: Whoever makes (invocation of) Istighfār necessary on himself, Allah ﷻ will remove every worry from him, will bless him with relief from every misery, and will bestow him with sustenance from such a source which he cannot imagine.’

(Sunan Ibn Mājah, pp. 257, vol. 4, Hadis 3819)

مجھ خطا کار پر بھی عطا کر	بے سبب بخش دے رب اکبر
مجھ کو دوزخ سے ڈر لگ رہا ہے	یا خدا تجھ سے میری دُعا ہے
مَغفرت کا ہوں تجھ سے سوالی	پھیرنا اپنے دَر سے نہ خالی
مجھ گُناہگار کی اِتِجا ہے	یاخدا تجھ سے میری دُعا ہے

Introduction of the book 'Madani Panj Surah'

Dear Islamic brothers! The excellences that we have heard about regarding 'Istighfār' is taken from the book, *Madani Panj Surah*. *Madani Panj Surah*, in fact, such a remarkable 419-page book of Shaykh-e-Tareeqat, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَهُ which is an interesting bouquet of famous Quranic verses, blessed Salawaat (Durood Shareef), spiritual and medical cures and Madani pearls of advice. This book is a real asset for every home. Yes it is true, because Shaykh-e-Tareeqat, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَهُ has commented: 'This book '*Madani Panj Surah*' is a need of every home'. Therefore, not only should all Islamic brothers read this book themselves but also present this book to others as a gift with good intentions or suggest them to buy and read this book.

صَلِّ اللّٰهُ تَعَالٰى عَلٰى مُحَمَّدٍ صَلُّوْا عَلٰى الْحَبِيْبِ

Dear Islamic brothers! By the grace of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, the entire blessed month of Rajab occupies blessings and virtues in abundance, however various narrations specifically indicate towards the 1st and 27th day. Hence, these days should be dedicated to increased worshipping and devotion.

Rajab contains very special days and nights

Ameer-ul-Mu`mineen Sayyidunā 'Alī-ul-Murtadā كَرَّمَ اللّٰهُ تَعَالٰى وَجْهَهُ الْكَرِيْمَ used to dedicate himself for worshipping in the first night of Rajab. It is reported that Ameer-ul-Mu`mineen Sayyidunā 'Alī-ul-Murtadā كَرَّمَ اللّٰهُ تَعَالٰى وَجْهَهُ الْكَرِيْمَ used to follow a method, in which he رَضِيَ اللّٰهُ تَعَالٰى عَنْهُ would reserve four nights in the year only for the purpose of worshipping and devotion and nothing else. These nights are as follows: The first night of the month of Rajab, night of 'Eid-ul-Fitr, night of 'Eid-ul-Adhā and 15th night of the month of Sha'baan.

(Ghunya-tut-Talibeen, pp. 359)

Sayyidunā Khālid Bin Ma'dān رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has said, 'There are five specified nights in the year. The one spending them in worship, testifying them with the intention of gaining reward will enter Heaven: The first night of Rajab is also included in these blessed nights. (*Ghunya-tut-Talibeen*, pp. 236)

In the same manner as the 1st night of Rajab is important, so too is the 27th night because it is the same great night in which the first revelation was sent to the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and it is the same great night in which the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was taken up to the Mi'rāj (Ascension). This is the reason; a great deal of reward is blessed to those fortunate ones who spend the 27th night in worshipping and observing fast. Let's listen to three blessed sayings of the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in this connection:

1. I was given Prophethood on the 27th of Rajab. Whoever fasts on this day and makes Du'a at the time of Iftār, it will be expiation for ten years of his sins.' (*Fatāwā Razawiyyah*, vol. 10, pp. 648)
2. In Rajab, there is such a night that the one performing good deeds gets the reward of a hundred years' worship, (and) that is the 27th night of Rajab. (*Shu'ab-ul-Iman*, vol. 3, pp. 374, *Hadis 3812*)
3. There is a day and a night in the month of Rajab. If a person fasts during the day and stands (for worship) in the night, it will be as if he fasted for one hundred years. This is the 27th of Rajab. This is the day in which the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was given Prophethood.

