

Importance of Shab-e-Bara`at and Excellence of Repentance

**Sunnah-inspired Bayan of
Ijtima-e-Zikr-o-Naat in
Shab-e-Baraat 1438H**

11-May-2017

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

Importance of Shab-e-Bara'at and Excellence of Repentance

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'tikaf.

Whenever you enter a Masjid, upon remembering, make the intention of Nafil I'tikaf because as long as you stay in the Masjid you will keep obtaining the reward of Nafil (supererogatory) I'tikaf, and eating and drinking will also become permissible for you in the Masjid.

Excellence of Salat- 'Alan-Nabi ﷺ

Ameer-ul-Mu'mineen, Sayyiduna 'Ali-ul-Murtada كَرَّمَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى وَجْهَهُ الْكَرِيمُ narrated that the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: Your recitation of Salat upon me is protection for your Du'as, it leads to the pleasure of your Rab عَزَّوَجَلَّ and it is a cause of the purity of your deeds. (Al-Qaul-ul-Badi', pp. 270)

گرچہ میں بے حد قصور تم ہو عفو و غفور
بخش دو جرم و خطا تم پہ کروڑوں درود

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Before listening to the Bayan, let's make good intentions for attaining rewards. The Beloved Rasool 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, Hadees 5942)

Two Madani pearls

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

Intentions of listening to the Bayan

1. Lowering my eyes, I will listen to the Bayan attentively.
2. Instead of resting against a wall etc., I will sit as I sit in Tashahhud as long as possible with the intention of showing respect for religious knowledge.
3. I will make room for others by folding my hands and limbs and by moving slightly.
4. If someone pushes me, I will remain patient and calm and avoid staring, snapping, and arguing with them.
5. When I hear *صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ*, etc., I will reply loudly with the intention of gaining reward and encouraging others to also recite.
6. After the Bayan, I will approach other people by making Salam, shaking hands, and for making individual efforts upon them.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Let's listen to how Sayyiduna Imam Hasan رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ would spend Shab-e-Bara`at. Would that we could also have the privilege to respect this great night for the sake of Sayyiduna Imam Hasan رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ! Would that we could also succeed in attaining the excellence and blessings of this night for the sake of Sayyiduna Imam Hasan رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ!

Blessed activities of Beloved Rasool's grandson in Shab-e-Bara`at

Sayyiduna Taa'oos Yamaani رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has said: I asked Sayyiduna Imam Hasan رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ about the worship on the night of 15th Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam so he رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ replied: I divide the night into three parts. Acting upon the commandment of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا ﴿٥٦﴾

Translation from Kanz-ul-Iman: O Believers! Send blessings and abundant salutations upon him. (Part 22, Surah Al-Ahzaab, Ayah 56)

I recite Salat upon my Beloved Grandfather صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ one third of the night, acting upon the commandment of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ

وَمَا كَانَ اللَّهُ مُعَذِّبَهُمْ وَهُمْ يَسْتَغْفِرُونَ ﴿٣٣﴾

Translation from Kanz-ul-Iman: And Allah is not going to punish them while they are seeking forgiveness. (Part 9, Surah Al-Anfaal, Ayah 33)

I repent in the court of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ in the other one third of the night, and the last third part of the night acting upon the commandment of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ I perform Ruku' and Sujood.

Sayyiduna Taa'oos Yamaani رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has said: I humbly asked: What is the reward for the one who does it? Sayyiduna Imam Hasan رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ replied: I have heard from my father (Sayyiduna 'Ali-ul-Murtada رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ) that the

Beloved Rasool ﷺ said: The one who worships on this night of 15th Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam will be recorded in Muqarrabeen [those who have attained closeness to Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ]. (*Al-Qaul-ul-Badi'*, pp. 396; summarized)

Dear Islamic brothers! It has been learnt that it was the practice of pious people to worship Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. They also used to recite Salat upon the Beloved Rasool ﷺ on Shab-e-Bara'at (15th Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam), therefore we should recite Salat-'Alan-Nabi abundantly whether we are sitting, standing, walking, etc., and should observe Sawm during the day. It was also the practice of our Beloved Rasool ﷺ that he ﷺ would perform lots of Nafil worship during this month.

Beloved Rasool would observe Sawm for most of the days in Sha'ban

Umm-ul-Mu'mineen, Sayyidatuna 'Aishah Siddiqah رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهَا has stated, 'The Beloved and Blessed Rasool ﷺ would observe Sawm throughout Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam.' She said that I once asked, 'Ya Rasoolallah ﷺ! Do you like observing Sawm in Sha'ban the most compared to other months?' He ﷺ replied, 'Undoubtedly, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ records the name of every person who will die this year and I like to be in the state of observing Sawm at the time of my demise.'

(*Musnad Abi Ya'la*, vol. 4, pp. 277, Hadees 4890)

Similarly, it is stated in another Hadees: The Holy Nabi ﷺ would not observe Sawm so abundantly in any other month as he ﷺ would in Sha'ban, rather he ﷺ used to observe Sawm the whole month and would say, 'Act according to your capability as Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ does not cease His blessings until you get bored.' (*Sahih Bukhari*, vol. 1, pp. 648, Hadees 1970)

The commentator of the book *Sahih Bukhari*, 'Allamah Mufti Muhammad Shareef-ul-Haq Amjadi رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has elaborated on this blessed Hadees as follows: It means that the Beloved Rasool ﷺ used to observe Siyam in most of the days of Sha'ban and it was referred to as the whole (i.e. the Siyam of the whole month). It is usually said, 'Such and such person worshipped the whole night'; although he would have spent time in eating

and answering his needs. In such cases, 'mostly' is referred to as 'the whole'. He رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ further stated: From this Hadees it has also been understood that the person who is capable of observing Siyam in Sha'ban, should do it abundantly. (*Nuzha-tul-Qaari*, vol. 3, pp. 377-380)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam—favourite month

Dear Islamic brothers! Sha'ban was the favourite month of our Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. Sayyidatuna 'Aishah Siddiqah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهَا has narrated, 'Sha'ban was the favourite month of the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. He صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would observe Siyam in this month and would then join it with Ramadan.' (*Sunan Abi Dawood*, vol. 2, pp. 476, Hadees 2431)

Furthermore, relating this month to himself, the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: 'شَعْبَانُ شَهْرِي وَرَمَضَانُ شَهْرُ اللَّهِ' i.e., Sha'ban is my month and Ramadan is the month of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. (*Al-Jami'-us-Sagheer*, pp. 301, Hadees 4889)

Elaborating on this blessed Hadees, 'Allamah 'Abdur Ra'oof Manaawi رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has said: The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ declared the month of Sha'ban to be his month because he صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ used to observe Sawm [abundantly] in this month, though these Siyam were not Wajib for him. He صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ declared the month of Ramadan to be the month of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, because Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ has made the Siyam of this month Fard.

