

O Allah!

At Your Service

6-June-2024



Thought-provoking speech of weekly
sunnah-inspiring ijtimā

(for Islamic Brothers)

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

O Allah! At Your Service

وَعَلَى إِلَيْكَ وَأَصْحَبِكَ يَا حَبِيبَ اللَّهِ
وَعَلَى إِلَيْكَ وَأَصْحَبِكَ يَا نُبُوَّ اللَّهِ

نَوَيْتُ سُنَّتَ الْإِعْتِكَافِ

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

Dear Islamic brothers! Whenever you enter a masjid, make the intention of i'tikāf, for you shall continuously gain the reward of i'tikāf for as long as you stay inside. Normally, when we are in a masjid, Islamic law does not give permission for us to eat, drink, sleep, have suhūr or ifṭār, and not even to drink Zamzam water or the water on which dam has been made. Yet, if the intention of i'tikāf is made, all these actions will become permissible. One should not make this intention of i'tikāf only to eat, drink or sleep. This intention should instead be made to please Allah Almighty.

It is stated in Fatāwā Shāmī:

If someone wants to eat, drink or sleep in a masjid, he should make the intention to observe i'tikāf and perform the dhikr of Allah Almighty for some time. Then he may proceed as he wishes (i.e. now if he wants to eat, drink or sleep, he can do so).

Virtue of sending *ṣalāt* upon the beloved Prophet ﷺ

The mercy to the worlds, the final Prophet ﷺ said:

زَيِّنُوا مَجَالِسَكُمْ بِالصَّلَاةِ عَلَيَّ فَإِنَّ صَلَاتَكُمْ عَلَيَّ تُوَزُّ لَكُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

Beautify your gatherings by sending *ṣalāt* upon me because indeed, it will become light for you on the Day of Judgement.¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Intentions for the speech

The final Prophet ﷺ has stated, **أَفْضَلُ الْعَمَلِ النِّيَّةُ الصَّادِقَةُ** – “A truthful intention is the best action.”² O those who love Allah’s Messenger! Make good intentions before every action, as this can be a means of entering Paradise. Before listening to this speech, make good intentions. For example:

- I will listen to the entire speech to gain knowledge of Islam.
- I will sit in a respectful manner.
- I will not be lazy or inattentive during the speech.
- I will listen to the speech to reform and better myself.
- Whatever I hear and learn, I will try to convey to others.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Falling unconscious after reciting the *Talbiyyah*

Imam Zayn al-Ābidīn رضي الله عنه, the esteemed son of Imam Husayn رضي الله عنه, was a person of immense piety, devotion, and fear of Allah Almighty.

¹ Al-Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaghīr, p. 280, Hadith 4580

² Al-Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaghīr, p. 81, Hadith 1284

(The fear of Allah Almighty is of two types:

1. The fear of Allah Almighty's punishment and the fear of being held accountable for our sins. This is applicable to sinners like us.
2. The fear of Allah Almighty that the saints possess is the fear of Allah Almighty's secret plan, being distant from Him, and the removal of His blessings.)

Imam Zayn al-ʿĀbidīn رضي الله عنه possessed the second type of fear. Once, he wore the *iḥrām* to perform Hajj, and his face turned pale. He رضي الله عنه was overcome by the fear of Allah Almighty, and he was unable to recite the *talbiyyah* (i.e. لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَبَّيْكَ). The people asked why he was not reciting it, to which he replied, “I fear that when I say لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَبَّيْكَ, Allah Almighty will say لَا كَبَّيْكَ, i.e. that my presence is not accepted in His court.” The people responded, “It is necessary to recite the *talbiyyah* when you wear the *iḥrām*.” So, Imam Zayn al-ʿĀbidīn رضي الله عنه acted upon the Islamic ruling and recited the *talbiyyah*, but he was overwhelmed with the fear of Allah Almighty and fell unconscious. This continued to happen throughout the pilgrimage whenever he recited the *talbiyyah*, in Minā, ʿArafah and Ṣafā and Marwah.¹

May Allah Almighty have mercy upon Imam Zayn al-ʿĀbidīn رضي الله عنه and forgive us without accountability for his sake.

اٰمِيْنُ بِجَاهِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوْا عَلَى الْحَبِيْبِ

Desire to perform Hajj

O devotees of the Prophet! The days of Hajj are fast approaching, and

¹ Tārīkh al-Islam, vol. 3, p. 182

many fortunate people are preparing to perform the pilgrimage. They will be purchasing *ihrāms* and packing their necessities before they depart for the blessed journey. If only us sinners are blessed with an opportunity to perform Hajj, walk between Ṣafā and Marwah, stand in the plains of ‘Arafah, perform *qurbānī* in Minā, make *ṭawāf* of the Ka‘bah, and kiss the blessed black stone.