(*Shu'ab-ul-Imān*, vol. 3, pp. 374, *Hadīṣ 3811*)

Dear Islamic brothers! Have you seen, the 27th of Rajab-ul-Murajjab is a great favour for the sinful people like us; one who observes fast with sincerity, his 10 years of sins are forgiven, even those fortunate people who are privileged to offer Nawaafil (supererogatory) Salah, are blessed with reward equal to 100 years of fasts. If we spend the 27th of Rajab in worshipping & devotion and observe fast on that day then there is a great hope that we may attain all these virtues.

وَلِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ! Dawat-e-Islami, a global & non-political, religious movement of Quran and Sunnah, organises Ijtimā'āt of Zikr & Na'at every year on the 27th night of Rajab at numerous venues around the world in order to commemorate the blessed Mi'rāj-un-Nabī صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

Dear Islamic brothers! Death may overtake us at anytime; the string of our breaths may suddenly break, closing the book of our deeds. Therefore, do not miss any opportunity of earning virtues. If, by the grace of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ we are privileged to witness the blessed month of Rajab even once in our life, we should deem it our good fortune and instead of observing fast on the 1st and 27th of Rajab, we should spend most of the days in observing fasts. We don't know, perhaps it may prove to be the last Rajab of our life. Many virtues of Rajab have been mentioned in the blessed Ahadees. Let's listen to five blessed Ahadees in this connection:

Marvellous excellences of Nafl fasts

1. Sayyidunā Abū Qilābah رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has stated, 'There is a grand palace in Heaven for those who observe fast in Rajab.'
(*Shu'ab-ul-Īmān, vol. 3, pp. 368, Ḥadīṣ 3802*)
2. Sayyidunā Anas Bin Mālik رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated that the Prophet of Rahmah, the Intercessor of the Ummah صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, 'In Heaven, there is a river called 'Rajab' whose water is whiter than milk and sweeter than honey. The one keeping a fast in the month of Rajab will be given its water to drink by Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ.'
(*Shu'ab-ul-Īmān, vol. 3, pp. 367, Ḥadīṣ 3800*)
3. The Beloved and Blessed Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, 'The fast of the first day of Rajab is the expiation for three years, the fast of the second day is the expiation for two years and that of the third day is the expiation for one year and then the fast of each remaining day is expiation for one month.'
(*Al-Jāmi'-uṣ-Ṣaḡhīr, pp. 311, Ḥadīṣ 5051*)

4. Sayyidunā Anas رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated that Rasūlullāh صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, ‘Whoever keeps one fast in Rajab it will be equivalent to one year’s fasts. Whoever keeps seven fasts, the seven gates of Hell will be closed for him. Whoever keeps eight fasts, the eight portals of Heaven will be opened for him. Whoever keeps ten fasts, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ shall grant him whatever he asks for. If someone keeps fifteen fasts, an announcement is made for him from the sky, ‘Your previous sins have been forgiven, so start your deeds again because your sins have been turned into virtues’, and if anyone does more, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ shall give him more.’

(Shu’ab-ul-Īmān, vol. 3, pp. 368, Ḥadīṣ 3801)

5. Sayyidunā Anas رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has said, ‘On the Day of Resurrection, fasting people will rise from their graves and be recognised by the fragrance of fasts. There shall be jugs of water on which there will be seals of musk, and the fasting people shall be asked, ‘Eat, you were hungry yesterday; drink, you were thirsty yesterday; rest, you were tired yesterday.’ So they shall eat, drink and rest, whereas other people shall be facing the difficulties of accountability in the state of thirst. *(Kanz-ul-‘Ummāl, vol. 8, pp. 313, Ḥadīṣ 23639 / Al-Tadwīn fī Akhbāri Qazwīn, vol. 2, pp. 326)*

Dear Islamic brothers! Have you seen that fasting people in the month of Rajab are blessed with great bounties and favours, and Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ has prepared an exquisite palace for them; these fortunate people will be satiated with the water of the stream of ‘Rajab’; the doors of Hell will be closed for them and the doors of Jannah will be opened for them; their fasts will become an expiation of their sins and on the Day of Judgement, under the unbearable heat, hunger and thirst, the arrangements of their food, water and comfort will be made.

