

رَبِيعُ الْأَوَّلِ كى خوبيان

Rabi'-ul-Awwal ki Khoobiyan

The Merits of Rabi'-ul-Awwal

THIS booklet was written by Shaykh-e-Tareeqah, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnah, the founder of Dawat-e-Islami 'Allamah Maulana Abu Bilal Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri Razavi **دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَهُ** in Urdu. **Translation Department** (Dawat-e-Islami) has translated it into English. If you find any mistake in the translation or composing, please inform the Translation Department on the following postal or email address with the intention of earning reward.

Translation Department (Dawat-e-Islami)

Aalami Madani Markaz, Faizan-e-Madinah, Mahallah Saudagran,
Purani Sabzi Mandi, Bab-ul-Madinah, Karachi, Pakistan

UAN: ☎ +92-21-111-25-26-92 – Ext. 7213

Email: ✉ translation@dawateislami.net

The Merits of Rabi'-ul-Awwal

The English translation of 'Rabi'-ul-Awwal ki Khoobiyan'



ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Copyright © 2020 Maktaba-tul-Madinah

No part of this publication may be reproduced, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior written permission of Maktaba-tul-Madinah.

1st Publication: Safar-ul-Muzaffar, 1442 AH – (Oct, 2020)
Translated by: Translation Department (Dawat-e-Islami)
Publisher: Maktaba-tul-Madinah
Quantity: -

SPONSORSHIP

Please feel free to contact us if you wish to sponsor the printing of a religious book or booklet for the Isal-e-Sawab of your deceased family members.

Maktaba-tul-Madinah

Aalami Madani Markaz, Faizan-e-Madinah Mahallah Saudagran,
Purani Sabzi Mandi, Bab-ul-Madinah, Karachi, Pakistan

✉ **Email:** maktabaglobal@dawateislami.net – maktaba@dawateislami.net

☎ **Phone:** +92-21-34921389-93

🌐 **Web:** www.dawateislami.net

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

Du'a for Reading the Book

Read the following Du'a (supplication) before you study a religious book or an Islamic lesson, you will remember whatever you study, **إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ**:

اللَّهُمَّ افْتَحْ عَلَيْنَا حِكْمَتَكَ وَانْشُرْ
عَلَيْنَا رَحْمَتَكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ

Translation

O Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ**! Open the door of knowledge and wisdom for us, and have mercy on us! O the One Who is the Most Honourable and Glorious! (*Al-Mustatraf, vol. 1, pp. 40*)

Note:

Recite Salat upon the Holy Prophet **ﷺ** once before and after the Du'a.

Table of Contents

Du'a for Reading the Book	iii
The Merits of Rabi'-ul-Awwal	1
Du'a of Attar	1
Virtue of Salat upon the Prophet ﷺ	1
The Significance of Rabi'-ul-Awwal.....	2
The Reason behind calling it 'Rabi'-ul-Awwal'	2
The Reason for Rabi'-ul-Awwal's Greatness.....	3
Interesting facts about Monday	3
The time of his birth.....	4
A night greater than the night of power (Layla-tul-Qadr).....	4
How should we spend Rabi'-ul-Awwal?.....	5
Make an announcement	6
Excerpts from Attar's letter	6
The nawafil of Rabi'-ul-Awwal	9
Neighbourhood of the Prophet ﷺ in paradise.....	9
The Fast of 12 Rabi'-ul-Awwal.....	10
Fasting to Express Gratitude over a blessing.....	10
Reward of 1000 years' worship	10

Wazaaf for beholding the Prophet ﷺ	11
A Wazifah for remaining happy	13
The purpose of the Mawlid	14
The Benefits of Mawlid	15
Dawat-e-Islami and Mawlid Celebrations.....	17
13. Intentions for Celebrating the Mawlid	19

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

The Merits of Rabi'-ul-Awwal

Du'a of Attar

O Allah Almighty, enrich with the blessings of this meritorious month and forgive without accountability the one who reads or listens to the 20-paged booklet 'The Merits of Rabi'-ul-Awwal'.

