

Weekly Booklet



Interesting Facts about Paradise

Informative Question and Answer

Why does Heavenly Fruit resemble Worldly Fruit?

How many Heavens are there?

18 Heavenly Things found in the World

Translated by:

TRANSLATION
DEPARTMENT
(DAWAT-E-ISLAMI)

جنت کے بارے میں دلچسپ معلومات

Interesting Facts about Paradise

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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

Interesting Facts about Paradise



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Aalami Madani Markaz, Faizan-e-Madinah Mahallah Saudagran,
Purani Sabzi Mandi, Bab al-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 خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّينَ
أَتَابَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Dua for reading this book

Recite the following before you read a religious book or begin an Islamic lesson; you will remember whatever you study ان شاء الله.

اللَّهُمَّ افْتَحْ عَلَيْنَا حِكْمَتَكَ وَأَنْشُرْ
عَلَيْنَا رَحْمَتَكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ

O Allah! Open the doors of knowledge and wisdom for us and have mercy on us! O He Who is the Most Glorious and Honourable! (Al-Mustatraf, vol. 1, p. 40)

Note:

Recite ṣalāt upon the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ once before and after.

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

Interesting Facts about Paradise

Attar's prayer

O Allah! Whoever reads or listens to the booklet “Interesting Facts about Paradise”, grant them and their family closeness to the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in Jannat al-Firdaws.

أَمِينٌ بِجَاهِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Special Fruit of Paradise (Virtue of sending *ṣalāt* upon the Prophet ﷺ)

The fourth Caliph of Islam, ‘Alī b. Abī Ṭālib رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ explained:

Allah created a tree in Paradise which bears fruit larger than an apple, smaller than pomegranate, softer than butter, sweeter than honey, and more fragrant than musk. Its branches are pearls, its trunk gold, and its leaves emeralds. Only those who send an abundance of *ṣalāt* upon the Prophet ﷺ can eat the fruit from this tree.¹

¹ Al-Ḥāwī li al-Fatāwā, vol. 2, p. 48

Interesting Facts about Paradise

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Two Homes

Besides the world, Allah has created two other realms: Paradise, the realm of blessings, and Hell, the realm of punishment.

He has prepared special blessings in Paradise for the believers; blessings nobody has seen, heard, or ever thought of. The definitions and examples used to describe Paradise are only used to aid our understanding of it. Otherwise, the greatest thing in the world holds no significance in comparison to Paradise.

How Large is Paradise?

O seekers of Paradise! Allah, the Creator of Paradise, declares in verse 133 of Surah Āl ‘Imrān:

وَسَارِعُوا إِلَىٰ مَغْفِرَةٍ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا السَّمَاوَاتُ وَالْأَرْضُ أُعِدَّتْ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ ﴿١٣٣﴾

And hasten towards forgiveness from your Lord and Paradise which is as vast as the heavens and the earth; it has been prepared for the Righteous.¹

In this verse’s commentary:

¹ Al-Quran, part 4, Āl ‘Imrān, verse 133; translation from Kanz al-‘Irfān

Interesting Facts about Paradise

Hurry towards Paradise and the forgiveness of your Lord by repenting from sins, fulfilling what Allah has made obligatory, performing good deeds, and carrying out all your actions with sincerity.

Paradise was described in a way we can understand, as the largest things we can see are the sky and earth. If they were lined up, the size of Paradise can still not even be **estimated**.¹

Informative Question and Answer

Emperor Heraclius wrote a letter to the Prophet ﷺ asking, “If Paradise is so large it can accommodate the heavens and earth, where is Hell?” The Prophet ﷺ replied, “سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ” When day comes, where is the night?”

Shaykh Na‘īm al-Dīn Murādābadi رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ writes:

These eloquent words bear subtle meanings. In literal terms, it means when the day begins on one side of the Earth, it is evening for those on the other side of it. Likewise, Paradise is elevated, whilst Hell is low.

Jews put this question to the second Caliph of Islam, ‘Umar b. al-Khaṭṭāb رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ; he gave the same response.

¹ Tafsīr Ṣirāṭ al-Jinān, vol. 2, p. 53

Interesting Facts about Paradise

The Jews then said, “The Torah explains it like this too.”