(*Fayd-ul-Qadeer*, vol. 4, pp. 213, Hadees 4889)

Dear Islamic brothers! Have you noticed that in spite of holding the highest rank of piety and the highest rank of intercession in the Divine court of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, the state of the matchless worship carried out by our Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was that he صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ used to observe Sawm most of the days of this sacred month. On the other hand, we have spent so many months of the blessed Sha'ban in our lives. This blessed month passed away after distributing the Divine blessings and forgiveness, but we could

neither repent of our sins, nor made a firm intention to avoid committing sins, neither offered Fard Salahs regularly, nor gave Sadaqah and charity, neither recited the Holy Quran, did Zikr and recited Salat-'Alan-Nabi, nor observed Siyam and performed other Nafl acts of worship abundantly.

However, for persuading us to worship abundantly in this month, our Beloved Rasool ﷺ not only performed Nafl worship himself practically, but also mentioning the importance of this blessed month, he ﷺ said that: It is a month between Rajab and Ramadan; people are neglectful of it. In this month, the deeds of people are ascended towards Allah ﷻ and I love that my deeds be ascended in a state when I am observing Sawm.

(Sunan Nasa'ee, vol. 4, pp. 387, Hadees 2354)

Commanding us to perform Nafl worship, especially during the night of 15th Sha'ban and to observe Sawm during the day, the Holy Nabi ﷺ said: When the 15th night of Sha'ban comes, do Qiyam (standing for worship) in the night and observe Sawm during the day. No doubt, Allah ﷻ reveals a special Divine Manifestation on the sky above the earth from the time of sunset and announces, 'Is there anyone seeking forgiveness so that I may forgive him? Is there anyone seeking sustenance so that I may grant him sustenance? Is there anyone afflicted so that I may relieve his affliction? Is there so and so...' He ﷻ keeps announcing this until the time of Fajr.

(Sunan Ibn Majah, vol. 2, pp. 160, Hadees 1388)

برأت دے عذابِ قبر سے نارِ جہنم سے
مہِ شعبان کے صدقے میں کر فضل و کرم مولیٰ

صَلُّوْا عَلَی الْحَبِیْب صَلَّی اللہُ تَعَالٰی عَلٰی مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! From the above-mentioned blessed Ahadees, not only have we been persuaded to perform Nafl acts of worship in Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam, but it has also been learnt that the deeds of the whole year are presented to the Divine court of Allah ﷻ in this month. It can be

understood like this as well that from the perspective of changing the Books of Deeds, 14th of Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam is the last day of the year and 15th of Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam is the first day of the year.

Therefore, we should feel sad for the days we have spent lazily and heedlessly in this sacred month, and get rid of laziness and negligence. After getting rid of laziness and negligence we should worship and repent abundantly, observe Nafil Siyam, especially every Islamic brother should make a firm intention to observe the Sawm of tomorrow [15 Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam] and should make Du'as to Allah ﷻ for the betterment of the world and the Hereafter both.

Persuading his disciples, devotees and common Muslims to observe Siyam, Shaykh-e-Tareeqat, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, the founder of Dawat-e-Islami, 'Allamah Maulana Abu Bilal Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri Razavi رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ العَالِيَهُ has stated in one of his letters:

Get ready to observe Nafil Siyam as many as you can in addition to all Fard Siyam of Ramadan. Also observe the Qufl-e-Madinah of stomach by eating less in Sahari and Iftari. May everyone observe Siyam in every home and in all of Jami'a-tul-Madinah and Madrasa-tul-Madinah!

He has also stated in the same letter: If you have studied earlier, even then you must read the chapter of *Faizan-e-Sunnat*, volume 1 '*Faizan-e-Ramadan*' every year in the month of Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam. If possible, distribute '*Faizan-e-Ramadan*' as per your financial ability and earn huge reward.

All Islamic brothers are requested in general, and all the teachers, administrators, students of Jami'a-tul-Madinah and Madaris-ul-Madinah are requested earnestly, in particular, to (whilst I am alive and even after my demise) take part actively in collecting Zakah, Fitrah, skins of the sacrificed animals and other donations. (Islamic sisters should persuade other Islamic sisters and their Maharim for Madani donations). I swear by Allah ﷻ, I feel so happy when I hear about the teachers and students who sacrifice the desire to go to their villages and cities and spend the holy month of Ramadan in Jami'aat and perform their duties at the stalls of Madani donations as per the instructions of their Majlis. However, the teachers and students who

show lack of interest without any reasons only because of their negligence or laziness make my heart weep.

Special Madani pearl: It is Fard [obligatory] for the Islamic brothers or Islamic sisters who want to collect Madani donations to learn the essential rulings on donations. It is emphasized that if you have read, even then study again the 100-page book named '*Chanday kay baaray mayn Suwal Jawab*' [Questions and Answers about Donations] published by Maktaba-tul-Madinah, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami.

Now listen to Du'a of Attar and try to attain it: Ya Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ! The devotees of Rasool who give me pleasure by trying to collect donations in the sacred month of Ramadan and the skins of sacrificed animals at Eid-ul-Adha, You become pleased with them forever and for their sake, also become pleased with me (the leader of sinners) forever! Ya Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ! The Islamic brother or sister who observes Siyam for three months every year (provided there is no valid Shar'i excuse) and reads or listens to the booklets '*Kafan ki Wapsi*' [Return of the Shroud] in Jumadal Ukhra, '*Aqa ka Maheena*' [Month of My Beloved Rasool] in Rajab-ul-Murajjab and '*Faizan-e-Ramadan*' [Blessings of Ramadan] (completely) in Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam, bless me and him with the goodness of the world and the Hereafter and forgive us without any accountability and let us live together in the neighbourhood of Your Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in Jannat-ul-Firdaus.

أَمِينَ بِجَاهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأَمِينِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Introduction to book 'Faizan-e-Ramadan'

Dear Islamic brothers! Faizan-e-Ramadan, the great book of Shaykh-e-Tareeqat, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, 'Allamah Maulana Abu Bilal Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qaadiri Razavi Ziyaee رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى، contains Excellence of Ramadan, rulings and commandments of Siyam, method of offering Taraweeh, excellence of Layla-tul-Qadr and its signs, excellence and rulings on I'tikaf, Sunnah-conforming Method of Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Adha and excellence and rulings on Nafil Siyam and many other useful parables.