أَمِينٌ بِجَاهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأَمِينِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Virtue of Salat upon the Prophet ﷺ

The Final Prophet of Allah صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: 'Whoever recites Salat 10 times in the morning and 10 times in the evening, my intercession will definitely reach him on the Day of Judgement.' (*Attargheeb Wattarheeb, vol. 1, p. 261, Hadees 29*)

Shafa'at karay hashr mayn jo Raza ki

Siwa tayray kis ko yeh qudrat mili hay

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

The Significance of Rabi'-ul-Awwal

Dear Islamic brothers, Rabi'-ul-Awwal is the third month of the Islamic year. This month is a compilation of virtues and honours, for it is the month in which the one sent by Allah Almighty as a mercy to the universe, the prophet with many praiseworthy characteristics, the Seal of Prophethood صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, arrived in this world. Hence, this month received all the virtues and honours because of the birth of the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

Sayyiduna Imam Zakariyya Bin Muhammad Bin Mahmood Quzwayni رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ states: 'This is the month in which Allah Almighty has opened the doors of virtues and honours upon the people of the world for the sake of His Final Prophet's صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ blessed being. It was on the 12th of this month that the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was born.' (*'Ajaib-ul-Makhlukat, p. 68*)

Rabi'-e-pak tujh per Ahl-e-Sunnat kyun na qurban hoon

Keh tayri barween tareekh woh jaan-e-qamar aya

(Qabalah-e-Bakhshish, p. 37)

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

The reason behind calling it 'Rabi'-ul-Awwal'

Dear Islamic brothers, Rabi', i.e. springtime, is the season between the hot and cold season. The Arabs would call the beginning period of spring 'Rabi'-ul-Awwal'. Flowers and

mushrooms would grow during this season. The season in which fruits would grow was called 'Rabi'-ul-Aakhir'. When the months were named, based on the names of these two seasons, the two months ensuing Safar were called Rabi'-ul-Awwal and Rabi'-ul-Aakhir respectively. (*Lisan-ul-'Arab, vol. 1, p. 1435*)

The reason for Rabi'-ul-Awwal's greatness

What can be said about the greatness of Rabi'-ul-Awwal! Had the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ not arrived in this world, then no Eid would have been Eid, neither would any night have been the Night of Bara'at [Salvation]. In actual fact, all of the world's liveliness and joy is for the sake of the dust of the feet of the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. The 12th of this month is a date of immense virtues and greatness. This date is the Eid of Eids for the devotees of the Prophet. (*Lataaif-ul-Ma'arif, p. 104; Mawahib-ul-Ladunniyyah, vol. 1, p. 75*)

Sahab-e-Rahmat-e-Baari hay barween tareekh

Karam ka chashmah-e-jaari hay barween tareekh

(Zauq-e-Na't, p. 121)

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Interesting facts about Monday

Dear Islamic brothers, as well as Monday holding significance due to it being the day that our beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was born, this day also holds significance due to many other

reasons too. Sayyiduna Abdullah Bin Abbas رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمَا, who was a companion and the son of a companion, mentions that the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was born on Monday, announced his Prophethood on Monday, migrated from Makkah al-Mukarramah on Monday, entered Madinah al-Munawwarah on Monday, passed away on Monday and also laid down Hajar al-Aswad on Monday. (*Musnad Ahmad, Musnad Abdullah Bin Abbas, vol. 1, p. 594, Hadees 2506*) According to one narration, victory in the battle of Badr was also granted on Monday. (*Mu'jam Kabeer, vol. 12, p. 183, Hadees 12984*)

The time of his birth

The famous Hadees scholar Hafiz Muhammad Bin Abdullah, famously known as Ibn-e-Nasir-ud-Deen Dimashqi رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ, writes: 'The correct position is that the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was born at the time of dawn, and this is the view that the scholars of Hadees have deemed authentic.' (*Jami'-ul-Aasaar, vol. 2, p. 757*)

Qurban ay do shanbah tujh per hazaar jumu'ay

Woh fazl tu nay paya subah-e-shab-e-wiladat

Piyaray Rabi'-ul-Awwal tayri jhalak kay sadaqay

Chamka diya naseeba subah-e-shab-e-wiladat

(Zauq-e-Na't, p. 96)