A practical demonstration of devotion to Allah Almighty

Dear Islamic brothers! Reflect! How beautiful is it that a man, the creation of Allah Almighty to whom Allah Almighty has given life and strength, wears the *ihrām* and acts upon His command. He travels to Makkah and recites the *talbiyyah* aloud, and declares through his actions:

O Allah Almighty! I am Your servant, and You are my Lord. O Allah Almighty! I am present in Your court. O the Most Merciful! You commanded me to perform *ṭawāf* of the Ka‘bah, and I obeyed. O Allah Almighty! You commanded me to stand in the plains of ‘Arafah; so, I left my home and travelled from afar to stand in ‘Arafah despite the severe heat. Visualise how beautiful this scene is and how someone expresses his love for Allah Almighty by reciting the *talbiyyah*.

Virtues of *talbiyyah* in light of sacred Aḥādīth

1. The beloved Prophet ﷺ said,

”مَا مِنْ مُلْكٍ يُلْبِي إِلَّا لَبَّى مَا عَنِ يَمِينِهِ وَعَنْ شِمَالِهِ مِنْ شَجَرٍ وَحَجَرٍ حَتَّى تَنْقُطَ الْأَرْضُ هَاهُنَا وَهَاهُنَا“

When someone recites the *talbiyyah*, all the trees and stones to his right and left, until the end of the earth, recite the *talbiyyah* too.¹

¹ Ṣaḥīḥ Ibn Khuzaymah, p. 601, Hadith 2634.

2. The beloved Prophet ﷺ said,

“Whoever wakes up in the state of *iḥrām*, and recites the *talbiyyah* until sunset, his sins are forgiven. He will be free of sin like the way his mother gave birth to him.”¹

3. The beloved Prophet ﷺ said, “Allah is pleased with three sounds before the angels:

- The *azan*.
- The *takbīr* in the way of Allah Almighty.
- Raising of the voice with *talbiyyah*.”²

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Reciting the *talbiyyah* on the Plain of Resurrection

Sayyidunā Wahb b. Munabbih رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ states that it is written in the Tawrah (the divine book revealed to Prophet Mūsā عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام):

On the Day of Judgement, Allah Almighty will give gold chains to 700,000 of His close angels. Allah Almighty will command them to bring the Ka‘bah with these gold chains to the Plain of Assembly. The angels will tie the Ka‘bah with the gold chains, and then one angel will say, “O Ka‘bah, proceed!”

The Ka‘bah will reply, “I will not go until my request is fulfilled.”

An angel will exclaim from the sky, “Ask! Your request will be fulfilled.”

The Ka‘bah will request in the court of Allah Almighty, “O Allah Almighty! Accept my intercession in favour of the believers buried in my vicinity.”

The Ka‘bah will hear the reply, “I have fulfilled your request.”

The deceased buried in Makkah will be raised and their faces will be bright. They will be gathered near the Ka‘bah in a state of *iḥram*

¹ Al-Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaghīr, p. 515, Hadith 8461

² Al-Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaghīr, p. 211, Hadith 3492

chanting the *talbiyyah*.

The angels will say, "O Ka'bah, now proceed! Your request has been heard."

The Ka'bah will reply, "I will not go until my request is fulfilled."

An angel will call out from the sky, "Ask and you will be granted."

The Ka'bah will plead, "O Allah Almighty! Your sinful slaves who came with passion to visit me from afar and perform Hajj, fulfilling Your command, covered in dust, having left their family, children and loved ones; I ask that You accept my intercession in their favour. Protect them from the fears of the Day of Judgement and gather them around me."

Allah Almighty will say, "I have accepted your intercession in their favour."

Then, the angel will announce, "Those who have seen the Ka'bah, separate from the others." Upon hearing this, everyone who saw the Ka'bah, and everyone who performed Hajj or 'Umrah will separate on the Plain of Resurrection and gather around the Ka'bah. Their faces will be bright, and they will perform *ṭawāf*, chanting the *talbiyyah* with no fear of Hell. An angel will then say, "O Ka'bah, now your request has been fulfilled, so proceed!" The Ka'bah will begin to chant the *talbiyyah* as the angels take it to the Plains of Assembly, and those who saw the Ka'bah in the world will be performing *ṭawāf* and reciting the *talbiyyah*.¹

O devotees of the Prophet! Reflect! These are the great blessings of reciting the *talbiyyah*. The Day of Judgement will be 50,000 years long, the scorching ground made of copper and the sun blazing a quarter of a mile overhead. Paradise and Hell will be before us and the *Sirāt* will be laid out, severity will be faced, and our deeds will be weighed. At that time, the people who saw the Ka'bah, performed *ṭawāf* and chanted the *talbiyyah* will be brought forth alongside the Ka'bah. They will be performing *ṭawāf* and reciting the

¹ Al-Rawḍ al-Fā'iḳ, p. 48

talbiyyah amidst the horrors of that Day.