Nothing is impossible for Allah; He can place anything anywhere. It is the narrow-mindedness of man that he is surprised by the vast size of something and asks where it has been placed.¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Where is Paradise?

Scholars have different opinions regarding the location of Paradise. Yet, the most correct is that Paradise lays beyond the seventh heaven, as the Quran says:

عِنْدَ سِدْرَةِ الْمُنْتَهَى ﴿١٣﴾ عِنْدَهَا جَنَّةُ الْمَأْوَى ﴿١٤﴾

*At the Lote Tree of the furthest boundary (Sidrah al-Muntahā); the Paradise of ‘Eternal’ Residence (Jannah al-Ma’wā) is near it.*²⁻³

The Companion Anas b. Mālik رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ was asked if Paradise is on earth or in the sky. He said, “Which earth or sky can accommodate Paradise?”

Someone asked, “Then, where is it?”

¹ Tafsīr Khazā’ in al-‘Irfān, part 4, Āl ‘Imrān, under verse 131, p. 120

² Al-Quran, Al-A‘rāf, verses 14-15; translation from Kanz al-‘Irfān

³ Firdaws al-Akhbār: hadith 3344

Interesting Facts about Paradise

He answered, “It is above the heavens and beneath the ‘Arsh.”¹

Dear Islamic brothers! Paradise is a place of immense majesty. It is granted to those who please Allah. It is where the believers will even see Him. The Quran expands upon the greatness of Paradise in many verses.

May Allah grant us Jannat al-Firdaws for the sake of the final Prophet ﷺ! May He grant us closeness to His beloved in Paradise!

How large is Paradise?

Only Allah and His Messenger ﷺ know the true size of Paradise. It has a hundred levels, with the distance between two levels like the space between the heavens and earth.

The Prophet ﷺ said, “One level ‘of Paradise’ is spacious enough for the entire universe.”²

The Beauty of Paradise

People see beautiful things in the world and spontaneously say they are like Heaven.

¹ Tafsīr Khāzin, vol. 1, p. 301

² Sunan al-Tirmidhī: hadīth 2540

Interesting Facts about Paradise

In other words, we visualise Paradise as a beautiful place. Remember! All the beauty in the world is nothing in comparison to Paradise. If something as small as a nail from Paradise appeared on earth, everything would be adorned by it. If a bracelet from Paradise appeared, it would extinguish the light of the Sun, just as the Sun overpowers the light of the stars.¹

Description of entering Paradise

The gates of Paradise vast, such that it would take a fast horse 70 years to run from one side of them to the other.²

So many will enter Paradise that they will walk shoulder to shoulder, whilst the gates of Paradise will begin to creak.³

The first group enter Paradise will have faces as bright as a full moon, whilst the faces of the second group will radiate as bright as a shining star. The dwellers of Paradise will all love one another. There will be no disputes or hatred amongst them.⁴

Trees of Paradise

¹ Sunan al-Tirmidhī: hadith 25477

² Musnad Imām Aḥmad, vol. 1, p. 475

³ Bahār-i-Sharī‘at, vol. 1, p. 154, part 1

⁴ Ibid, p. 157

Interesting Facts about Paradise

The Companion Salmān Fārsī رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ picked up a small piece of wood and said, “You will be unable to find wood like this in Paradise.”

Someone asked, “Where will date trees and other types of trees be?”

He answered:

Their roots will be pearls and gold, and upper sections will bear fruit. There is such a tree in Paradise that if a person riding a fast horse travelled in its shade for 100 years, the shade would still not end.¹

Heavenly Palaces and their Walls

In Paradise, palaces exist made from clear precious jewels. The outside of these palaces can be viewed from within, and vice versa.

The walls are made of gold and silver bricks, held together with musk as a mortar. The ground made of saffron, whilst pearls and rubies are Paradise’s stones.

According to one narration, in Jannat al-‘Adn, there are bricks of white pearl, ruby, and emerald, with musk as mortar, saffron as grass, pearls as stones, and amber as soil. Tents of single pearls will span 7 miles in height.²

¹ Al-Budūr al-Sāfira (Urdu) p. 654

² Bahār-e-Sharī‘at, vol. 1, p. 154

Interesting Facts about Paradise

The Proof of Islam, Imām al-Ghazālī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

It is strange if your friends or neighbours surpass you in wealth or size of their homes, you begin to feel bitter, and your life becomes difficult due to jealousy.