Having listened to the virtues & blessings of Nafli (supererogatory) fasts, all of us should observe Nafli fasts in abundance along with the obligatory fasts. The blessed month of Rajab brings the season of observing fasts. Firstly, the fasts of Rajab, then the fasts of Sha’baan. The Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ used to observe the fasts of Sha’baan in abundance.

Umm-ul-Mu`mineen (mother of the believers) Sayyidatunā ‘Āishāh Siddīqah رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهَا has stated, ‘I did not see the Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ observing fasts more abundantly in any month other than in Sha’baan. Except for a few days, he صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ used to observe fasts for the entire month.’ (Jāmi’ Tirmizī, vol. 2, pp. 182, Hadīṣ 736)

The Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, ‘Whoever observes fasts in Ramadan and then keeps six fasts in Shawwaal, it is as if he has kept fasts for his entire life.’ (Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim, pp. 592, Hadīṣ 1164)

عبادت میں، ریاضت میں، تلاوت میں لگا دے دل رَجَب کا واسطہ دیتا ہوں فرما دے کرم مولیٰ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Let’s listen to an inspiring letter of Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَهُ about the persuasion and excellence of keeping Nafl fasts:

A LETTER FROM ‘ATTAR

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Having circled around the Holy Ka’baḥ, having kissed the blessed Green Dome, enriched with the blessings of those who fast in Rajab, Sha’bān and Ramadan, Salām from Sag-e-Madīnaḥ Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri Razavi to all Islamic brothers, Islamic sisters, teachers and students of Madrasa-tul-Madīnaḥ and Jāmi’a-tul-Madīnaḥ:

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ عَلَى كُلِّ حَالٍ

*Ho na ho aaj kuch mayra zikr huzoor mayn huwa
Warna mayri taraf khushi daykh kay muskurayi kyun*

*Whatever the case, I was definitely mentioned in the blessed court today,
Otherwise why would happiness itself have turned to me and smiled!*

(Hadaïq-e-Bakhshish, pp. 97)

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ! The days of happiness are coming once again. The month of Rajab-ul-Murajjab is about to start. The seed of worship is sowed in this month, watered with the tears of repentance in Sha'bān-ul-Mu'azzam and the harvest of mercy is gathered in the month of Ramadan-ul-Mubārak.

Three months of fasting

O those who value Rajab-ul-Murajjab! If studying, teaching, or earning Halāl are not affected, your parents do not prevent you, and nobody's rights are violated, get ready as soon as possible to keep as many voluntary fasts along with the obligatory fasts of Ramadan. Apply Qufl-e-Madīnaḥ by eating less at the time of Saḥarī and Ifṭār. May the blossoms of fasting appear in every home and in all my Jāmi'a-tul-Madīnaḥs and Madrasa-tul-Madīnaḥs! So begin fasting from the very first day of Rajab-ul-Murajjab.

Excellence of the first three fasts in Rajab

How great is the excellence of fasting on the first three days of Rajab-ul-Murajjab?! Sayyidunā 'Abdullāh Ibn 'Abbās رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا has narrated that the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, 'The fast of the first day of Rajab is atonement for three years, the fast of the second day is atonement for two years, the fast of the third day is atonement for one year and then the fast of each remaining day is atonement for one month.'

(Al-Jāmi'-uṣ-Ṣaghīr liṣ-Suyūṭī, pp. 311, Ḥadīṣ 5051; Faḍāil Shahr-e-Rajab lil-Khallāl, pp. 64)

*Mayn gunahgar gunahon kay siwa kya lata
Naykiyan hauti hayn Sarkar naykokar kay pas*

*Me, a sinner, what would I bring other than sins!
O Master! Good deeds are found with the pious and righteous*

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

The virtues of Nafli (voluntary) fasts are incredible. Here are two Aḥādīṣ with regards to this:

1. Angels make Du'a for forgiveness

Sayyidatunā Umm-e-'Ummārah رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهَا has reported, 'The Beloved and Blessed Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ visited my home and I served some food in the blessed court of the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. He صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said to me, 'You eat too.' I replied that I am fasting. The Prophet of Raḥmah صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, 'As long as food is eaten in front of a fasting person, the angels continue to supplicate for his forgiveness.'