A night greater than the night of power (Layla-tul-Qadr)

The respectable scholars have explicitly stated that the night in which our Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was born is greater

than the Night of Power. Sayyiduna Shaykh Abdul Haq رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ, the Hadees scholar of Dehli, writes: 'The night in which the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was born is undoubtedly greater than even the Night of Power.' (*Ma-Sabat Min-us-Sunnah*, p. 100)

Sayyiduna Allamah Abu Abdullah Muhammad Bin Ahmad Marzooq Tilmasaani رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ wrote a book on the topic of the night of the Prophet's صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ birth being greater than the Night of Power by the name of جَنَى الْجَنَّتَيْنِ فِي شَرَفِ اللَّيْلَتَيْنِ. It speaks of the virtues of both nights and contains evidence of the night of the Prophet's birth being superior.

Woh jo na thay to kuch na tha wo jo na hoon to kuch na ho

Jaan hayn woh jahan ki jaan hay to jahan hay

(Hadaiq-e-Bakhshish, p. 178)

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

How should we spend Rabi'-ul-Awwal?

Dear Islamic brothers, love for the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ is the foundation of belief, and a sign of love is to remember one's beloved in abundance. A narration states: 'مَنْ أَحَبَّ شَيْئًا أَكْثَرَ مِنْ ذِكْرِهِ' i.e. Whoever loves someone, he makes mention of him in abundance.' (*Jami'-us-Sagheer*, p. 507, *Hadees* 8312) Generally speaking, we should praise the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and express our love for him through our speech and actions throughout the whole year. However, particularly in the month

of Rabi'-ul-Awwal, to show gratitude for such a great blessing of Allah Almighty, we should often make mention of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. This remembrance can be in various forms, such as sending Salat upon the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, reciting Na't, speaking of his greatness, holding a Mawlid gathering (according to Shari'ah whilst being mindful of the rights of local residents, passers-by and the rights of people in general), participating in such a gathering, etc. All of these forms are ways of remembering the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. Hence, all these things should be part of our schedule in the month of Rabi'-ul-Awwal.

Make an announcement

On the night when the moon of Rabi'-ul-Awwal is sighted, make the following announcement inside the Masjid three times: 'Many congratulations to all Islamic brothers and sisters, the moon of Rabi'-ul-Awwal has been sighted.'

Rabi'-un-Noor umeedon ki dunya saath lay aaya

Du'aon ki qaboliyyat ko haathoon haath lay aya

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Excerpts from Attar's letter

Note a few Madani pearls from Ameer Ahl-us-Sunnah, 'Allamah Maulana Muhammad Ilyas 'Attar Qaadiri Razavi Ziyai's دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَةَ booklet entitled 'The Dawn of Blessings':

1. Out of happiness for Rabi'-ul-Awwal, place flags inside Masajid, homes, shops, cars, and your localities. Display [decoration] lights and have at least 12 [decoration] lights inside your home.
2. Music is played in some places out of joy for Rabi'-ul-Awwal; this is a sin according to Shari'ah.
3. Proceed in playing a Na't, but do so in a low volume whilst being mindful not to disturb anyone who is worshipping or sleeping, or an ill person, etc. Also take into consideration the Azaan and the timings of Salah. (Do not play a eulogy recited by a woman)
4. It is impermissible to decorate the streets and wave flags in a way that creates problems for the Muslims passing by and driving by.
5. For women to come out amongst non-Mahram men unveiled to see light displays is Haraam and shameful. Even for the women who properly cover themselves to come out in the manner that we see today, whereby they mix amongst men, is extremely unfortunate.
6. The beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, who will have us sinful people forgiven by our Lord, would celebrate the day of his birth by fasting on Monday. In remembrance of him, you too should observe a fast on 12 Rabi'-ul-Awwal.
7. On the eve of 11 Rabi'-ul-Awwal, or on the night of 12 Rabi'-ul-Awwal, perform Ghusl. If possible, out of respect for this Eid of Eids, buy a new set of your necessary items.