Therefore, buy this book from the stalls of Maktaba-tul-Madinah today and not only study it yourself, but also persuade others to do so. اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ by the efforts of Majlis-e-Tarajim this book has been translated into English, Sindhi, Hindi, Bengali and Arabic. It can be read, downloaded and printed from the website of Dawat-e-Islami www.dawateislami.net.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! We are listening to the importance of Shab-e-Bara'at and excellence of 15th Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam. Undoubtedly, tonight and the day of tomorrow are extremely sacred. Try to attain as much mercy of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ as possible. In Ayah 3 and 4 of Surah Ad-Dukhan; part 25, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ has stated:

إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةٍ مُبَارَكَةٍ إِنَّا كُنَّا مُنْذِرِينَ ﴿٣﴾ فِيهَا يُفْرَقُ كُلُّ أَمْرٍ حَكِيمٍ ﴿٤﴾

Translation from Kanz-ul-Iman: We have indeed sent it down in a blessed night, indeed it is We Who warn. During it are distributed all the works of wisdom.

Commenting on this blessed Ayah, a renowned commentator of the Glorious Quran, Mufti Ahmad Yar Khan رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has stated: This night is either Layla-tul-Qadr which is the 27th night (of sacred Ramadan) or Shab-e-Mi'raaj or Shab-e-Bara'at (that is) the 15th of Sha'ban. On this blessed night, the entire Holy Quran was descended from Lawh-e-Mahfuz towards the worldly sky and then from the worldly sky it was revealed to the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ gradually in 23 years. This Ayah also clarifies that the night in which the Holy Quran was revealed is a blessed night, so the night in which the Sahib-e-Quran صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ (the blessed personage to whom the Holy Quran was revealed) came into this world is also blessed. On this night, the sustenance of the whole year, death, life, honour, disgrace, and all other affairs are written in the Sahifahs [books] of the angels from the

Lawh-e-Mahfuz and each Sahifah [book] is given to the angel of the concerned task. For example, the angel of death is given the list of all those who are going to die this year. *(Noor-ul-'Irfan, pp. 790)*

Dear Islamic brothers! It has become obvious that Shab-e-Bara'at is a very important night, therefore, it should not be spent heedlessly in any way, because Allah ﷻ forgives countless people on this night. The Beloved Rasool ﷺ has said: Jibra'eel (عليه السلام) came to me and said, 'This is the 15th night of Sha'ban. Allah ﷻ frees as many people from Hell as the number of the hairs on the goats of the tribe of Kalb.

(Shu'ab-ul-Iman, vol. 3, pp. 384, Hadees 3837)

Let's listen to another faith-refreshing blessed Hadees about the boundless mercy of Allah ﷻ.

300 Doors of mercy

Sayyiduna Ubayy Bin Ka'b رضى الله تعالى عنه has said that the Beloved and Blessed Rasool ﷺ said: Sayyiduna Jibra'eel (عليه الصلوٰۃ والسلام) came to me on Shab-e-Bara'at and said to me, 'Please get up and offer Salah and raise your blessed head and hands towards the sky.' I asked, 'O Jibra'eel! What night is this?' He humbly replied, 'O Muhammad (ﷺ)! It is the night in which 300 doors of the sky and mercy are opened; all are forgiven except those who attribute partners to Allah ﷻ, bear hatred and malice towards each other, drinkers and fornicators. These people are not forgiven until they sincerely repent. However, one of the doors of mercy is left open for a drinker, until he repents, and when he repents he is also forgiven.

Likewise, for the one who bears malice towards others, a door of mercy is left open, until he talks to his companion (towards whom he bears malice). When he talks to him, he is also forgiven.' The Beloved Rasool ﷺ said, 'O Jibra'eel! If he does not talk to his companion and Shab-e-Bara'at passes, then...?' Sayyiduna Jibra'eel (عليه الصلوٰۃ والسلام) humbly said, 'If he remains in the same state, and (due to the agony of death) his breath stops, then for him the door of mercy also remains open; if he repents (of the malice he bears towards a Muslim before death), his repentance is accepted.'

On hearing this, the Beloved Rasool ﷺ went to Jannat-ul-Baqi' and made Du'a in these words in Sajdah:

أَعُوذُ بِعَفْوِكَ مِنْ عِقَابِكَ وَأَعُوذُ بِرِضَاكَ مِنْ سَخَطِكَ وَأَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْكَ جَلَّ
ثَنَّاؤُكَ لَا أَبْلُغُ الثَّنَاءَ عَلَيْكَ أَنْتَ كَمَا أَثْنَيْتَ عَلَى نَفْسِكَ

(i.e. O Allah ﷻ!) I ask for Your forgiveness from Your torment, Your pleasure from Your displeasure and Your shelter from You. Your praise is very high, I cannot praise You as You should be praised, Your real glory is that which You have mentioned Yourself.

Sayyiduna Jibra'eel عَلَيْهِ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ appeared in the fourth part of the night and humbly said: O Muhammad (ﷺ)! Raise your head towards the sky. The Beloved Rasool ﷺ raised his blessed head towards the sky, then he ﷺ saw the doors of mercy open and one angel at every door was calling out. (At the first door, an angel was calling out): Congratulations to the one who worships during this night; at the second door, an angel was calling out in the same way, congratulations to the one who performs Sajdah during this night; at the third door, an angel was calling out, congratulations to the one who performs Ruku' during this night; at the fourth door also, an angel was calling out, congratulations to the one who makes Du'a to his Rab ﷻ during this night; at the fifth door, an angel was also calling out, congratulations to the one who is busy doing Munajat to his Rab ﷻ; at the sixth door, an angel was also calling out, congratulations to Muslims on this night; at the seventh door, an angel was also calling out, congratulations to those who believe in the oneness of Allah ﷻ; at the eighth door, an angel was calling out, is there anyone who wants to repent so that his repentance is accepted? At the ninth door, an angel was also calling out, is there anyone who wants to ask for forgiveness so that he is forgiven? At the tenth door, an angel was also calling out, is there anyone who wants to make Du'a so that his Du'a is accepted.

Then the Beloved Rasool ﷺ said, O Jibra'eel! How long the doors of mercy remain open? It was humbly replied: From the beginning of

the night to the time when Fajr breaks. The Beloved Rasool ﷺ said, 'During this night, more people than the number of the hairs of goats are forgiven. During the same night, people's deeds of the whole year are raised (towards the skies) and during the same night, sustenance is distributed.' (*Tareekh Ibn 'Asakir, vol. 51, pp. 72-73, Hadees 5923*)

بندۂ بدکار ہوں بے حد ذلیل و خوار ہوں
 مغفرت فرما الہی! تُو بڑا غفار ہے
 تُو نے دُنیا میں بھی عیبوں کو چُھپایا یا خدا
 حشر میں بھی لاج رکھ لینا کہ تُو ستار ہے

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Have you noticed! Allah ﷻ has bestowed great dignity, nobility and eminence upon the month of Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam, in particular, the luminous night of 15th Sha'ban. The luminous night of 15th Sha'ban is so great that during this night Allah ﷻ forgives Muslims. When this sacred night comes, Allah ﷻ shows countless mercy to His bondmen to such an extent that He ﷻ opens 300 doors of mercy for them.