(Sunan-ut-Tirmizī, vol. 2, pp. 205, Ḥadīṣ 785)

2. When do the bones of a fasting person glorify Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ?

Once Sayyidunā Bilāl رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ came into the blessed court of the Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ when the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was having breakfast. The Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, 'O Bilāl! Have breakfast.' Sayyidunā Bilāl رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ said, 'Yā Rasūlallāh صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ! I am fasting.' The Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ replied, 'We are eating our sustenance while Bilāl's sustenance is increasing in Paradise. O Bilāl! Are you aware that as long as food is eaten in front of a person who is fasting, his bones continue to glorify Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ and the angels supplicate for him.'

(Shu'abul Īmān, vol. 3, pp. 297, Ḥadīṣ 3586)

The renowned commentator of the Holy Quran, Muftī Aḥmad Yār Khān عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ الْمَعْنَان has stated, 'It is evident from this that if a guest arrives whilst you are eating, asking him to eat is a Sunnaḥ. However, this offer should be from the heart and not due to fake humbleness.

The guest should not tell a lie saying that he has no desire to eat. Instead, if the guest sees that there is less food or if he does not feel the desire to eat, then he should say بَارَكَ اللهُ (May Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ grant you blessings). It has also been revealed that one need not conceal his good deeds from the Beloved

Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, rather these should be made apparent so that the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ may bear witness for these deeds. This revelation does not fall in the category of showing off.' The explanation of that which was said after being informed of Sayyidunā Bilāl's fasting is as follows, 'We are eating our sustenance of today here, whereas Sayyidunā Bilāl رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ will be given sustenance to eat in exchange for this in Paradise, and that reward will be better in quality and more in quantity. This Ḥadīṣ is upon its apparent meaning. Every bone and every joint and even every vein of the body of the fasting person glorifies Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ at that time in actual fact, of which that person is unaware, but the Beloved and Blessed Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ hears it. (*Mirāt vol. 3, pp. 202*)

Even if you have studied them before, re-read both the following booklets: (1) *Return of the Shroud* with the Blessings of Rajab-ul-Murajjab and (2) *The Month of My Prophet* صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. Also, go through the chapter *Blessings of Ramadan* from *Faizān-e-Sunnat* every year in the month of Sha'bān-ul-Mu'azzam. If possible, distribute 127 or 27 booklets with the connection of Eid-e-Mi'rāj-un-Nabī صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ (which falls on the 27th of Rajab), or distribute *Blessings of Ramadan* according to your capacity to earn immense Ṣawāb.

I request all Islamic brothers in general, and more specifically I request the teachers, Nazimeen, and students of Jāmi'a-tul-Madīnaḥ and Madāris-ul-Madīnaḥ (whilst I am alive and after my passing) to please take an active part in collecting Zakāḥ, Fiṭraḥ, skins of sacrificed animals and collecting other Madani donations. (Islamic sisters should encourage other Islamic sisters and their Mahārim to donate). I swear by Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ! I feel very happy when I hear of those teachers and students who sacrifice their wish to go back to their village or city, and instead spend the holy month of Ramadan-ul-Mubārak in the Jāmi'aḥ fulfilling the responsibilities of collecting donations in accordance with the guidelines of the Majlis. However, my heart weeps due to those teachers and students who, without any valid excuse, show a lack of interest just due to negligence or laziness.

Special Madani pearl: It is Farḍ for those Islamic brothers or sisters who want to collect donations to learn the necessary Islamic rulings of donations. Even if you have read it before, I emphasise that you must read the book ‘*Chanday kay bāray mayn Suwāl Jawāb* (Questions and Answers about Donations)’ consisting of 96 pages, published by Maktaba-tul-Madīnaḥ, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami.

Yā Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ! Those devotees of Rasūl who bring happiness to my heart by making efforts to collect donations in Ramadan-ul-Mubārak and to collect the skins of sacrificed animals on Eid-ul-Aḍḥā, You عَزَّوَجَلَّ remain happy with them forever and for their sake, be pleased with me forever!