May Allah Almighty grant us the opportunity to behold the sacred Ka‘bah, perform Hajj and ‘Umrah, recite the *talbiyyah*, travel between Şafā and Marwah, and stand in Minā and ‘Arafah.

اٰمِيْنُ بِجَاہِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّنَ صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم

صَلُّوْا عَلَی الْحَبِیْبِ صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَی مُحَمَّدٍ

Reciting the *talbiyyah* before every prayer

O devotees of the Prophet! The *talbiyyah* is usually recited after wearing the *ihrām*, but if we ponder over its meaning, there is no moment in our lives that we can spend without it. A Muslim is defined as someone who obeys the commands of Allah Almighty and His Messenger ﷺ. Therefore, Muslims must spend their lives with such passion and certainty that their hearts, minds, tongues, bodies, actions and thoughts are chanting the *talbiyyah*. When the Greatest Prophet ﷺ prayed during the night, he would recite the *talbiyyah*, and according to some narrations, he recited it before the obligatory prayers too.¹

Recite the *talbiyyah* every morning

The Prophet ﷺ taught Zayd b. Thābit رَضِيَ اللّٰهُ عَنْهُ a supplication and told him and his family to recite it daily. What was this supplication? The beloved Prophet ﷺ said:

قُلْ حِيْنَ تَصْبِحُ [O Zayd!] Recite this in the morning.

لَبَّيْكَ اَللّٰهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ وَسَعْدَيْكَ وَالْخَيْرِيْنَ يَدِيْكَ I am present. O Allah! I am present. I ask You for prosperity, and all goodness is in Your control.²

¹ Sharḥ Hadith Labbaik Allahumma Labbaik, p. 25

² Musnad Aḥmād, vol. 9, p. 26, Hadith 22290

We learn that the beloved Prophet ﷺ encouraged us to recite **لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ** everyday. It is not restricted to when we perform Hajj and ‘Umrah, so we should make a habit of reciting it with dedication, daily, to express our love and obedience to Allah Almighty.

The Meaning of the *talbiyyah*

‘Allāmah Ibn Rajab al-Hanbali رحمه الله عليه states regarding this Hadith:

The word **لَبَّيْكَ** appears twice in the sentence **لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ**. In the Arabic language, when a word is repeated, the meaning is repeated. So, the meaning of **لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ** would not be “O Allah! I am present” or “I am present today”, rather it would be “O Allah! Whenever You command me, I am present. I am always present. I will never disobey Your commands.”¹

‘Allāmah Ibn Rajab al-Hanbalī رحمه الله عليه further states:

When someone recites **لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ** every morning, as taught by the Greatest Prophet ﷺ, it means, “O Allah! I wake up in the state of accepting Your message. I obey Your command and refrain from that which You prohibit. I am steadfast in my obedience to You, and I fulfil Your commands swiftly.” After saying this, it is necessary to manifest this statement through your actions so that your speech and deeds do not contradict one another.²

The Commands of Allah Almighty and the response of the believers

O devotees of the Prophet! Reflect! The beloved Prophet ﷺ taught us to enthusiastically recite **لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ** in the court of Allah

¹ Sharh Hadith Labbaik Allahumma Labbaik, p. 23

² Sharh Hadith Labbaik Allahumma Labbaik, p. 26

Almighty every day. What has Allah Almighty commanded us to do? He states:

أَقِمْو الصَّلَاةَ

Establish the prayer (i.e. obligatory prayer).¹

How should we respond? كَبِّيكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَبِّيكَ. We are present, we are present.

Allah Almighty states:

وَأَتُوا الزَّكَاةَ

And give zakat.²

How should we respond? كَبِّيكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَبِّيكَ.

Allah Almighty says:

كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ

Fasting was made incumbent upon you.³

How should we respond? كَبِّيكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَبِّيكَ.

Allah Almighty commands:

أَدْخُلُوا فِي السِّلْمِ كَافَّةً

Enter Islam completely.⁴

¹ Al-Quran, part 1, Surah Al-Baqarah, verses 43; translation from Kanz al-ʿIrfān

² Al-Quran, part 1, Surah Al-Baqarah, verses 43; translation from Kanz al-ʿIrfān

³ Al-Quran, part 2, Surah Al-Baqarah, verses 183; translation from Kanz al-ʿIrfān

⁴ Al-Quran, part 2, Surah Al-Baqarah, verses 208; translation from Kanz al-ʿIrfān

How should we respond? كَيْبِكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَيْبِكَ.