The best option for you is to make your abode Paradise, but there are many who will exceed you in there, due of their good deeds. The world and all its wealth can never be equal to them.¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Heavenly beverages

The most delicious drinks in this world are incomparable to the beverages of Paradise. The taste of drinks in this world only last for a moment, whereas Paradise contains four rivers which have streams through everyone's homes; rivers of water, milk, honey, and wine.

The rivers of Paradise do not emerge from below the ground, but above it.

One side of riverbanks are made from pearl, the other from ruby, whilst the riverbeds are of pure musk. The wine of

¹ Iḥyā' al-'Ulūm, vol. 5, p. 302

Interesting Facts about Paradise

Paradise is unlike the foul smelling, bitter, and intoxicating alcohol of the world. It is a pure wine free of these deficiencies.¹

Allah proclaims:

يُسْقَوْنَ مِنْ رَحِيقٍ مَخْتُومٍ ﴿٧٥﴾ خَتْمُهُ مِسْكٌ ﴿٧٦﴾ وَفِي ذَلِكَ فَلْيَتَنَافَسِ الْمُتَنَافِسُونَ ﴿٧٧﴾
وَمِنْ أَجْزَائِهِ مِنَ تَسْنِيمٍ ﴿٧٨﴾ عَيْنًا يَشْرَبُ بِهَا الْمُقَرَّبُونَ ﴿٧٩﴾

*They will be given pure, sealed wine to drink. Its seal is of musk; and for this the aspirers should yearn. And its blend is of Tasnīm. A spring from which those who have been granted nearness will drink.*²

Tafsīr Širāṭ al-Jinān mentions:

They will be given pure wine in Paradise, in vessels with seals only the pious can open. Said seals are made of musk. Only those who obey Allah and abstain from evil can attain this. Tasnīm will be blended into this, which is the greatest wine of Paradise.

Tasnīm itself is a fountain from which only those close to Allah will drink from. The remaining people of Paradise will drink but a few droplets of it.³

¹ Bahār-i-Sharī‘at, vol. 1, p. 155, part 1

² Al-Quran, Al-Mutaffifin, verses 25-28; translation from Kanz al-‘Irfān

³ Tafsīr Širāṭ al-Jinān, vol. 10, p. 580

Interesting Facts about Paradise

Who is heavenly wine for?

The final Prophet of Allah ﷺ said, “Whoever wishes for Allah to grant them wine in Paradise should leave it in this world.”¹

Heavenly food

Those travel across the world to experience different cuisines should turn their focus to the food of Paradise. The Quran mentions some of them, like fruit, dry fruits, large birds, *mann*, *salwa*, honey, milk, and an endless variety of delicious food.

Whatever one desires to eat will be brought to them immediately. If somebody in Paradise sees a bird and wishes to eat it, the bird will appear before them cooked and ready to eat.

If somebody wants a drink, a glass will suddenly appear in their hand. They will be granted water, milk, wine, and honey in proportions they desire, not a drop more or less. After drinking, the utensils will return to wherever they came from.²

Why does heavenly fruit resemble worldly fruit?

The Quran explains how heavenly fruit resembles worldly fruit, as they share a tie. Yet, heavenly fruit tastes significantly better.

¹ Al-Mu‘jam al-Awsat: hadith 8879

² Bahār-i-Sharī‘at, vol. 1, p. 155, part 1

Interesting Facts about Paradise

Allah announces:

كُلَّمَا رُزِقُوا مِنْهَا مِنْ ثَمَرٍ رِزْقًا قَالُوا هَذَا الَّذِي رُزِقْنَا مِنْ قَبْلُ وَأَنْتُمْ بِهَا مُتَشَابِهَةٌ

*When they will be given a fruit from those gardens, they will say, "This is the same sustenance that we were granted previously", whereas they were given a fruit (before) which resembled it (this fruit)."*¹

Our digestive systems in Paradise

There will be no impurities, spit, or bodily dirt in Paradise. Its residents will burp in relaxing fashion, with a pleasant fragrance. Their sweat will also be fragrant. Their food will then be digested. The aroma of their burp and sweat will be of musk.²

Serving the dwellers of Paradise

Every member of Paradise will have a minimum of ten thousand servants. All of them will carry silver and gold bowls bearing a multitude of colourful bounties.