Those Islamic brothers and sisters (when there is no valid exemption) who fast for three months every year, and read or listen to the books ‘*Return of the Shroud*’ in Jumādāl Ukhrā, ‘*the Month of My Prophet*’ in Rajab-ul-Murajjab and ‘*Blessings of Ramadan*’ (completely) in Sha’bān-ul-Mu’azzam, O Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ! Bestow Your blessings upon them and upon me in this worldly life as well as in the afterlife, forgive us without any accountability, and keep us together in the neighbourhood of Your Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in Paradise.

أَمِينَ بِجَاهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأَمِينِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Occasion of Mi’rāj-un-Nabī ﷺ

All Islamic brothers should take part from beginning to end in the Ijtīmā’ e Žikr-o-Na’at organized by Dawat-e-Islami on the 27th Rajab-ul-Murajjab to celebrate the occasion of Mi’rāj-un-Nabī صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. In addition, fast on the 27th Rajab-ul-Murajjab and become deserving of the reward of sixty months of fasting.

Rajab kī baḥāraun kā ṣadaqaḥ banā day
Ĥamayn ‘āshiq-e-Mustafa Yā Ilāḥī عَزَّوَجَلَّ

*For the sake of blessings of Rajab
Make us the true devotee of Rasūl, Yā Rab* عَزَّوَجَلَّ

A Madani pearl for protecting the eyes

After the five daily Salah, place your right hand on your forehead and recite **يَا نُورُ** eleven times in a single breath. Then blow on all fingers of both hands and wipe the fingers over the eyes. **إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ**, this will protect you from blindness, weakness of the eyesight and all eye related diseases. By the mercy of Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ**, blindness may also be cured.

Madani request

Please read out this letter every year on the last Thursday of Jumād al Ukhrah in the weekly Sunnah-Inspiring Ijtima'/Jāmi'a-tul-Madīnaḥ/Madrasa-tul-Madīnaḥ. (Islamic sisters may make amendments necessarily.)

وَالسَّلَامُ مَعَ الْإِكْرَامِ



Majlis Hajj & 'Umrah

Dear Islamic brothers! **اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ** in the Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami, a mindset of performing virtuous deeds and refraining from sins is developed, in addition, a number of departments have been established in order to enhance Madani work systematically and **'Majlis Hajj & Umrah'** is also one of these departments. Undoubtedly, Hajj is an important worship, every year, millions of Muslims wearing the same clothing (the Ihraam) gather on the blessed soil of the blessed Haram, obliterating all ethnic races, cast, colour, and forgetting all hatreds & grudges. This moment is no less than a glorious blessing for the lovers of the Beloved Rasool **صَلَّى اللّٰهُ تَعَالٰى عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّمَ** because when they are called to appear in the blessed court of the Noble Prophet **صَلَّى اللّٰهُ تَعَالٰى عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّمَ**, their state of ecstasy is worth observing indeed.

Shaykh-e-Tareeqat, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, the founder of Dawat-e-Islami, 'Allaamah Maulana Abu Bilal Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri داعية بَرَكَاتِهِمُ الْعَالِيَةِ has rendered particular attention towards the training of pilgrim Islamic brothers and sisters and in order to teach them the respect and reverence of appearing in the court of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ and the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, he has authored a remarkable book entitles, 'Rafeeq-ul-Haramayn' and in order to make them aware of rulings and etiquettes, 'Majlis Hajj & Umrah' (department) has been formed. Hence, every year in the spring season, Muballigheen (preachers) of Dawat-e-Islami train pilgrims in 'Haaji camps' under the platform of Dawat-e-Islami. For the guidance of the travellers of Madinah, books of Hajj & 'Umrah are given free of charge.

اللہ کرم ایسا کرے تجھ پہ جہاں میں اے دعوتِ اسلامی تری دھوم مچی ہو!

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Summary of Bayān

Dear Islamic brothers! Today we have heard about the blessings of Rajab. We had firstly listened to the parable about a non-Muslim who, despite being a non-Muslim, had abandoned his intention of committing a sin out of respect and reverence of the blessed month of Rajab, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ blessed him with the wealth of Imaan in return. Furthermore, we also came to know that the blessed month of Rajab is regarded as one of those blessed months, which also maintains its sacredness and dignity from a blessed verse of the Glorious Quran, declared by Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ.