During this night, the innocent angels of Allah ﷻ give good news to those who perform Ruku' and Sujood, perform Nafil worship, become busy making Du'as and weep extensively. Due to the greatness of this night, the Beloved Rasool ﷺ sometimes used to visit the graveyard of Jannat-ul-Baqi' on this night and weep extensively in the state of Sajdah in the court of Allah ﷻ, and sometimes he ﷺ used to offer Nawafil and make Du'a etc. at his blessed home.

Umm-ul-Mu'mineen, Sayyidatuna 'Aishah Siddiqah, Tayyibah, Taahirah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهَا has said: كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَدْعُو وَهُوَ سَاجِدٌ لَيْلَةَ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ, i.e. During the night of half of Sha'ban, the Beloved Rasool ﷺ used to make Du'as in the state of Sajdah.

(*Kanz-ul-'Ummal, vol. 14, pp. 79, Hadees 38288*)

Dear Islamic brothers! Remember, our Beloved Rasool's acts of repenting, asking for protection from the displeasure and anger of Allah ﷺ on this sacred night were not مَعَاذَ اللَّهِ ﷺ due to his committing of sins at all because not only our Beloved Rasool ﷺ but all blessed Ambiya عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَام are free from sins by the grace of Allah ﷺ as they cannot commit sins at all.

The commentator of *Sahih Bukhari* 'Allamah Maulana Mufti Muhammad Sharif-ul-Haq Amjadi رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has said: All the Ambiya عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام are free from all sins. especially our Beloved Rasool ﷺ are free from all sins.

(*Fatawa Sharih Bukhari, vol. 1, pp. 363*)

Likewise, Hakeem-ul-Ummat, Mufti Ahmad Yar Khan رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has said: The blessed Ambiya عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام are free from sins because they cannot commit sins at all. (*Mirat-ul-Manajih, vol. 3, pp. 364*)

Therefore, the reason why the Beloved Rasool ﷺ performed Nafl acts of worship specifically and sought protection from the torment and displeasure of Allah ﷺ during this sacred night was for the education of Ummah so that following the Beloved Rasool ﷺ his Ummah also performs more and more Nafl worship during this night and do not get deprived of the gifts and the blessing of mercy from the court of Allah ﷺ. That's why it was the practice of blessed companions رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمْ, great Islamic scholars, and believers that they would stay awake during this night and worship abundantly.

Shaykh 'Abdul Haq Muhaddis Dihlvi رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has stated: Glorious personages amongst Tabi'een such as Sayyiduna Khalid Bin Ma'daan, Sayyiduna Makhool, Sayyiduna Luqman Bin 'Aamir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ would always gather in a Masjid and stay awake the whole night. They would remain busy worshipping Allah ﷺ the whole night in the Masjid. (*Lata'if-ul-Ma'arif, vol. 1, pp. 145*)

'Allamah Ibn-ul-Haaj Maliki رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has said: Undoubtedly, this night is very blessed and great night in the Divine court of Allah ﷺ. Our pious predecessors رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ would have great respect for it and would start its

preparation before its arrival. When this night would come they would worship in it. To worship in this night is to have respect for it.

(*Ma-Sabata Min-as-Sunnah*, pp. 357; *Lata'if-ul-Ma'arif*, pp. 263; summarized)

Therefore, acting upon the Sunnah of the Beloved Rasool ﷺ we should worship Allah ﷻ with great enthusiasm and should also repent of our sins sincerely during this night. If we have committed the sins of missing Salah, we should repent immediately and should also do their Qada. Some people perform Nafl acts of worship with great enthusiasm, but pay no attention to the Fard Salah which they have to offer.

Remember! To miss even one Salah intentionally is a grave sin that is Haraam and an act leading to Hell. It is stated in *Fatawa Razawiyyah*: The one who intentionally misses a single Salah becomes deserving of staying in Hell for thousands years until he repents and does its Qada.

(*Fatawa Razawiyyah*, vol. 9, pp. 158)

عمر میں گر کوئی چھوٹی ہے نماز
جلد ادا کر لے تو آ غفلت سے باز

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Just imagine when a person has to remain in Hell for thousands of years for only intentionally missing one Salah, so the person who intentionally misses all the Salah [which are offered throughout the day and night], or rather he has fallen into the bad habit of not offering Salah at all, so how severe torment he will deserve. Therefore, repent of the grave sin of missing Salah sincerely as soon as possible or rather during tonight—the night of blessing and forgiveness and make intention to offer Qada Salah along with regular five-time Salah. Otherwise remember, the torment of Hell will not be tolerated in any way. It has been narrated that the person, upon whom the lightest torment of Hell will be inflicted, will feel the pain of the

torment so much that he will think that the most painful torment is being inflicted upon him, though it will be contrary to the fact.

Sayyiduna Ibn 'Abbas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا has narrated that the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, 'The one from among the dwellers of Hell upon whom the slightest torment will be inflicted will be made to wear the shoes of fire, causing his brain to boil.' (*Sahih Bukhari, vol. 4, pp. 262, Hadees 6561*)

گُناہ گار طلبگارِ عفو و رحمت ہے
عذابِ سہنے کا کس میں ہے حوصلہ یا رب

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Seeking protection of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ from the terrors of Hell repent sincerely of missing Salah and also make intention to offer Salah regularly from now onwards and start offering the Qada Salah of the whole life after counting them up. In order to count the Qada of the whole life and to know the easy method of offering them, study the 34-page booklet named 'Qaza Namazaun ka Tareeqah' [Method of Missed Salah] written by the founder of Dawat-e-Islami, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, Maulana Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qaadiri Razavi Ziyaa وَأَمَّا بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَةِ.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Remember! Where during the great night of Shab-e-Bara'at countless people are forgiven, there are also some unfortunate people who have been declared to remain deprived of forgiveness even on Shab-e-Bara'at i.e. the night of deliverance. Sayyiduna Imam Bayhaqi Shaafi'i رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has narrated in 'Fadaail-ul-Awqat': The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: Six types of people will not be forgiven even on this night:

1. A drinker
2. One who is disobedient to parents
3. One habitual of fornication
4. One who cuts ties
5. One who draws a portrait
6. A talebearer (*Fadaail-ul-Awqat, vol. 1, pp. 130, Hadees 27*)

Similarly, in some other blessed Ahadees a fortune-teller, a magician, the one who keeps his trousers or Tahband below the ankles out of arrogance, and the one who bears hatred and malice towards another Muslim without any Shar'i permission have also been declared to be deprived of forgiveness during this night.