The delight of eating will increase the more one eats. Every morsel will harbour seventy unique joys, which are all experienced at once and will not overpower each other.³

¹ Al-Quran, Al-Baqara, verse 125; translation from Kanz al-ʿIrfān

² Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim: hadith 7152

³ Bahār-i-Sharīʿat, vol. 1, p. 157, part 1

Interesting Facts about Paradise

The rank of those in Paradise

O lovers of expensive clothes! If the garments of Paradise were worn in this world, people would be unable to look at them, such that they would fall unconscious.¹

“The garments of the people of Paradise shall never go old.”²

The people of Paradise will only have the hair on their head, eyelashes, and eyebrows. They will not have no beards. They will have kohl around their eyes and appear to be 30 years old.³

They will not grow older than this.⁴

The youth of the Paradise’s residents will never end.⁵

Those who attempt to please others by taking on the latest fashion trends, should focus on performing good deeds which take them to Paradise.

The maidens of Paradise

Dear Islamic brothers! If a heavenly maiden (ḥūr) looked at the Earth, she would illuminate the entire world and dim the light

¹ Ibid p. 158

² Ibid, p. 157

³ Musnad Imām Aḥmad: hadith 9386

⁴ Sunan al-Tirmidhī: hadith 2571

⁵ Bahār-i-Sharī‘at, vol. 1, p. 159, part 1

Interesting Facts about Paradise

of the Sun and Moon. The scarf on her head is better than the world and everything in it.¹

Every man in Paradise will have at least two wives from the Ḥūr al-‘Ayn (heavenly maidens with beautiful, large eyes). The latter will wear 70 layers of clothes, but the marrow of their calves will still be visible through them and will appear like red wine in a white glass.

This is because Allah created them like rubies. If a hole is made in a ruby and a string is placed through it, said string will be visible from the outside, through the ruby. A man will be able to see his reflection in her face more clearly than in a mirror, and the lowest ranked pearl she wears would illuminate everything from the East to the West.²

When a person enters Paradise, two maidens standing towards his head and feet will praise Allah. The sound of their voices will be unlike anything anybody has heard.³

Who will be granted the most heavenly maidens?

¹ Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī: hadith 6568

² Bahār-i-Sharī‘at, vol. 1, p. 157,

³ Al-Mu‘jam al-Kabīr: hadith 7478

Interesting Facts about Paradise

Send an abundance of ṣalāt upon the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, as a hadith explains, “He who sent the most ṣalāt upon me shall have the most heavenly maidens in Paradise.”¹

The rides and servants of Paradise’s residents

O seekers of Paradise! If a person of Paradise wants to meet somebody, his throne will take flight and fly him to whoever he wishes. As per one narration, the people of Paradise will have excellent mounts and horses, on which they can go wherever they want.²

Describing Paradisical bounties

Even those at the first station of Paradise will have eighty thousand servants and seventy-two wives. They will wear crowns bearing pearls, the smallest of which would illuminate what is between the East and West.³

If someone desires a child, its pregnancy, birth, and complete aging (i.e. 30 years) will occur in a moment.⁴

No days or nights in Paradise

¹ Afḍal al-Ṣalawāt, p. 25

² Al-Targhīb wa al-Tarhīb: hadith 115

³ Sunan al-Tirmidhī: hadith 2571

⁴ Ibid, hadith 2572

Interesting Facts about Paradise

Life in Paradise is astounding and everlasting, which is why there will be no sleep therein. Sleep is a type of death, and there is no death in Paradise.

Zubayr b. Muhammad رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ said:

There is no night, sun, or moon in Paradise. Its residents will remain in light forever. The evening will be identified by the drawing of curtains and the closing of doors, whilst the day will start when said curtains are drawn back and doors opened.¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Weather in Paradise

The Companion ‘Abdullāh b. Mas‘ūd رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ said, “The weather in Paradise will be moderate; neither hot nor cold.”²

The Greatest Blessing in Paradise

Sa‘īd b. Musayyab رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ met Abū Hurayra رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ, and the latter said, “I ask Allah to unite us in the marketplace of Paradise.”