8. In celebrating the Mawlid, do not do anything that violates the rights of people.
9. Out of celebration for the Mawlid, all Islamic brothers and Islamic sisters should intend on spending their life according to the Sunnah.
10. Display lighting out of happiness for the Mawlid; however, contact the electricity suppliers to display lighting through permissible means.
11. Throughout the [Mawlid] procession, remain in a state of Wudu for as long as possible and be mindful of offering Salah in congregation.
12. Distribute books, booklets, memory cards, etc. of Maktaba-tul-Madinah in large numbers. When distributing food, fruit, etc., place them in people's hands instead of throwing them. It is disrespect for them to fall on the ground, scatter around and be trampled over. Provocative slogan-chanting can cause a peaceful procession to disperse. Your own betterment lies in remaining peaceful. If, Allah forbid, some kind of stones are pelted, do not become enraged and retaliate, as this may cause the procession to disperse and result in the plot of the enemy being successful.

Ghunchay chatkay, phool meh kay her taraf aayi bahar

Ho gayi subah-e-baharan Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi

(Wasail-e-Bakhshish, p. 465)

For further details, refer to the booklet, 'The Dawn of Blessings'
– www.dawateislami.net

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

The nawafil¹ of Rabi'-ul-Awwal

Dear Islamic brothers, offering Nawafil is also an excellent way of attaining proximity to Allah Almighty and obtaining His pleasure. The noble figures of Islam رَحْمَتُهُمُ اللَّهُ would offer Nawafil abundantly in addition to obligatory (Fard) and compulsory (Wajib) Salah.

Neighbourhood of the Prophet ﷺ in paradise

With the intention of conveying its reward as a gift to the soul of the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, offer 20 units (Rak'at) of Nawafil on 12th Rabi'-ul-Awwal. Recite Surah Al-Fatihah followed by Surah Al-Ikhlās (قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ) 21 times in each unit. A particular individual would always act upon this, and he saw the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in his dream saying, 'I will take you to Paradise with me.' (*Jawahir Khamsa, p. 21*)

*Bagh-e-Jannat mayn jawaar apna 'ata farma do
Khuld mayn her ghari jalwah mayn tumharah daykhon*

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

¹ Supererogatory Salah

The fast of 12 Rabi'-ul-Awwal

Fast on 12 Rabi'-ul-Awwal, because fasting on the day that the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was born is expressing gratitude for Allah Almighty's blessing; there is a lot of reward for this. The Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ himself would fast on every Monday and celebrate the day of his birth, as Sayyiduna Abu Qatadah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ states: 'The Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was asked about fasting on Monday and he said, 'I was born on this day and revelation was sent to me on this day.' (Muslim, p. 455, Hadees 2750)

Fasting to express gratitude over a blessing

There is no doubt that through the blessing of the Prophet's صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ arrival, the benefits and virtues of this world and the hereafter had been perfected. Also, by virtue of this blessing, the religion of Allah Almighty that He chose for His people was perfected too. Accepting this religion is the cause for people gaining honour in this world and the hereafter. To fast on a day in which Allah Almighty's blessings descend on His people is a great act. (Lataaif-ul-Ma'arif, p. 107)

Reward of 1000 years' worship

To pay gratitude for this great blessing of Allah Almighty, perform Nafl (i.e. optional) acts of worship in abundance during this sacred month. It is stated in *Jawahir-e-Ghaybi*: 'The one who fasts on 12 Rabi'-ul Awwal attains the reward of 1000 years of worship. Moreover, one also gains immense amount

of reward for fasting on the 5th, 16th and 26th Rabi'-ul-Awwal.

(*Jawahir Ghaybi*, p. 617)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Wazaaf² for beholding the Prophet ﷺ

1. Recite Salat [upon the Prophet] in abundance in Rabi'-ul-Awwal. It is superior to recite the following Salat a thousand times each day from the 1st of Rabi'-ul-Awwal to the 12th:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ

Whoever recites this Salat and sleeps in a state of Wudu will *صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ* behold the vision of the Prophet *إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ*.