Fireworks

Dear Islamic brothers! اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ, bestowing favours upon us, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ has blessed us with the great night like Shab-e-Bara'at so that we can worship in it and repent of our sins to please Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ and His Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالٰى عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم and can get released from the Hell to become deserving of Paradise. But unfortunately, tonight a number of people become busy with fireworks and waste the precious moments of this sacred night. Firecrackers and fireworks are used at many places.

Feeling sad and grieved for the Muslims who are busy with the useless act that brings about displeasure of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, Mufti Ahmad Yar Khan رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالٰى عَلَيْهِ has said: Alas! Now the bad custom of using fireworks is rapidly being practised by Muslims. Millions of rupees of Muslims are spent on fireworks. We hear this news very often that at such-and-such a place such-and-such number of houses have burnt and such-and-such numbers of people have burnt to death, etc., due to fireworks. It may pose a threat to life, destruction of wealth and possessions and threat of fire in the house. It is also the disobedience to Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ.

Shaykh-ul-Hadees, 'Allamah 'Abdul Mustafa A'zami رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالٰى عَلَيْهِ has said: Whether fireworks are used in Shab-e-Bara'at or in a wedding ceremony it is

Haraam everywhere under all conditions. It contains many sins. It is a waste of money. The person who wastes his money has been called the brother of Satan in the Holy Quran and with such people, Allah ﷻ and His Beloved Rasool ﷺ are displeased. Furthermore, there is a fear that a person may burn his hand or feet or his home may be on fire. Putting one's life and possession in danger unnecessarily is Haraam in Shari'ah.

(Jannati Zaywar, pp. 152)

Therefore, every Muslim who is committing the sins like drinking wine, disobeying his parents, fornication, cutting ties with his/her relatives, drawing sketches, tale-telling, laziness in Salah or arrogance etc. should repent sincerely today or rather right now. Feel deeply ashamed of your sins in the court of Allah ﷻ and repent sincerely. No doubt, Allah ﷻ accepts repentance.

براءت دے عذابِ قبر سے نارِ جہنم سے
مہ شعبان کے صدقے میں کر فضل و کرم مولیٰ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Let's have the privilege of listening to three blessed Ahadees about excellence of repentance for persuasion:

Excellence of repentance

1. The Rasool of Rahmah, the Intercessor of Ummah ﷺ has stated: 'فَإِنَّ الْعَبْدَ إِذَا اعْتَرَفَ بِذَنْبِهِ ثُمَّ تَابَ تَابَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ' When a person admits his sin, then repents, Allah ﷻ accepts his repentance. (Sahih Bukhari, vol. 2, pp. 199, Hadees 2661)
2. In a Hadees-e-Qudsi, Allah ﷻ has stated: O My bondmen! You are all sinners except those upon whom I bestow safety. So the one amongst you who understands that I have authority to forgive, then he asks Me for forgiveness, I will forgive him and I do not care. (Mishkat-tul-Masabih, vol. 2, pp. 439, Hadees 2350)

3. Holding the hand of Sayyiduna 'Ali كَرَّمَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى وَجْهَهُ الْكَرِيم the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, 'Should I not tell you about the words which you say, so if your sins are equal to the number of ants, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ will definitely forgive all those sins for you. (He صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ then stated):

اللَّهُمَّ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ سُبْحَانَكَ عَمِلْتُ سُوءًا أَوْ ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي فَأَغْفِرْ لِي إِنَّهُ لَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ

Translation: O Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, there is none worthy of worship except You, Purity is for You, I have performed bad deeds and oppressed my Nafs. Forgive me because there is none except You Who forgives.

(Kanz-ul-'Ummal, vol. 1, pp. 287, Hadees 5049)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Reasons of delay in repentance and their solutions

Dear Islamic brothers! Despite having all the importance and excellence of repentance some unfortunate people keep causing a delay in repenting of their sins because they are deceived by Nafs and Satan. There are some reasons for it. If we ponder over them and try to resolve them, so إِنَّ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ very soon we will be able to repent of our sins. Let's now listen to the reasons and their solutions. Would that we could have the privilege to repent sincerely on this great and blessed night!

Being heedless of the consequences of sins

Dear Islamic brothers! Sometimes our act of being heedless of the consequences of sins also becomes a hurdle in the path of repentance. It is because the torment from which a person is terrified is concealed from his eyes, whereas he immediately gets the results of his Nafsanī [carnal] desires. It is in human's nature that he gets attracted to the thing quickly that is achieved immediately as compared to the one that is achieved late.

The solution to this problem is that such a person should ponder over it though the torments are not visible to his eyes, it is certain. There are so

many worldly benefits which we do not get due to the fear of loss we may have in future such as if a doctor says to someone else: You are a heart patient, therefore avoid eating oily food like Paratha, Samosay, Pakoray, etc., otherwise these things will worsen your heart trouble. So he avoids eating all those things despite their delicious taste in order to stay safe from the trouble in future because he places his trust in the advice of the doctor. So isn't it unwise to give up pleasure due to the warning of a person, but despite believing in the truthfulness of the promise of the torment Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ will inflict upon us, we do not give up the impermissible desires of our Nafs. If we ponder in this manner, so by virtue of its blessing, the hurdles we have in the path of above-mentioned repentance will be cleared and we will succeed in repenting of our sins.

Supremacy of sins' pleasure on heart

Dear Islamic brothers! Sometimes different sins like fornication, drinking wine, unlawful gazes, informal conversation with non-Mahram women, the pleasure of watching film etc., apply such a big influence on the mind and the heart of a person that he cannot even think about giving-up these sins. He feels as if his life is very dull and boring without these sins, thus he remains deprived of repentance.

The solution to this problem is that the person who is facing this kind of situation should think like this: If I cannot give up these pleasurable acts in the few days of this life, so how will I endure to be deprived of the pleasure (i.e. blessings of Paradise) forever after death? When I cannot endure the test of patience, so how can I endure the suffering of the Hell? These sins surely contain pleasure, but their consequences bring about long-lasting sorrow.

Expectation of living a long life

Dear Islamic brothers! One of the reasons we delay repenting is that Nafs and Satan develop our mindset like this: You have a long life to live, repent later on or now you are young, repent in the old age or repent after retirement from your job. So this naïve person acts upon the advice of Nafs and Satan and deprives himself of repentance.

The solution to this problem is that such a person should ponder like this: When death is unavoidable and I do not know the time of my death, so isn't it unwise to postpone the privilege of repenting until tomorrow? The sin which my Nafs does not want to give up today how can I get rid of the same sin tomorrow when it becomes my habit? What is the guarantee that I will live to the old age or to my retirement age?