¹ Al-Budūr al-Sāfira, p. 667

² Al-Budūr al-Sāfira, p. 512

Interesting Facts about Paradise

“Is there a marketplace in Paradise?”, Sa‘īd asked.

Abū Hurayra said the Messenger of Allah ﷺ informed him:

When people enter Paradise, they shall take places befitting their deeds. They shall then be granted permission to see their Lord, for the length of a Friday from the days of the world. Allah’s ‘Arsh will become visible to them, whilst Allah shall cause a *tajallī* to appear in one of Paradise’s gardens.

Pulpits of light, pearl, ruby, emerald, gold, and silver will be made for them. The lowest of them - although none of them are lowly - shall sit upon a dune of musk and camphor. They shall not regard those seated upon chairs to have a better seating position than them.

I asked, “O Messenger of Allah! Will we see our Lord?” “Yes.”, he declared, “Do you doubt seeing the Sun or the Moon of the fourteenth night (when it is full)?” We said no.

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ then said:

In the same way, you will not doubt seeing your Lord. Allah will show Himself to everyone in that gathering.

Interesting Facts about Paradise

He shall declare to a person there, “O so-and-so! Son of so-and so! Do you remember the day when you said such-and-such?”

Allah will remind the person of some treachery they enacted in the world. The person will submit, “O Allah! Did you not forgive me?”

“Indeed”, Allah shall say, “You reached this point due to My vast mercy.” Then, they (the gathering) shall be covered by a cloud raining upon them a perfume, the likes of which not found in anything. Our Lord shall say, “Go to the bounties I have prepared for you and take what you will.”

We will come to a marketplace surrounded by angels. In this shall be things no eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no heart has imagined. We shall be given whatever we want, with no buying or selling. The people of Paradise shall meet one another there.

Those of higher ranks shall come to those lower, although none of them are lowly. The latter shall be impressed with the clothes worn by the former. Yet, their discussion shall not have finished, when he then thinks his own clothing is better. This is because nobody shall be sad in Paradise.

Interesting Facts about Paradise

We shall then return to our homes and our wives shall meet us saying, “Welcome! Greetings! Your beauty has increased since you left.” We shall say, “Today, we sat before our Lord, the Powerful, and it is fitting we return in the way we have.”¹

Will women behold Allah in Paradise?

Both men and women will see Allah in Paradise.²

Allah’s special gift

Mufti Aḥmad Yār Khān رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ writes:

The greatest bounty of Paradise is that Allah is pleased with the people therein, and He will never be displeased with them. Pleasing the beloved is a great bounty for those who love. Remember, beholding Allah and Him being pleased are not rewards for an action, but a unique gift from Him.³

How many Heavens are there?

There are eight Heavens::

¹ Sunan al-Tirmidhī: hadith 2558

² Mir'āt al-Manājīh, vol. 7, p. 517

³ Nūr al-'Irfān, p. 315

Interesting Facts about Paradise

1. Dār al-Jalāl.
2. Dār al-Qarār.
3. Dār al-Salām.
4. Jannat al-‘Adn.
5. Jannat al-Ma‘wā.
6. Jannat al-Khuld.
7. Jannat al-Firdaws.
8. Jannat al-Na‘īm.¹

Dua for Paradise

Allah’s final Prophet ﷺ said:

Whoever asks Allah for Paradise three times; Paradise says, “O Allah! Admit them into Paradise!” Whoever seeks refuge from Hell three times; Hell says, “O Allah! Save them from Hell!”²

Which Paradise should we pray for?

The Prophet ﷺ said, “When you ask from Allah, ask for Firdaws.”³

¹ Tafsīr Rūḥ al-Bayān, vol. 1, p. 82

² Sunan al-Tirmidhī: hadīth 2581

³ Sunan al-Tirmidhī: hadīth 2538

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Dear Islamic brothers! Jannat al-Firdaws is the Paradise in which the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ will reside, as well as the Ahl-al-Bayt and Companions رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ.

This is why Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَةَ prays for it a lot in his duas and poetry. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَدْخِلْنَا جَنَّةَ الْفِرْدَوْسِ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ.