(*Islami Mahino kay Fazaail-o-Masa'il*, p. 37)

Mujhay ya Nabi! Tayri deed ho, tayri deed ho mayri eid ho

Tujhay jis nay daykha hazaar bar! Usay phir bhi tishnah labi rahi

(*Wasail-e-Bakhshish*)

2. Whoever recites the following Salat 1125 times after Isha Salah every day of this month will *صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ* definitely behold the Prophet *إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ* in his dream:

² Wird or Wazifah (plural form is *Awraad and Wazaaf*) means a set of sacred and blessed words recited usually in a fixed number for having spiritual or physical benefits.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ
وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ

(Rukn-e-Deen, p. 164)

Nabi ki deed hamari hay eid ya Allah

'ata ho khuwab mayn Deedar-e-Mustafa ya Rab!

(Wasail-e-Bakhshish)

3. If someone recites the following Salat

الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ

125,000 times in this blessed month, he will be honoured with beholding the Prophet's صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ vision. (Rukn-e-Deen, p. 164)

Kabhi to mujhay khuwab mayn mayray Maula

Ho deedar-e-mah-e-'arab ya Ilahi

4. A devotee of A'la Hadrat, 'Allamah Shah Muhammad Rukn-ud-Deen رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ writes: 'When the moon for Rabi'-ul-Awwal is sighted, offer 16 units of Nafl [i.e. supererogatory] Salah in the sets of two. After Surah Al-Fatihah, recite 'قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ' three times in each unit. When 16 units have been offered, recite this Salat 1,000 times:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ رَحْمَةً اللَّهُ وَبَرَكَاتِهِ

Continue reciting this for 12 days and you will behold the beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in your dream. However, recite this after Isha Salah and sleep in the state of Wudu.'

(Rukn-e-Deen, p. 164)

Madani Pearl: It is necessary for those who desire to behold the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ that they eat halal, speak the truth, adopt the Sunnah and sleep in the state of Wudu. *(Islami Mahinokay Fazaail-o-Masa'il, p. 37 summarised)*

Deedar kay qaabil to nahin chashm-e-tamanna

Laykin woh kabhi khuwab mayn ayen to 'ajab kaya

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

A Wazifah for remaining happy

Whoever recites the following words on 12 Rabi'-ul-Awwal will remain happy throughout the whole year. It is also narrated that he will enter Paradise without accountability.

Those words are as follows: بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ (7 times), يَا اللَّهُ (7 times), يَا رَحْمَنُ (7 times), يَا غَفُورُ (7 times), يَا رَحِيمُ (7 times), يَا حَنَّانُ (7 times), يَا مَنَّانُ (7 times), يَا دَيَّانُ (7 times), يَا سُبْحَانَ (7 times).

(Jawahir Khamsa, p. 101)

Dear Islamic brothers, our beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ is a great blessing and mercy of Allah Almighty. To celebrate upon

receiving the Lord's mercy and to make mention of His blessing is a command of Allah Almighty Himself, as stated [in the Quran]:

قُلْ بِفَضْلِ اللَّهِ وَبِرَحْمَتِهِ فَبِذَلِكَ فَلْيَفْرَحُوا ۗ هُوَ خَيْرٌ مِّمَّا يَجْمَعُونَ ﴿٥٨﴾

Say you (O Beloved), 'Only Allah's Bounty and His Mercy; and only upon it they should rejoice.' That is better than all of their (accumulated) wealth.

[Kanz-ul-Iman (translation of Quran)] (Part 11, Surah Al-Yunus, Verse 58)

وَأَمَّا بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ فَحَدِّثْ ﴿١١﴾

And publicise well the bounty of your Lord.

[Kanz-ul-Iman (translation of Quran)] (Part 30, Surah Al-Duha, Verse 11)

اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ ﷺ Muslims all over the world act upon this Quranic command by holding gatherings of Mawlid in which the preferable and notable acts of mentioning the Prophet's birth and his virtues are carried out.