Being deceived about Divine mercy

Dear Islamic brothers! In our society, such people are also found abundantly who when are persuaded to repent of their sins they try to make others speechless by uttering such sentences like: *Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ is very merciful and compassionate; we trust in His mercy; He will not inflict torment on us.* By uttering such sentences they do not repent.

The solution to this problem is that such people are requested: No Muslim has any doubt in the Mercifulness and Compassionateness of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, but the way these both are His attributes, in the same way Qahhar [قَهَّار] is also the attribute of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. It has also been proved by the Quran and Hadees that some Muslims in the beginning will go to Hell for the punishment of their sins. Now tell us what guarantee do we have that such and such a Muslim will go to Hell after going through the wrath of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, but you and I will attain countless Divine mercy and will be made to enter Paradise? Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ forbid, you and I might also be included amongst the Muslims who will go to Hell. **الْأَمَانُ وَالْحَفِيفُ**

گناہگار ہوں میں لائقِ جہنم ہوں
کرم سے بخش دے مجھ کو نہ دے سزا یا رب
برائیوں پہ پشیمان ہوں رحم فرما دے
بے تیرے قہر پہ حاوی تیری عطا یا رب

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Besides being hopeful for Divine mercy we should also have the fear of Divine wrath so that our heart can be inclined to avoid sins, perform good deeds and repent of past sins.

Fear of not maintaining steadfastness after repentance

Some people make this excuse: We don't have confidence even in ourselves whether or not we will be able to refrain from sins after repentance. So there is no use of repenting.

The solution is that it is a sheer Satanic thought because we do not know whether we will remain alive or not after repenting. Perhaps we may die as we repent and do not get any opportunity to commit sins further. When repenting, one must have firm intention and adherence to refrain from committing sins in future. It is Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ alone Who can bless us with the determination of refraining from sins. If one is not able to refrain from committing sins, at least, by virtue of the blessings of repentance, he will get rid of past sins and the forgiveness of past sins is not an easy job. If one commits sins even after repenting, he should repent again sincerely thinking that it could prove to be his last repentance and he might depart this life after this very repentance.

In order to get useful information about repentance, study the book *Taubah ki Riwayaat-o-Hikayaat* published by Maktaba-tul-Madinah.

Dear Islamic brothers! For sincerely attaining steadfastness in true repenting, carrying out more and more virtuous deeds, refraining from sins, performing Salah and observing Sawm regularly during the sacred and blessed night of Shab-e-Bara'at, associate yourselves with the Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami, plus take part in 12 Madani activities of Dawat-e-Islami.

You must have heard about the '12 Madani activities of Dawat-e-Islami', this question may arise in your mind what are these '12 Madani activities'? Why are Islamic brothers highly motivated to participate in 12 Madani activities?

- In fact the 12 Madani activities are the blessed acts of seeking pleasure of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ and His Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

- These 12 Madani activities are very helpful and productive in preparation for the deeds leading to Jannah.
- 12 Madani activities are the best Madani methods of improving and refining our personal character and conduct.
- 12 Madani activities make a person offer Salah regularly.
- 12 Madani activities bless Islamic brothers with the opportunity to recite and listen to the Glorious Quran.
- 12 Madani activities are the source of increasing enthusiasm and eagerness amongst the people for the blessed gatherings and the acts of worship going on in Masajid.
- 12 Madani activities provide a person with the blessed knowledge of Glorious Quran.
- 12 Madani activities give the message of wakefulness to those who waste their precious time merely in worldly activities.
- 12 Madani activities draw attention of those who drift away from the virtues to Divine mercy.
- 12 Madani activities are the source of filling Masajid with Salah-offering Muslims.
- 12 Madani activities are very helpful in living life as per Shari'ah.
- 12 Madani activities bring about hoarding endless reward through call to righteousness.
- 12 Madani activities turn the large number of anxieties, worries and sorrows into ease, comfort and relief.
- 12 Madani activities are the source of publicising the movement 'Masjid Bharo Tahreek' (Masjid-filling movement) of Dawat-e-Islami.
- 12 Madani activities is a way to attain success of the world and the Hereafter.

- 12 Madani activities, being like the shining lights, guide Islamic brothers for the preparation of grave.
- 12 Madani activities bestow the wealth of knowledge upon the illiterate fellows.
- Out of these 12 Madani activities, 5 Madani activities are carried out on daily basis and 5 are on the weekly basis and 2 are on monthly basis.

Hopefully, having heard numerous virtues of 12 Madani activities, you have made up your mind to take part in 12 Madani activities practically. Yes, you are most welcome. In order to have blessed yearning for trying to reform yourselves and the people of the entire world thorough 12 Madani activities, prepare yourselves from now onwards. Let's express this great determination quickly and chant a slogan together:

صبح و شام: 12 مدنی کام صبح و شام: 12 مدنی کام

All day long—12 Madani activities

All day long—12 Madani activities

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيب صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّد

One weekly activity, out of 12 Madani activities, is a Madani visit

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ! The act of enjoining to do good and preventing from evils is incredibly a great job. Sayyiduna 'Ali-ul-Murtada كَرَّمَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى وَجْهَهُ الْكَرِيم narrated that the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: Jihad is of four types:

1. Enjoining to do good
2. Forbidding from the evil
3. Speaking the truth in the situation of patience
4. Bearing hatred towards transgressors.

(He then stated): The one who calls [people] towards righteousness, has strengthened the hands of true believers and the one who prevents from evil, has dishonoured the transgressors. (*Hilya-tul-Awliya*, vol. 5, pp. 11, *Hadees 6130*)

Furthermore, it is stated in another blessed Hadees that the Beloved Rasool ﷺ was humbly asked: Who is better amongst the people? He ﷺ replied: The one who has more fear of his Rab عزوجل, treats his relatives very well, enormously enjoins to do good and forbids from the evil. (*Shu'ab-ul-Iman*, vol. 6, pp. 220, *Hadees 7950*)

Let's listen to a Madani parable of a Madani Daurah (visit):

Madani parable

A Madani Qafilah of devotees of Rasool reached Kapadvanj (Gujarat, India). During the Madani Visit, Islamic brothers of the Madani Qafilah met a drinker. The devotees of Rasool made lots of individual efforts upon him. Impressed by the affection and love of the Islamic brothers wearing green 'Imamah, he immediately joined them. By the blessings of the company of the devotees of Rasool, he repented of his sins, grew a beard, adorned his head with a green 'Imamah and developed a mindset of wearing Madani dress. He was privileged to travel with the Madani Qafilah for 6 days, and made the intention to travel for further 92 days, but could not do so due to having insufficient travel expenses.