Intending to act upon hadith just mentioned, we make the following dua:

O Allah! For the sake of the Seal of the prophets صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ admit us to Jannat al-Firdaws without accountability and grant us closeness to the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ there!¹

اٰمِيْنَ بِجَاهِ خَاتِمِ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوْا عَلٰى الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلٰى مُحَمَّدٍ

Strive for Paradise

O seekers of Paradise! Allah has prepared many wonderful blessings and bounties in Paradise for the believers. May he admit us into Paradise without accountability by His mercy and grant us these. People spend thousands of pounds and travel to different countries to visit beautiful locations, but these pleasant sights are nothing when compared to Paradise.

¹ Read this three times.

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People climb mountains and put their lives at risk to see fleeting beauty. If only an intense desire for attaining Paradise ran rampant in their hearts. If Allah has created such amazing scenery in this temporary world for both the obedient and sinful to see, imagine how beautiful Paradise is for the believers. It is an eternal abode with never-ending blessings.

If only we had true passion to perform good deeds. We bear the difficulties of travelling to visit beautiful places in the world, so why can we not strive to attain Paradise?

Imām al-Ghazālī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

Contemplate the reality of Paradise, and the blessings and happiness of its residents. Imagine the regret of somebody who was satisfied with the world and is ultimately deprived of Paradise entirely.¹

O seekers of Paradise! Paradise is surrounded by the hard work of worship. Spend your short time in this world worshipping Allah and attain endless happiness in the Hereafter. Fight your carnal self, spend your time in worship, practice the Sunna, invite others to goodness, refrain from sins, and urge others to save themselves too. If we do this, we hope to enter Paradise by the mercy of Allah.

¹ Iḥyā' al-'Ulūm, vol. 5, p. 303

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Without doubt, one can only enter Paradise through His mercy. He commanded us to do good and avoid sins, which is why we must strive to become obedient to Him. We ask Allah to show us mercy, and grant sinners like us Paradise without accountability, for the sake of His final Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

اٰمِيْنُ بِجَاهِ خَاتِمِ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Actions which lead to Paradise

Every good action can lead to Paradise. Below are hadith and narrations discussing some of these. If we act upon these to please Allah, we can enter Paradise because of them.

1. Words of Islam

The third Caliph of Islam, ‘Uthmān b. ‘Affān رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ reports that the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “Whoever dies with firm belief in **لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللهُ** will enter Paradise.”¹

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Muṣṭafā al-A‘zamī رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ said:

These are the foundational words of Islam, upon which the entire Islamic structure built. They undoubtedly lead to Paradise and are the basis of all righteous actions

¹ Musnad Abū Dāwūd: hadith 1965

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which lead there. The hadith states **لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ**, but it refers to the entire kalima, i.e. **لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُولُ اللَّهِ**.¹

2. Acting upon the Sunna

Acting upon the Sunna not only leads to Paradise but can make a person close to the Prophet **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** therein. A hadith mentions, “Whoever loves my Sunna loves me, and whoever loves me will be with me in Paradise.”²

3. All eight gates of Paradise are opened

The Prophet **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** explained:

Whoever performs ablution well, raises their gaze to the sky, and recites the shahāda; the eight gates of Paradise are opened for them and they can enter through whichever they desire.³

4. Building masjids

¹ Bahisht Kī Kunjīyān, p. 33

² Mishkāt al-Maṣābīḥ: hadith 175

³ Sunan al-Dārimī: hadith 716

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The Prophet ﷺ proclaimed, “Whoever builds a masjid for the sake of Allah shall have a home built for them in Paradise by Him.”¹

Mufti Aḥmad Yār Khān comments, “Regardless of whether the masjid is small, or built alone or with other people; this is the reward if one’s intention is sincere.”²

5. Salah

The Prophet ﷺ announced:

Allah said, “If a person establishes salah on time, I promise out of My mercy not to punish him, and I shall admit him into Paradise without accountability.”³

6. Sunna mu'akkada

We should be uncontrollably passionate about reaching the mercy-filled abode that is Paradise, and not slack in our efforts. Make a habit of performing Sunna mu'akkada (emphasised Sunna) along with farḍ (obligatory) salah.