Allah Almighty declares:

أَنْفِقُوا مِمَّا رَزَقْنَاكُمْ

Spend 'in the way of Allah,' from the sustenance that We provided you.¹

How should we respond? كَيْبِكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَيْبِكَ.

Our Lord orders:

اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ

Fear Allah as He should be feared.²

How should we respond? كَيْبِكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَيْبِكَ.

The Merciful states:

لَا تَأْكُلُوا الرِّبَا

Do not consume usury.³

How should we respond? كَيْبِكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَيْبِكَ.

Allah Almighty commands:

لَا تَكُونُوا كَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا

Be not like those who disbelieved.⁴

¹ Al-Quran, part 3, Surah Al-Baqarah, verses 254; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

² Al-Quran, part 4, Surah Aal-Imran verses 102; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

³ Al-Quran, part 4, Surah Aal-Imran verses 130; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

⁴ Al-Quran, part 4, Surah Aal-Imran verses 156; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

How should we respond? كَيْبِكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَيْبِكَ.

Allah Almighty states:

لَا تَأْكُلُوا أَمْوَالَكُمْ بَيْنَكُمْ بِالْبَاطِلِ

Do not consume the wealth of one another unlawfully.¹

How should we respond? كَيْبِكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَيْبِكَ.

Allah Almighty says:

أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ

Obey Allah and obey His Messenger.²

How should we respond? كَيْبِكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَيْبِكَ.

The Almighty orders:

أَوْفُوا بِالْعُقُودِ

Fulfil all oaths.³

How should we respond? كَيْبِكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَيْبِكَ.

Our Lord states:

أَذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ ذِكْرًا كَثِيرًا ﴿١٦﴾

Remember Allah with much remembrance.⁴

¹ Al-Quran, part 5, Surah Nisa, verse. 29; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

² Al-Quran, part 5, Surah Nisa, verse. 59; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

³ Al-Quran, part 6, Surah Al-Ma'ida, verse 1; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

⁴ Al-Quran, part 22, Surah Al-Ahzab, verse 41; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

How should we respond? **كَبِّيكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَبِّيكَ**.

Allah Almighty says:

وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا ۖ

And speak the true word.¹

How should we respond? **كَبِّيكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَبِّيكَ**.

Allah Almighty states:

لَا تَقْدَمُوا بَيْنَ يَدَيِ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ

Do not proceed before Allah and His Messenger.²

How should we respond? **كَبِّيكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَبِّيكَ**.

Allah the Exalted mentions:

وَتَبَتَّلْ إِلَيْهِ تَبْتِيلًا ۖ

And devote yourself to Him with absolute devotion.³

How should we respond? **كَبِّيكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَبِّيكَ**.

In summary, whatever Allah Almighty has commanded us to do and refrain from, we can express our obedience every morning by saying **كَبِّيكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَبِّيكَ**. O Allah Almighty! I submit to all your commands and refrain from that which is unlawful.

¹ Al-Quran, part 22, Surah Al-Ahzab, verse 70; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

² Al-Quran, part 26, Surah Al-Hujurat, verse 1; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

³ Al-Quran, part 29, Surah Al-Muzammil, verse. 8; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

We ask Allah Almighty to grant us the ability to recite this supplication every morning and to fulfil its requirements sincerely.

The Blessings of practically submitting to Allah Almighty

O devotees of the Prophet! Allah Almighty is our Lord. He created us and granted us life. We have the ability to see and hear because Allah Almighty has given us the blessings of eyes and ears. We are able to hold things because He gave us hands. He granted us the virtue of being able to breathe. He gave us the strength to walk. He laid the earth out for us and created the sky from which He sends rain and causes trees and fruit to grow. He has bestowed upon us blessings that are impossible to count. Allah Almighty granted us these blessings without us asking. Now imagine the bounties of the Merciful if we submitted to His commands.

Abandoning his Kingdom for the Pleasure of Allah Almighty

Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ is a famous saint of Allah Almighty, but he was a very wealthy man before he repented. According to some reports, he was the prince of Balkh. One day, he was near the palace when a man approached and tried to enter. He was asked, “Where are you going? Why have you come?” The man answered, “I am a traveller, and I have come to spend the night in this lodge.” The guards replied, “This is not a lodge. This is the prince’s palace.” The traveller asked who the palace belonged to, and he was informed that it belonged to Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ. “Who did it belong to before him?” he asked.

“His father.”

“And before him?”

“His father.”