This sacred month occupies immense blessings; the first fast of the month of Rajab is expiation of three years, the second fast is expiation of two years and the third fast of the month of Rajab is expiation of one year, then the fast of each day thereafter is expiation of one month and for the fast of the 27th of Rajab, the glorious miracle of Ascension (Mi'rāj) of the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ suffices; observing fast on this day is equal to fasts of 100

years and worshipping on this day is equal to the worship of 100 years. This is the reason why our pious predecessors رَحْمَهُمُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى used to dedicate extra worships in this blessed month. May Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ privilege us to increase our worship, to seek forgiveness and bless us with the ability to beg for true repentance.

أَمِينَ بِجَاهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأَمِينِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Take part in the 12 Madani works

Dear Islamic brothers! If we want to lead a life full of virtues, acquiring 'Ilm-e-Deen, refraining from sins, yearning for contemplation of the Hereafter, having fear of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ and obedience to the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, we should associate ourselves with the Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami and take part in the 12 Madani works with enthusiasm and fervour. One of the Zayli Madani works is also a weekly area visit for calling towards righteousness. Calling towards righteousness is indeed a great work carried out by our pious predecessors, the blessed saints رَحْمَهُمُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى, the great Sahabah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمْ and the Holy Prophets عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام. These blessed & glorified personalities faced innumerable troubles & hardships and rendered great sacrifices in order to fulfil this sacred aim and carried out this great obligation of calling towards righteousness and forbidding from evil.

Virtuous intention leads to your destination

Madani Qafilahs of the lovers of the Beloved Rasool travelled to Kapadvanj (Gujrat, India). During the area visit to call people towards righteousness, the participants of the Madani Qafilah came across a drunkard. Making individual efforts, the lovers of the Beloved Rasool requested him to accompany them to the Masjid.

Impressed by the polite and humble manners of the Islamic brothers who were adorned with the green 'Imamah (turban), he joined them immediately.

By the blessings of the company of the lovers of the Beloved Rasool, he repented of his sins, grew a beard, adorned his head with the crown of a green turban and developed a mind-set of wearing Madani clothing. He travelled with a Madani Qafilah for 6 days, and made the intention of travelling for a further 92 days, but could not afford to travel.

One day, he met a relative of his. The relative was astonished to see that a notorious person of society and a drunkard had transformed so remarkably, growing a beard and wearing Madani clothing adorned with a green 'Imamah (turban) on his head. He was told that travelling with a Madani Qafilah had caused this great positive change in his life and he had also made a firm intention of travelling with a 92-day Madani Qafilah but could not do so due to financial constraints. His relative responded, 'Don't worry about money. Not only will I provide your expenses of the 92-day Madani Qafilah but will also provide for your family for these 92 days.' In this way, the brother travelled with a Madani Qafilah for 92 days.

یا خُدا! نکلوں میں مدنی قافلوں کے ساتھ کاش!

سُنتوں کی تربیت کے واسطے پھر جلد تَر!

خُوب خِدمت سُنتوں کی ہم سدا کرتے رہیں

مدنی ماحول اے خُدا ہم سے نہ چھوٹے عُمر بھر

صَلُّوا عَلَي الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَي مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! In conclusion, I take this opportunity to mention the excellence of a Sunnah as well as some Sunan and manners. The Prophet of Rahmah, the Intercessor of the Ummah صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, 'He who loves my Sunnah, loves me, and he who loves me will be with me in Paradise.'

(Ibn 'Asakir, vol. 9, pp. 343)

جَنَّتْ میں پڑوسی مجھے تم اپنا بنانا

سینہ تری سُنَّتْ کا مدینہ بنے آقا

Putting kohl: 4 Madani pearls

1. In *Sunan Ibn Majah*, there is a narration that, 'The best kohl (Surmah) among all is Ismid as it strengthens the eyesight and grows the eyelashes.'
(*Sunan Ibn-e-Mājah*, p. 115 vol. 4, *Hadiš* 3497)
2. Kohl powder made from other stones can also be used. It is, however, Makruh (disliked) for a man to use black kohl with the intention of makeup but if that is not the intention, it is not Makruh.
(*Fatāwā 'Ālamgiri*, pp. 359, vol. 5)
3. It is Sunnah to use antimony (kohl/Surmah) before sleeping.
(*Mirā-tul Manājīh*, p. 180, vol. 6)
4. Here is the summary of the three narrated methods of using kohl.
 - Apply thrice to each eye (put the kohl applicator in the kohl bottle each time for a new application).
 - Apply thrice in the right eye and twice in the left.
 - Apply twice to each eye and on the last application, enter the applicator into the container then use that same applicator to equally put it in both eyes. (*Shu'abul Īmān*, pp. 218-219 vol. 5)