Wiladat-e-shah-e-deen her khushi ki baa'is hay

Hazaar eid say bhaari hay barween ki tareekh

(Zauq-e-Na't, p. 122)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

The purpose of the Mawlid

O devotees of the Prophet, the gatherings of Mawlid is from amongst the greatest of the preferable and virtuous acts. *(Al-Haq-*

ul-Mubeen, p. 100) Sayyiduna 'Allamah Abdul Rahman Bin Jawzi رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ states: 'The disgracing of Satan and the strengthening of the believers lies in celebrating the Mawlid.' (*Subul-ul-Huda Wal Rashad, vol. 1, p. 363*)

Sayyiduna Imam Jalal-ud-Deen Abdul Rahman Suyuti صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ states: 'The one celebrating the Prophet's مَوْلِدُ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ Mawlid earns reward, for this entails respecting the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and expressing joy upon his birth. To show our gratitude upon his birth, it is Mustahab [i.e. preferable] for us to conduct gatherings, feed others and carry out other such acts of goodness. In summary, illustrate joy and felicity. (*Al-Hawi lil Fatawa, vol. 1, pp. 222-230*)

Rahay ga yun hi un ka charcha rahay ga

Perhay khak ho jayen jal janay walay

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

The benefits of Mawlid

Those who celebrate the Mawlid receive countless religious and worldly blessings from Allah Almighty. Sayyiduna Imam Ibn al-Jawzi رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ says: 'The one expressing joy and happiness upon the Mawlid will find this to be a barrier between [him and] Hell. Whoever spends a single dirham out of happiness for the Mawlid will receive the Prophet's صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ intercession, and Allah Almighty will give him 10 dirhams in return for one. O Ummah of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, glad tidings unto you! You have been deemed

worthy of receiving tremendous goodness in this world and the hereafter. The one who celebrates the Mawlid of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ will reap blessings, respect, goodness and honour. He will enter Paradise whilst wearing a pearled turban and green attire.' (*Majmu' Lateef-ul-Unsi, p. 281*)

Sayyiduna Imam Ahmad Bin Muhammad Qastalani رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ states: 'From the oft-observed benefits of conducting a Mawlid gathering during Rabi'-ul-Awwal is that, that particular year remains one of safety and wellbeing. May Allah Almighty send mercy upon the one who makes the nights of Rabi'-ul-Awwal into Eid.' (*Al-Mawahib-ul-Ladunniyyah, vol. 1, p. 78*)

Shaykh Muhaqqiq Sayyiduna Shaykh Abdul Haq, the Hadees scholar of Delhi, asserts: 'Muslims have always held gatherings [of Mawlid] in the month of the Prophet's صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ birth and offer plenty of charity in its nights. Due to the blessings of this act, these people experience all sorts of blessings. From the specific experiences of a Mawlid gathering is that its participants remain safe all year round, and there are glad tidings for the fulfilment of their needs and the accomplishment of their goals. May Allah Almighty shower many blessings upon the one who makes the day of Mawlid into Eid.' (*Ma-Sabata Min-al-Sunnah, p. 102 selected*)

*Noor ki phohar barsi char so hay roshni
Ho gaya ghar charaghan eid milaad-un-nabi
Char janab dhoom hay sarkaar kay milaad ki
Jhomta hay her musalman eid milaad-un-Nabi*

(Wasail-e-Bakhshish, p. 379)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dawat-e-Islami and Mawlid celebrations

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ Dawat-e-Islami, the Madani movement of the Prophet's devotees, has its own unique way of celebrating the Mawlid. On the night of the Prophet's صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ Mawlid, Dawat-e-Islami organises magnificent events across many countries all over the world. A huge gathering takes place at the global Madani Markaz, Faizan-e-Madinah, Karachi. What can one say of its wonders! Many of its fortunate participants experience a Madani revolution in their lives. One particular devotee of the Prophet said the following: 'On the night of Mawlid Al-Nabi صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, a few of us Islamic brothers were present at Kakri Ground, Karachi, where Dawat-e-Islami organised perhaps the largest Mawlid gathering in the world to take place on the night of 12 Rabi'-ul-Awwal. During a conversation, one Islamic brother said, 'Dawat-e-Islami's Mawlid gatherings used to be very awe-inspiring, but things are not the same anymore.' Hearing this, another responded, 'My friend, you are mistaken here. The vibe of the Mawlid gathering is the same, but it is the state of our hearts that has changed. How can the Prophet's صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ remembrance change? It is our mindset that has changed. Even today, if we were to listen to the praise of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ whilst immersing ourselves in envisaging his beauty instead of making baseless complaints, اِنْ شَاءَ اللهُ there will be immense blessings.' The objection raised by the first brother was