“And before him?” he asked for the third time, and the guards gave the same answer. The traveller said, “This is exactly what happens at a travel lodge; someone arrives, and someone leaves.” Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ listened to the entire conversation, and this statement touched his heart. He followed the traveller and asked him who he was. The traveller answered, “I am Khidr (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ), and I have come to put you on the path of Allah Almighty (i.e. You were not created to be a prince and live your life in sin and pleasures. I was sent to bring you closer to Allah Almighty).”

Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ was ready to adopt the path of righteousness, but only after settling his matters in the palace first. Sayyidunā Khidr عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ replied, “No, your issues are not as urgent as this, and it will take a long time to relieve yourself of your worldly duties. So, come with me instead.” After that, Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ followed Sayyidunā Khidr عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ towards a jungle, and they met a shepherd along the way. Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ gave him the expensive clothes he was wearing and wore the ragged clothes of the shepherd instead before entering the jungle.¹

Dear Islamic brothers! This is the moment Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ said لَيْتَكَ اللَّهُمَّ كَيْتَكَ with his actions. He decided to live for the purpose he was created, worshipping Allah Almighty, performing good deeds, and working towards the Hereafter. What did he gain from doing this?

Fish brought golden needles

Shaykh Farīd al-Dīn ‘Aṭṭār رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ states:

One day, Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ was sitting on the shore of the river Tigris patching his clothes. A man approached

¹ Saba‘ Sanābil, pp. 221-222

him who knew Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ as a prince before he lived a life of ascetism and devotion to Allah Almighty. He saw Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ patching his clothes and said, “O Ibrahim! What have you gained from abandoning your kingdom? You owned lavish clothes but now you have one garment that is old and torn. What have you gained from leaving the many servants you had at your disposal?”

Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ threw his needle into the river and said, “O fish! Find my needle and give it to me.” Upon saying this, many fish appeared at the surface of the water with golden needles in their mouths. He said, “No, not these; give me my needle.” Then one fish appeared with his needle. Sayyidunā Ibrāhīm b. Adham رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ took it and said, “I left my kingdom and gained this.”¹

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

The Mercy of Allah Almighty descends

O devotees of the Prophet! When a person sincerely recites the *talbiyyah*, abandons everything for the pleasure of Allah Almighty, obeys His commands, refrains from what He prohibited, and adopts a life of righteousness, Allah Almighty grants him vast blessings. A Hadith Qudsī in Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī states:

إِنْ تَقَرَّبَ إِلَى بَشِيرٍ تَقَرَّبْتُ إِلَيْهِ ذَرَاعًا

If someone comes one span nearer to Me, I go one cubit nearer to him.

¹ Tadhkirat al-Awliyā', p. 82

وَأِنْ تَقَرَّبَ إِلَيَّ ذِرَاعًا تُقَرَّبُ إِلَيْهِ بِأَعَا

If he comes one cubit nearer to Me, I go a distance of two outstretched arms nearer to him.

وَأِنْ أَتَانِي يَمْشِي أَتَيْتُهُ هَرْوَلَةً

If he comes to Me walking, I go to him running.¹

When someone takes a small step towards pleasing Allah Almighty, the mercy of Allah Almighty hastens towards him. When an individual takes a yard towards a life dedicated to pleasing Allah Almighty, the mercy of Allah Almighty advances towards him at a greater pace. As he continues to please Allah Almighty, it is as if the mercy of Allah Almighty runs towards him. How fortunate is the individual who sincerely strives to live a life solely for the pleasure of Allah Almighty!

Allah Almighty says to His People

Allah Almighty makes an announcement to his slaves every day. It is full of lessons for us, so listen to it carefully. ‘Allāmah Ibn Rajab al-Ḥanbalī رحمه الله عليه reports that Allah Almighty makes this announcement every day:

إِبْنِ آدَمَ! مَا أَنْصَفْتَنِي

O son of Adam! You are unjust to Me.

أَذْكُرُّكَ وَتَنْسَاَنِ

I remember you, but you forget Me.

وَأَدْعُوكَ إِلَىٰ وَتَذْهَبُ إِلَىٰ غَيْرِي

¹ Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī, Kitāb al-Tawḥīd, p. 1787, Ḥadīth 7405

I call you towards Me, but you go towards others.

وَأَذْهَبُ عَنْكَ الْبَلَايَا وَأَنْتَ مُعْتَكِفٌ عَلَى الْخَطَايَا

I remove your difficulties, but you are insistent upon sin.

مَا اِعْتَذَارُكَ غَدًا إِذَا جُئْتَنِي

What will be your excuse tomorrow when you meet Me [on the Day of Judgement]?¹

Dear Islamic brothers! This call is a warning for us. If only we understood it and worked towards bettering our spiritual condition. Make an intention to recite the Prophetic supplication daily in the morning:

لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ وَسَعْدَيْكَ وَالْخَيْرُ فِي يَدَيْكَ

I am present. O Allah! I am present. I ask you for prosperity, and all goodness is in Your power.