Umm al-Mu'minīn, Umm Ḥabība رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا reports that the Prophet ﷺ said:

¹ Sunan Ibn Mājah, vol. 1, p. 408, hadith 737

² Mir'āt al-Manājīh, vol. 5, p. 183

³ Al-Firdaws bi-Ma'thūr al-Khiṭāb: hadith 4455

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A house shall be built in Paradise for whoever offers twelve units 'of salah' in the day and night; four units before zuhr and two after, two after maghrib, two after 'ishā', and two before fajr."¹

In another hadith: "Whoever maintains four units before and after zuhr; Allah shall render the Fire haram for them."²

Shaykh al-Ṭaḥṭāwī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

Such a person will never enter Hell, their sins will be forgiven, and Allah will appease their adversary regarding the rights he had over them. It can also mean them being granted ability to do actions for which they will not be punished.³

Shaykh al-Shāmī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said, "There are glad tidings for them that they will die with faith and not enter Hell."⁴

7. Tahajjud

The Companion 'Abdullāh b. Salām رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ recalls:

When the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ entered Medina, the first hadith I heard from him was, "O people! Spread

¹ Sunan al-Tirmidhī: hadith 415

² Ibid: hadith 428

³ Ḥāshiyat al-Ṭaḥṭāwī 'alā al-Durr al-Mukhtār, vol. 1, p. 284

⁴ Radd al-Muḥṭār, vol. 2, p. 547

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salam, feed people, maintain good relations with family, and pray in the night whilst everyone else sleeps. Do this and you will enter Paradise safely.”¹

Attaining Forgiveness through Tahajjud

After Imam Junayd al-Baghdādī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ passed away, someone saw him in a dream and asked, “O Abū al-Qāsim! What happened to you after death?” He replied, “Only the short units of salah I performed at pre-dawn benefitted me.”²

8. Tahīyyat al-Wuḍū'

At fajr time, the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ once said, “O Bilāl! After you accepted Islam, tell me of the deed you have most hope in, as I have heard you walking in front of me in Paradise.”

The Companion Bilāl رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ responded, “The deed I have most hope in is: whenever I perform wudu during the day or night, I offer salah afterwards as much is destined for me.”³

Shaykh ‘Abd al-Mustafā al-A‘zamī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ writes:

Bilāl walking in front of the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in Paradise is not a disrespectful action. Some servants

¹ Sunan al-Tirmidhī: hadith 2493

² Ḥilyat al-Awliyā', vol. 10, p. 276, number 15220

³ Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī, vol. 1, p. 390, hadith 1149

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walk behind the king and some walk ahead, like those who announce the king's arrival. This is not a breach of decorum.

This hadith informs us of Bilāl's immense rank, in that he walk in front of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ to announce the latter's arrival. We also learn he acquired this great rank due to taḥiyyat al-wuḍū'.¹

Madani Pearl: It is *mustaḥabb* (recommended) to perform the two units of salah after wudu, before one's limbs become dry.

9. Zakat

A Bedouin Companion came to the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and requested, "Tell me of a deed which will take me to Paradise if I act upon it."

The Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, "Worship Allah, do not associate partners with Him, offer compulsory salah, pay zakat, and fast in the month of Ramadan."

The Bedouin said, "I take oath by He Who has power over my soul! I will not do more than this."

When he left, the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, "Whoever likes to see a man of Paradise should look at him."²

¹ Bahisht Kī Kunjīyān, p. 77

² Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī: hadīth 1397

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10. Fasting

The final Prophet ﷺ said:

There is a gate in Paradise called Bab al-Rayyān, On the Day of Judgement, those who fasted shall enter 'Paradise' through it. No others besides those who fasted shall enter this gate.

It will be said, "Where are those who fasted?" They will rise and none except them will enter through it. After their entry, the gate will be closed."¹

11. Ḥajj

Abū Hurayra رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ reports that the Prophet ﷺ said, "An 'umrah is expiation for the sins committed between it and the next. The reward of an accepted ḥajj is nothing but Paradise."²

12. How to see your place in Paradise

Consistently send ṣalāt upon the Prophet ﷺ, and if you send a thousand ṣalāt upon him daily, you will receive a special reward. The Prophet ﷺ said, "Whoever sends ṣalāt upon me a thousand times in a day shall not die until he

¹ Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī: hadith 1896

² Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī: hadith 1773

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sees his place in Paradise.”¹

What will women receive in Paradise?