One day, he met one of his relatives. The relative was astonished to see that a notorious person of the society and a drinker had remarkably transformed, growing a beard and wearing a Madani dress with a green 'Imamah on his head. When he told his relative that it was all by virtue of the blessing of travelling with a Madani Qafilah and he also informed him of his firm intention to travel with a 92-day Madani Qafilah after managing his travel expenses, his relative responded, 'Don't worry about money. Not only will I pay your travel expenses of 92-day Madani Qafilah, but I will also bear the responsibility for your household expenses for 92 days.' In this way, the devotee travelled with a Madani Qafilah for 92 days.

یا خُدا! نکلوں میں مدنی قافلوں کے ساتھ کاش!
 سُنتوں کی تَرِیّت کے واسطے پھر جلد تر!
 خُوب خِدمت سُنتوں کی ہم سدا کرتے رہیں
 مدنی ماحول اے خُدا ہم سے نہ چھوٹے عُمر پھر

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! We were listening to the causes of laziness and heedlessness regarding repenting. Let's listen to some more causes:

Being disappointed due to abundance of sins

Unfortunately, some people have been committing grave sins like theft, murder, robbery and terrorism, etc. for a long time. Satan provokes the thought into their hearts: You will not be pardoned because you have committed grave sins or now it is difficult for you to find forgiveness. Being disappointed these people, who are deprived of Islamic knowledge, start committing sins more unhesitatingly and remain deprived of repentance. The solution to this problem is that such people are requested that they should not feel disappointed by the mercy of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ has said:

قُلْ يٰعِبَادِىَ الَّذِيْنَ اَسْرَفُوْا عَلٰى اَنْفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوْا مِنْ رَّحْمَةِ اللّٰهِ ۚ اِنَّ اللّٰهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوْبَ
 جَمِيْعًا ۚ اِنَّهٗ هُوَ الْغَفُوْرُ الرَّحِيْمُ ﴿٥٣﴾

Translation from Kanz-ul-Iman: Say you (O beloved), 'O my slaves (all Muslims are truly the slaves of Nabi Muhammad), those who have committed excess against their own souls (by committing sins), do not lose hope in Allah's mercy; indeed Allah forgives all sins; indeed He only is the Oft Forgiving, the Most Merciful. (Part 24, Surah Az-Zumar, Ayah 53)

How the mercy of Allah ﷺ surrounds a person can be judged by the following narration. The Beloved Rasool ﷺ has said: Allah ﷻ is far more affectionate towards His bondmen than a mother becomes affectionate towards her child. (*Sahih Muslim, pp. 1129, Hadees 6978*)

خَلَقْتَ جِبْ پَانِی کو ترسے رِمِ جِہمِ بَرکھا بَرسے
ہر اک پر رحمت کی نظر ہے یا اللہ یا اللہ
بخش دے تُو عطار کو مولیٰ واسطہ تجھ کو اُس پیارے کا
جو سب نبیوں کا سرور ہے یا اللہ یا اللہ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Having vain hopes for yourself

Dear Islamic brothers! Some people become the victim of the vain hope: *We have been privileged to have repented long time ago. Therefore, we don't need to repent.* The solution to this problem is that we should think that our Beloved Rasool ﷺ, who never had any kind of negative thought in his heart, would repent 70 times during the day. Therefore, we should also repent all the time. Repentance is a kind of worship; the more we repent, the more virtuous deeds will be recorded in our deeds and our status and rank will continue to be elevated and we will continue to receive Divine mercy.

Having bad company

Dear Islamic brothers! Some people enjoy the company of such people who commit sins abundantly. Such people neither repent of their sins nor let any of their friends to repent, but rather if someone does not have their company and goes to attend the Sunnah-inspiring Ijtima' of devotees of Rasool, or is privileged to travel with the Madani Qafilah for learning Sunnah and upon his return he calls them towards righteousness, so instead of encouraging this fortunate devotee of Rasool, they start discouraging him. It seems as if he made a mistake to leave the company of his bad friends. If he presents them the call towards righteousness, they make fun of him.

The solution to this problem is to have good company because every company has its effect. Pointing out towards the same thing the Beloved Rasool ﷺ has said, 'The example of a good and bad companion is like that of a musk-carrying person and the one blowing into a furnace. The musk-carrying person will either give you some gift or you will buy from him or you will have a rich fragrance from him, whereas the one blowing into the furnace will either burn your clothes or you will have foul smell from him.'

(Sahih Muslim, pp. 1414, Hadees 2628)

Introduction to 'Majlis Tawqee't'

Dear Islamic brothers! We should associate ourselves with the Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami in order to attain steadfastness in repentance of our sins. اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ, Dawat-e-Islami is serving in approximately 103 departments in order to propagate the call towards righteousness and spread Sunnah. One of these departments is 'Majlis Tawqee't' which has gathered the correct information about the timings of all five Salahs, timings of the sunset and sunrise and about the correct direction of the Qiblah in the form of a map.

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ! Majlis Tawqee't has not only prepared the maps showing timings of Salah of countless cities as per the rules and regulations of the knowledge of Tawqee't, but it has gone one step further, that is, it has introduced a software by the name of 'Awqat-us-Salat' in cooperation with Majlis IT of Dawat-e-Islami, a global non-political movement of preaching Quran and Sunnah, which is very useful in indicating the correct timings of Salah on computer and mobile phones, etc.

Through its computer [Desktop application], the correct timings of Salah and the direction of the Qiblah for 2,700,000 different locations and through its mobile applications the correct timings of Salah and the direction of the Qiblah for approximately 10,000 different locations around the world can be determined easily. If you have any kind of problem or suggestion about the system of timings, you can contact the members of this Majlis and responsible Islamic brothers on the phone numbers or the email address (prayer@dawatelslami.net) at the global Madani Markaz, Faizan-e-Madinah,

Bab-ul-Madinah, Karachi. One may also seek guidance in person during specific office hours of the Tawqee Maktab (office).

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! In today's speech, we have heard about performing Nafl worship in Sha'ban-ul-Mu'azzam, the importance of Shab-e-Bara'at i.e. the night of deliverance and about repentance.

- In this sacred month, the worshippers is privileged to get a share from the Du'as of innocent angels of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ.
- Our Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, from time to time, has also highlighted the importance of this month.
- He صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ did not only offer Nawafil and observe Siyam abundantly himself in it, but in order to persuade his Ummah [followers] to perform Nafl acts of worship abundantly and to wake them up to the fact he صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ also said: It is the month between Rajab and Ramadan of which people are heedless, however, the deeds of people are presented in them in the court of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ.
- The night of 15th Sha'ban is the most important night of this sacred month and it is called Shab-e-Bara'at i.e. the night of deliverance.
- On this night, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ frees people from the Hell equal to the number of the hair that grow on the goats of tribe Bani Qalb.
- Our pious predecessors رَحِمَهُمُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى would pay serious attention to the worship of this night.
- Sayyiduna Imam Hasan Mujtaba رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ would divide this night into three parts—one part he رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ would recite Salat-'Alan-Nabi, second part he رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ would repent abundantly, and in the 3rd part, he رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ would offer Nawafil.