Recite this supplication regularly, reflect upon its meaning, and act upon it. Show your obedience to Allah Almighty by performing good deeds, obeying His commands and submitting yourself to Him. May Allah Almighty grant us the ability to act upon this.

اٰمِيْنُ بِجَاہِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّنَ صَلَّی اللّٰهُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم

صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلٰی مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوْا عَلَی الْحَبِیْب

¹ Sharh Hadith Labbaik Allahumma Labbaik, p. 27

Encouragement for Pious Deed 43

Dear Islamic brothers! Islam teaches us about spiritual and physical purity. Therefore, we must ensure our bodies, clothes, *imāmahs*, shoes, cars, homes, streets and environment are clean. In particular, have a bath or perform ablution, apply fragrance and wear good clothes before entering the masjid with the intention of honouring the place of worship. This will allow you to pray with focus and humility **إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ**. In order to improve your religious condition, affiliate yourselves with the environment of Dawat e Islami and participate in the 12 activities of the zeyli halqa. Pious deed number 43 from the Pious Deed booklet states:

Do you observe cleanliness, and are you mannerly? (Cleanliness here means keeping your body, clothes, house, place of work and things used there neat and clean. Mannerly means being punctual, not banging doors unnecessarily at home or when sitting in your own or someone else's car, putting something back at its place at your home, educational institute, office or someone's house, which you had permission to pick up, etc.)

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Madani Qafilah Department

Dear Islamic brothers! As time goes by, the state of Muslims continues to decline. The passion to pray is dwindling, and the destruction of sins is spreading into our homes and ruining the future of the upcoming generation. Due to these troubling times, it was necessary for the compassionate members of the ummah to travel to different villages, cities and countries to guide people. This is why Dawat e Islami created the Madani Qafilah department.

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ! The Madani Qafilah department has initiated a system through which we can invite people towards righteousness. Thousands of Islamic brothers travel with the Madani Qafilah, and through the blessings of this, non-Muslims accept Islam, sinners are given guidance, the masājid are populated, and society strives towards performing good deeds and bettering themselves.

صَلُّوْا عَلَی الْحَبِیْب صَلَّی اللّٰهُ عَلَی مُحَمَّدٍ

Sunan and etiquettes of wearing a ring

Dear Islamic brothers! Here are some sunan and etiquettes of wearing a ring taken from the book *163 Madani Pearls* written by Mawlana Muhammad Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri دامت برکاتہم العالیہ.

- The Greatest Prophet صَلَّی اللّٰهُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم forbade men from wearing a gold ring.¹
- It is forbidden for a boy to wear jewellery made of gold and silver, and the one who makes him wear it, is sinful.²
- Iron rings are the jewellery of the dwellers of Hell.³

صَلُّوْا عَلَی الْحَبِیْب صَلَّی اللّٰهُ عَلَی مُحَمَّدٍ

Announcement

The remaining sunan and etiquettes of wearing a ring will be taught in the study circles. Please do participate in them.

¹ Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhari, vol. 4, p. 67, Hadith 5863

² Bahār-e-Sharī‘at, vol. 3, p. 428; Durr al-Mukhtār wa Radd al-Muḥtār vol. 9 p. 598

³ Sunan al-Tirmidhī, vol. 3, p. 305, Hadith 1792

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

The 6 Duroods and 2 Du'as that are recited in the Sunnah-inspiring weekly Ijtimā' (congregation) of Dawat-e-Islami



1. The Durood for the night preceding Friday

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

The saints of Islam have quoted that whoever recites this Durood 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.¹

2. All sins forgiven

اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَسَلِّمْ

It is narrated by Sayyiduna Anas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ that the Beloved and Blessed Rasool ﷺ has stated, 'Whoever recites this Durood upon

² Afdal-us-Salawat 'ala Sayyid-is-Sadat, p. 151

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.’¹

3. 70 Portals of mercy

صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Whoever recites this Durood, 70 portals of mercy are opened for him.²

4. The reward of 600,000 Duroods

اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ عَدَدَ
مَا فِي عِلْمِ اللّٰهِ صَلَاةً دَائِمَةً بِدَوَامِ مُلْكِ اللّٰهِ

Shaykh Ahmad Saawi رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْهِ reports from some saints of Islam that the one reciting this Durood once receives the reward of reciting Durood 600,000 times.³

5. Nearness to the Distinguished Rasool ﷺ

اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا تُحِبُّ وَتَرْضٰى لَهُ

One day somebody came [to the blessed court of the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم], and the Noble Rasool صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم made him sit in between himself and Sayyiduna Abu Bakr Siddeeq رَضِيَ اللّٰهُ عَنْهُ. The respected companions رَضِيَ اللّٰهُ عَنْهُمْ were surprised as to who that honoured