irresponsible and caused by Satan; it could have caused us to find the gathering boring and go home, resulting in being deprived from the Mawlid gathering. However, the response given by the second brother was one to embrace, for it awoke the conscience and repelled Satan. His response penetrated my heart and urged me to go and sit in the middle of the gathering. There, I sat amongst the Prophet's devotees and was absorbed in listening to the Prophet's **صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** praise. The blessed time of dawn drew near, and all the Prophet's devotees stood to welcome the dawn of blessings. A state of spiritual ecstasy overcame the gathering. The sound of 'Marhaba' echoed everywhere. Salutations were being presented in the court of the Prophet **صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ**. Tears were flowing; people were weeping everywhere. I too felt overwhelmed. These sinful eyes of mine saw pleasant droplets descending everywhere; it was as though the whole gathering was being showered with mercy. I closed my eyes and, envisaging the Prophet **صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ**, was reciting Salat. Suddenly, the spiritual sight of my heart was unveiled, and I speak the truth in saying that the one whose birth was being celebrated, that very beloved Prophet **صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** blessed me with his beautiful vision. **بِهَيْبَةِ** Beholding the Prophet **صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** brought tranquillity to my heart. The brother was correct in saying that the Mawlid gathering organised by Dawat-e-Islami is as awe inspiring as ever before, rather, it is our state that has changed. If we remain focussed, the Prophet **صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** blesses people with his vision even today.

Aankh wala tayray jooban ka tamasha daykhay

Deedah-e-kor ko kya aye nazar kya daykhay

Koi aaya paa kay chala gaya, koi umr bhar bhi na paa saka

Yeh baray karam kay hayn fayslay yeh baray naseeb ki baat hay

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

13. Intentions for celebrating the Mawlid

1. Acting upon the Quranic command,

وَأَمَّا بِنِعْمَةِ رَبِّكَ فَحَدِّثْ ﴿١١﴾

And publicise well the bounty of your Lord.

[Kanz-ul-Iman (translation of Quran)] (Part 30, Surah Al-Huda, Verse 11)

I will greatly publicise the greatest blessing of Allah Almighty.

2. To seek the pleasure of Allah Almighty, I will display lights.
3. Emulating the act of Sayyiduna Jibraeel عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام hoisting three flags on the night of the Prophet's صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ birth, I too will wave flags.
4. By fervently celebrating the Mawlid, I will illustrate to the non-Muslims the greatness of the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. (Seeing lights and green flags in many homes will certainly lead non-Muslims to conclude that Muslims have great admiration for their Prophet.)

5. As well as apparent decorations, I will purify my inner-self as well by repenting and seeking forgiveness.
6. I will participate in the Mawlid gathering on the night of 11 Rabi'-ul-Awwal to reap the blessings of the Prophet's *صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ* remembrance.
7. Likewise, to achieve the same, I will also participate in the Mawlid procession on the day of the Mawlid.
8. I will behold the religious scholars during the procession.
9. I will behold pious people during the procession.
10. I will attain the blessings of gaining proximity to the Prophet's devotees.
11. Throughout the Mawlid procession, I will remain in the state of Wudu as much as possible.
12. I will not miss the congregational Salah of the Masjid.
13. I will "distribute booklets" during the Mawlid procession according to my ability. (i.e. I will distribute Maktaba-tul-Madina's booklets, etc. in the Mawlid procession).

O Lord of Mustafa, give us the ability to wholeheartedly celebrate the Mawlid with good intentions, and for the sake of the Mawlid, grant us entry in Jannat-ul-Firdaus without accountability.

Bakhsh day ham ko Ilahi! Bahr-e-Milaad-un-Nabi

Namah a'maal 'isiyan say mayra bhar poor hay

(Wasail-e-Bakhshish, p. 477)