To learn various Sunan, obtain the following books, *Bahar-e-Shari'at* volume 16 comprising of 312 pages and *Sunnatayn aur Ādaab*, comprising of 120 pages, both published by Maktaba-tul-Madinah. One of the best ways to learn Sunan is to travel in the Madani Qafilahs of Dawat-e-Islami with the devotees of the Beloved Prophet.

بر مہینے چلیں، قافلے میں چلو

سُنْتیں سیکھنے تین دن کے لیے

پاؤ گے رفعتیں، قافلے میں چلو

علم حاصل کرو جہل زائل کرو

صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

The six types of Salawaat-'Alan-Nabi that are recited in the Sunnah-Inspiring weekly Ijtima' (congregation) of Da'wat-e-Islami:

1. The Salat-'Alan-Nabi for the night preceding Friday

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ الْحَبِيبِ
الْعَالِي الْقَدْرِ الْعَظِيمِ الْجَاهِ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَسَلِّمْ

The saints of Islam have quoted that whoever recites this Salat-'Alan-Nabi at least once on the night preceding Friday [the night between Thursday and Friday] on a regular basis will be blessed with the vision of the Beloved and Blessed Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ at the time of death, as well as at the time of his burial into the grave, to the extent that he will see the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ lowering him into the grave with his own merciful hands. (*Afzal-us-Salawat 'ala Sayyid-is-Sadat, pp. 151*)

2. All sins forgiven

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَسَلِّمْ

It is narrated by Sayyiduna Anas رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ that the Beloved and Blessed Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated, 'Whoever recites this Salat upon me whilst standing, then prior to his sitting back; and if he recites it whilst sitting, then before he stands back, his sins will be forgiven.' (*ibid, pp. 65*)

3. 70 Portals of mercy

صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Whoever recites this Salat-‘Alan-Nabi, 70 portals of mercy are opened for him.
(*Al-Qaul-ul-Badi'*, pp. 277)

4. Good deeds for 1000 days

جَزَى اللّٰهُ عَنَّا مُحَمَّدًا مَا هُوَ اَهْلُهُ

It is narrated by Sayyiduna Ibn ‘Abbās رَضِيَ اللّٰهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا that the Noble and Blessed Prophet صَلَّى اللّٰهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated, ‘For the reciter of above supplication, seventy angels write good deeds (in his account) for 1000 days.’

(*Majma'-uz-Zawaid*, pp. 254, vol. 10, Hadis 17305)

5. The reward of 600,000 Salawat-‘Alan-Nabi

اللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ عَدَدَ
مَا فِي عِلْمِ اللّٰهِ صَلَاةً دَائِمَةً بَدَوَامِ مُلْكِ اللّٰهِ

Shaykh Ahmad Sawi عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ الْهَامِدِي reports from some saints of Islam that the one reciting this Salat-‘Alan-Nabi once receives the reward of reciting Salat-‘Alan-Nabi 600,000 times. (*Afzal-us-Salawat 'ala Sayyid-is-Sadat*, pp. 149)

6. Nearness to the Distinguished Prophet ﷺ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا تُحِبُّ وَتَرْضَى لَهُ

One day somebody came [to the blessed court of the Beloved and Blessed Prophet ﷺ], and the Holy Prophet ﷺ made him sit in between himself and Sayyiduna Abu Bakr Siddiq رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ. The respected companions رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمْ were surprised as to who that honoured person was. When he had left, the Holy Prophet ﷺ said, 'When he recites Salat upon me, he does so in these words.'

(Al-Qaul-ul-Badi', pp. 125)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