¹ Ibid, p. 65

² Al-Qaul-ul-Badi', p. 277

³ Afdal-us-Salawat 'ala Sayyid-is-Sadat, p. 149

person was. When he had left, the Beloved Rasool ﷺ said, 'When he recites Durood upon me, he does so in these words.'¹

6. Durood-e-Shafa'at

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَ أَنْزِلْهُ الْبَقْعَدَ الْمُقَرَّبَ عِنْدَكَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

The Greatest Rasool ﷺ has stated: The one who recites this Durood upon me, my intercession will become Wajib for him.²

1. Good deeds for 1000 days

جَزَى اللَّهُ عَنَّا مُحَمَّدًا مَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ

It is narrated by Sayyiduna Ibn 'Abbas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ 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.'³

2. An easy way to spend every night in worship

The Holy Prophet ﷺ said, 'If anyone recites the following Du'a three times at night it is as if he has found Layla-tul-Qadr.' Here is the Du'a:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْحَلِيمُ الْكَرِيمُ

¹ Al-Qaul-ul-Badi', p. 125

² Attargheeb Wattarheeb, vol. 2, p. 329, Hadith 31

³ Majma'-uz-Zawaid, p. 254, vol. 10, Hadith 17305

سُبْحَنَ اللَّهُ رَبِّ السَّمَوَاتِ السَّبْعِ وَرَبِّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ

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

Halqa schedule for weekly Ijtimā' - overseas - 6th Jun 2024

Teaching sunnahs and manners – **5 minutes**

Memorising dua – **5 minutes**

Summary – **5 minutes**

15 minutes in total

Remaining sunan and etiquettes of wearing a ring

- Men are permitted to wear a ring which is masculine, i.e., with one gem. If it has more than one gem, it is impermissible for men to wear, even if it is made of silver.¹
- It is impermissible to wear a 'ring' that does not have a gem, as it is a band and not a ring.
- Whoever is wearing a metal bracelet, metal ring without a gem, an impermissible ring, or a metal chain should remove it, repent and promise to never wear it again.

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

¹ Radd Al-Muhtar, vol. 9, p. 597

Supplication for protection against kufr and poverty

According to the schedule of Dawat-e-Islami's weekly Sunnah-inspired gathering, the supplication for protection against kufr and poverty will be taught. It is as follows:

اَللّٰهُمَّ اِنِّ اَعُوْذُبِكَ مِنَ الْكُفْرِ وَالْفَقْرِ وَعَذَابِ الْقَبْرِ¹

O Allah, I seek refuge in you from disbelief, poverty, and the punishment of the grave.²

صَلُّوْا عَلَی الْحَبِیْب صَلَّی اللّٰهُ عَلَی مُحَمَّد

Method of collective Fikr-e-Madinah (72 Pious Deed)

Saying of the Beloved Rasool صَلَّی اللّٰهُ عَلَیْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم: Pondering (over the Hereafter) for a moment is better than the worship of 60 years.³

Let's make good intentions' before filling in the Pious Deed booklet:

1. To please Allah Almighty, I will carry out today's Fikr-e-Madinah (i.e. self-accountability) myself through the Pious Deed booklet and persuade others as well.
2. I will praise (i.e. thank) Allah Almighty for the Pious Deed which I practised.
3. I will regret the Pious Deed which I did not practise and try to act on them in the future.

¹ Sunan Al-Nisae`, p. 231, Hadith 1344

² Madani Panj Surah, p. 222

³ Al-Jami'-us-Sagheer, p. 365, Hadith 5897

4. Allah Almighty forbid, if I have not acted on any such Pious Deed which saves a person from the sins, I will make a firm intention of not committing sin in the future, along with making repentance and Istighfar.
5. I will not reveal my good deeds without need (for example, I act on such and such or these many Pious Deed).
6. I will act afterwards or tomorrow on the Pious Deed which can be practised afterwards (for example, one did not recite Durood upon the Holy Nabi ﷺ 313 times today).
7. I will try to achieve the actual aim of filling in the Pious Deed booklet (for example, Divine fear, piety, correcting manners, progress in the Madani activities, etc.).
8. I will fill in the Pious Deed booklet (i.e. carry out Fikr-e-Madinah) tomorrow as well.
9. I will not consider it a usual formality but fill in the Pious Deed booklet while pondering.

Mark the boxes given below with a 'correct (i.e. inverted tick)' sign for the Pious Deed you have practised today and mark them with a '(0) sign' in case you have not practised them.