- The fortunate person who worships during this night is considered to be amongst those who have attained closeness to Allah ﷺ.
- On the same night, very important matters like life and death, respect and insult, sustenance and many other matters are decided.
- Giving the mindset to especially worship during this night the Beloved Rasool ﷺ has said: Spend this night worshipping and observe Sawm during the day. That's why in this month, the blessed companions and the pious predecessors would perform Nafl worship themselves, and would also persuade Muslims to do so.

Therefore instead of destroying the sacredness or sanctity of the blessed night, harming the life and possessions of other Muslims by using fireworks and displeasing Allah ﷺ and the Beloved Rasool ﷺ we should repent sincerely of all the sins and worship a lot by doing Zikr and reciting Salat-'Alan-Nabi, the Holy Quran and performing other good deeds so that we can please Allah ﷺ and His Beloved Rasool ﷺ.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! In conclusion, I would like to take the opportunity to mention the excellence of Sunnah as well as some Sunan and manners. The Rasool of Rahmah, the Intercessor of the Ummah ﷺ has said, 'Whoever loves my Sunnah, loves me, and whoever loves me will be with me in Jannah.' (Ibn 'Asakir, vol. 9, pp. 343)

سینہ تری سُنَّت کا مدینہ بنے آقا
جَنَّت میں پڑوسی مجھے تم اپنا بنانا

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Sunan and manners of applying oil and combing hair

1. Sayyiduna Anas رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has said that the Holy Nabi صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would often oil the blessed head and comb the blessed beard and often put the cloth over blessed head, even that cloth used to remain dampened with oil. (*Ash-Shumaail-ul-Muhammadiyah*, pp. 40)

It has become obvious that the use of 'Sarband'¹ is Sunnah, Islamic brothers should wear a small piece of cloth over their heads whenever they oil their heads, by this, إِنَّ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ cloth cap and turban will remain protected from the oiliness to a large extent.

2. Saying of the Holy Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ: Whoever has hair, should respect it. (*Sunan Abi Dawood*, vol. 4, pp. 103, *Hadees* 4163) i.e. he should wash it, oil and comb.
3. Sayyiduna Naafi' رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated: Sayyiduna Ibn 'Umar رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا used to oil [his hair] twice a day. (*Musannaf Ibn Abi Shaybah*, vol. 6, pp. 117)
4. Before applying the oil, recite ﴿بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ﴾ and pour some oil onto the palm of left hand out of the bottle etc., then first oil the eyebrow of right eye, then of left eye, then eyelashes of right eye, then of left eye, and then oil hair. If oiling beard, begin with the hair grown between lower lip and chin.
5. Women must hide the hairs that fall while combing or washing, so that no stranger (i.e. the person to whom Nikah is not Haraam forever) could see them. (*Bahar-e-Shari'at*, vol. 3, part 16, pp. 449)
6. Begin with the right side while combing. Umm-ul-Mu'mineen, Sayyidatuna 'Aishah Siddiqah رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهَا has said: The Holy Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ liked to begin doing everything with the right side even wearing shoes, combing, and attaining purity. (*Sahih Bukhari*, vol. 1, pp. 81, *Hadees* 168)

¹ A piece of cloth put over head.

To learn various Sunan, obtain the following books, *Bahar-e-Shari'ah* part 16 comprising of 312 pages and *Sunnatayn aur Adaab*, comprising of 120 pages, both published by Maktaba-tul-Madinah, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami. One of the best ways to learn Sunan is to travel in the Madani Qafilahs of Dawat-e-Islami with the lovers of the Beloved Rasool.

عاشقانِ رسول، آئیں سنت کے پھول
دینے لینے چلیں، قافلے میں چلو

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

The 6 Salawaat-'Alan-Nabi and 2 Du'as that are recited in the Sunnah-inspiring weekly Ijtima' (congregation) of Dawat-e-Islami:



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

اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْاُمِّيِّ الْحَبِيْبِ
الْعَالِي الْقَدْرِ الْعَظِيْمِ الْجَاهِ وَعَلَى اٰلِهِ 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 Rasool ﷺ 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 Rasool ﷺ lowering him into the grave with his own merciful hands. *(Afdal-us-Salawat 'ala Sayyid-is-Sadat, pp. 151)*

2. All sins forgiven

اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى اٰلِهِ وَسَلِّمْ

It is narrated by Sayyiduna Anas رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ that the Beloved and Blessed Rasool ﷺ 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 اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

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

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

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ عَدَدَ
مَا فِي عِلْمِ اللَّهِ صَلَاةً دَائِمَةً بِدَوَامِ مُلْكِ اللَّهِ

Shaykh Ahmad Saawi عليه رحمه الله الهادي 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. (*Afdal-us-Salawat 'ala Sayyid-is-Sadat*, pp. 149)

5. Nearness to the Distinguished Rasool ﷺ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا تُحِبُّ وَتَرْضَى لَهُ

One day somebody came [to the blessed court of the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ], and the Noble Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ made him sit in between himself and Sayyiduna Abu Bakr Siddeeq 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 Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, ‘When he recites Salat upon me, he does so in these words.’ (*Al-Qaul-ul-Badi'*, pp. 125)

6. Durood-e-Shafa'at

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَانْزِلْهُ الْبَقْعَدَ الْمُقَرَّبَ عِنْدَكَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

The Greatest Rasool ﷺ has stated: The one who recites this Salat upon me, my intercession will become Wajib for him.

(Attargheeb Wattarheeb, vol. 2, pp. 329, Hadees 31)

1. Good deeds for 1000 days

جَزَى اللَّهُ عَنَّا مُحَمَّدًا مَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ

It is narrated by Sayyiduna Ibn 'Abbas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا that the Noble Rasool ﷺ 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, Hadees 17305)

2. An easy way to spend every night in worship

The following narration has been mentioned on page 187 of *Gharaib-ul-Quran*, 'If anyone recites the following Du'a three times at night it is as if he has found Layla-tul-Qadr.' We should recite it every night. Here is the Du'a:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْحَلِيمُ الْكَرِيمُ
سُبْحَنَ اللَّهِ رَبِّ السَّمَوَاتِ السَّبْعِ وَرَبِّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ

Translation: There is none worthy of worship except Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ Who is 'حَلِيم' and 'كَرِيم'. Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ is 'سُبْحَانَ', Rab of the seven skies and Rab of the magnificent 'Arsh.