After hearing descriptions of Paradise and the wonders therein, women often wonder what they will receive. Also, questions are heard about women who die before getting married; what will happen to them in Paradise regarding their marriage?

Here is an explanation of what happens with women in Paradise regarding marriage:

1. A woman will be married to the husband they married in the world, upon the condition he is in Paradise too.
2. If her husband is not in Paradise, or if she passed away before getting married, she will be married to another man in Paradise. The other blessings of Paradise, like palaces, lavish clothes, food, fragrances, etc., are for both men and women.²
3. There are two opinions regarding the woman who married more than once. The first opinion is that she will be with the husband she married last. The Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “In Paradise, a woman will be

¹ Al-Targhīb Fī Faḍā'il al-A'māl: hadith 19

² Fatāwā Ahl-i-Sunnat, number 7, p. 24

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married to the man she married last in the world.”¹

The second opinion is she will be married to the man with the greatest character and manners. Lady Umm Salama رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا said:

O Messenger of Allah! Some women marry twice, three times, or four times in the world (one after the other, not all at once). If they all enter Paradise after death, who will be her husband?”

The Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ explained, “She will be given a choice and will chose the husband who had the best character in the world.”²

There is no conflict between these two narrations, as Imām Aḥmad b. Ḥajr al-Makkī al-Shafī رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ explains:

If a woman married more than once, every husband divorced her except the final one, and she passes away whilst married to him, she will be with the husband she married last, as explained in the first hadith.

The second scenario is if she married more than once, every husband divorced her, and she dies in an

¹ Musnad al-Shāmiyyīn, vol. 2, p. 359, hadith 1496

² Al-Mu‘jam al-Kabīr: hadith 870

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unmarried state. She will only be given a choice in this scenario, and she will choose the husband with the greatest manners.¹

18 heavenly things in this world

1) The Prophet ﷺ announced, “That ‘area’ between my house and pulpit is a garden from the gardens of Paradise.”²

2-5) The Prophet ﷺ revealed, “Allah caused four sacred things to descend from the sky; iron, fire, water, and salt.”³

6-13) The Prophet ﷺ stated:

Four rivers are from the rivers of Paradise: the Nile, Euphrates, Ceyhan, and Jayhān. Four mountains are from the mountains of Paradise: Uḥūd, Sinai, Lebanon, and Wareqan.”⁴

14-17) When Prophet Ādam عليه السلام was sent from Paradise to Earth, he took the Black Stone, the staff of Prophet Mūsā عليه السلام, iron, and all types of seeds with him.⁵

¹ Fatāwā Ḥadīthiyya, p. 70 Derived

² Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī: hadīth 1195

³ Tafsīr Ṣāwī, part 27, vol. 6, p. 2112

⁴ Al-Budūr al-Sāfira, p. 529

⁵ Tafsīr Ṣāwī, part 27, vol. 6, p. 2112

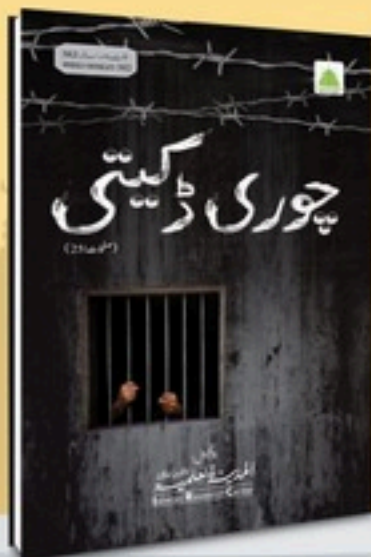
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18) Burāq came from Paradise and was a heavenly animal utilised by the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ on the Night of Mi'raj.¹

صَلُّوا عَلَيَّ الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ


¹ Mir'āt al-Manājīh, vol. 8, p. 137


Next Weekly Booklet



Faizan-e-Madinah, Muhallah Sodagaran, purani sabzi mandi, Karachi.

UAN +92 21 111 25 26 92   0313-1139278

 www.maktabatulmadinah.com / www.dawateislami.net

 feedback@maktabatulmadinah.com / ilmia@dawateislami.net