Attention: Carry out Fikr-e-Madinah while keeping an eye on your own Pious Deed booklet only.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

How to do collective accountability - 72 Pious Deeds

The 56 daily Pious Deeds

1. Made good intentions?
2. Offered all five Salahs with congregation?
3. Invited others to Salah before every Salah?
4. Recited or listened to Surah al-Mulk at night?
5. Recited Aaya-tul-Kursi, Tasbih-e-Fatimah and Surah Al-Ikhlâs after every Salah?
6. Read or listened to three verses of Kanz-ul-Iman or two pages of Siraat-ul-Jinaan with translation and commentary?
7. Recited the Wazaaif of the Shajarah?
8. Recited Salat upon the Prophet 313 times?
9. Protected eyes from sins?
10. Protected ears from sins?
11. Kept gaze lowered while saving yourself from unnecessary glances?
12. Read a reforming book of Maktaba-tul-Madina for 12 minutes?
13. Replied to Azaan and Iqamah?
14. Cured your anger?
15. Reflected upon your actions?
16. Obeyed your Nigran?
17. Conversed in a respectful manner?

18. Studied or taught in Madrassa-tul-Madina Baalighan?
19. Arrived home within two hours of Isha Jumu'ah?
20. Spent two hours on religious works?
21. Awoke others for Fajr Salah?
22. Refrained from peering into others' homes?
23. Did home Dars take place?
24. Delivered or listened to Masjid Dars?
25. Wore clothes in accordance to Sunnah?
26. Are you complying with the Sunnah of keeping tresses?
27. Do you have a fist-length beard?
28. Immediately repented upon committing a sin?
29. Ate according to Sunnah?
30. Gave Salam to Muslims?
31. Acted upon some Sunnahs?
32. Offered the preceding Sunnahs of Zuhr Salah before the Faraaid?
33. Offered Tahajjud or Salah-tul-Layl?
34. Offered Awwabeen or Ishraq and Chasht?
35. Offered the preceding Sunnahs of 'Asr or 'Isha?
36. Gave encouragement for one religious work from the 12 religious works?

37. Refrained from asking others for things and using them?
38. Saved yourself from lying, backbiting and tale-telling?
39. Watched Madani Channel for at least some time?
40. Refrained from forming personal friendships?
41. Paid back debt on time?
42. Refrained from speaking such words of humility that were not in conformity with your heart?
43. Maintained cleanliness and decorum?
44. Concealed the faults of Muslims?
45. Delivered or attended the circle of Quranic commentary after Fajr Salah?
46. Recited 'بِسْمِ اللَّهِ' before some permissible works?
47. Delivered or listened to Chowk Dars?
48. Conveyed reward to your parents and spiritual guide?
49. Avoided Israaf (wastage)?
50. Abided by the laws of traffic?
51. Resolved issues in accordance to the organisational procedure?
52. Saved yourself from the sins of tongue?
53. Refrained from unnecessary speech?
54. Avoided joking, mocking, taunting, hurting others' feelings and laughing out loud?

55. Wore 'Imamah?

56. Respected your parents?

Record of Qufl-i-Madinah

- Communicating through writing - **12 times**
- Communicating through gestures - **12 times**
- Conversing without looking into the other's eyes - **12 times**

Weekly 10 Pious Deeds

57. Sent at least one Islamic sister from your home to the Weekly Ijtimah of Islamic sisters?
58. Watched or listened to the Weekly Madani Muzakarah?
59. Attended the Weekly Ijtimah from beginning till end?
60. Conducted the holiday I'tikaf?
61. Inquired after an ill person or sympathised with a grieved person, and offered condolences on someone's death?
62. Fasted on any day of the week?
63. Read or listened to the weekly booklet?
64. Performed area visit?
65. Persuaded an Islamic brother, who would once attend but no longer attends, to join the religious environment?
66. Took part in the weekly Madani Halqah?

Monthly 3 Pious Deeds

67. Submitted last month's booklet of Pious Deeds to your Nigran?
68. Travelled in at least a 3-day Madani Qafilah this month?
69. Rendered financial help to a Sunni scholar this month?

Yearly 1 Pious Deed

70. Travelled in a 1-month Qafilah this year according to the schedule?

Lifelong 2 Pious Deeds

71. Have you read the lifetime syllabus?
72. Did you travel in an uninterrupted 12 month Madani Qafila? Did you complete various educational courses?

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

The Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah's prayer

Ya Allah Almighty! The one who sincerely acts upon Pious Deed, fills in the booklet by performing Fikr-e-Madinah daily and submits it to his relevant responsible Islamic brother on the 1st of every calendar month, do not give him death until he recites the Kalimah.

اٰمِيْنُ بِجَاہِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّنَ صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