

Blessings of
Rabi-ul-Awwal

05-September-2024



Thought-provoking speech of weekly
sunnah-inspiring ijtima
(for Islamic Brothers)

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

Blessings of Rabī' al-Awwal

وَعَلَىٰ إِلِكِ وَأَصْحَبِكَ يَا حَبِيبَ اللَّهِ
وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ

وَعَلَىٰ إِلِكِ وَأَصْحَبِكَ يَا نُورَ اللَّهِ
وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا نَبِيَّ اللَّهِ

نَوَيْتُ سُنَّتَ الْإِعْتِكَافِ

I make intention of Sunna *i'tikāf*

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 suḥūr 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.

It is mentioned 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 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).

The excellences of ṣalāt upon the Prophet

The final Prophet of Allah, our master Muhammad ﷺ declared:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَكَلَّ بِقَبْرِىَ مَدَكَ أَعْطَاهُ أَسْمَاءَ الْخَلَائِقِ فَلَا يُصَلِّىَ عَلَيَّ أَحَدٌ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ إِلَّا أَبْلَغَنِى بِأَسْمِهِ وَأَسْمِ
 آيِبِهِ هَذَا فُلَانُ بْنُ فُلَانٍ قَدْ صَلَّى عَلَيْكَ

Indeed, Allah has stationed an angel at my grave, to whom He granted the ability to hear all of creation. Nobody recites ṣalāt upon me until the Day of Judgement except it presents the name of the reciter and his father to me; It says “This is so-and-so, child of so-and-so. He has sent ṣalāt upon you.”¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Intentions for the speech

The final Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ stated, أَفْضَلُ الْعَمَلِ الْبَصَادِقَةُ – “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

Dear Islamic brothers! Rabi' al-Awwal is the third glorious month in the Islamic calendar. Allah filled this month with goodness, mercy, blessings, and bounties. It is also lovingly referred to as the month of the Mawlid.

¹ Majma' al-Zawā'id, vol. 10, p. 251, hadith 17291

² Al-Jāmi' al-Ṣaghīr, p. 81, hadith 1284

This is because in this month, a one-of-a-kind personality was born, who was sent by Allah as a mercy for all worlds, and for whom the Universe itself was decorated. This illustrious personality is none other than our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

All the merits and virtues this month has were given to it for the sake of the final Prophet's birth. Let us now listen to a description of this month and the immense blessings it has. Let's also look at how our pious elders رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِمْ celebrated the Mawlid. We'll also look at what good deeds we can do in this time and how we should spend this sacred month in general.

May Allah grant us the ability to listen to this speech with complete attentiveness and good intentions. آمِينَ

Dear Islamic brothers! Why did this month acquire the many virtues it has? Imam Zakariyyā b. Muhammad b. Maḥmūd al-Qazwīnī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ explains:

This is the holy month in which Allah opened the doors of goodness and prosperity upon the people of the world, for the sake of the presence of the Prophet ﷺ. On the 12th of this very month, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ was born.¹

The reason behind its name

Dear Islamic brothers! Indeed, the blessings given to Rabīʿ al-Awwal were not given to any other month. Now, a question may arise: what does Rabīʿ al-Awwal mean? Listen closely to the following answer:

Rabīʿ is a name for springtime, which falls between winter and summer. Arabs would term the onset of spring as Rabīʿ al-Awwal. Greenery sprouts and flowers bloom in this time. The same Arabs also referred to the time in which fruit began to grow, as Rabīʿ al-ʿĀkhir.

When months were given their names, the two months after Ṣafar

¹ 'Ajā'ib al-Makhlūqāt, p. 68

were named in accordance with the season that occurred during them; Rabīʿ al-Awwal and Rabīʿ al-Ākhir.¹

Dear Islamic brothers! Without any doubt, if the final Prophet ﷺ did not enter this world, there would be no Eid, no Laylat al-Barā'ah, and no Universe or any of its splendour. In fact, the splendour of all creation was given to it for the sake of the Prophet ﷺ.

The 12th of this month is especially distinguished, as the beloved Prophet's miraculous birth took place on this date.²

This is why Muslims hold gatherings on this date and earn the mercy of Allah. Come! Let's listen to a story regarding this.

Illumination of the angels

The hadith expert, Shāh Waliullah رحمه الله عليه writes:

I once attended a Mawlid gathering that takes place on the 12th Rabīʿ al-Awwal, when I was in Mecca. This was held annually at the Prophet's exact birthplace. As soon as his miraculous birth was mentioned, I saw light beginning to rise from the gathering. I contemplated as to what they were, and concluded they were lights of divine mercy and radiance emitted by the angels that attend such gatherings.³

صَلُّوا عَلَيَّ الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! This shows how when it comes to Mawlid gatherings; mercy descends upon them, radiance showers down like rain, angels of mercy join, and even cover attendees with their wings!

Allah is pleased with those who celebrate the Mawlid and He bestows his bounties upon them.

Commemorating the Mawlid, arranging and participating in Mawlid

¹ Lisān al-'Arab, vol. 1, p. 1435

² Laṭā'if al-Ma'ārif, p. 104

³ Sirat-i-Muṣṭafā, pp. 72-73

gatherings, decorating one's home and car with lighting and flags, performing a multiplicity of good deeds in Rabīʿ al-Awwal, and reciting ṣalāt upon the Prophet in abundance during it; these are amazing ways to earn unimaginable reward and acquire forgiveness.

Drawing from this, we should form a habit of sitting attentively and respectfully whenever we attend a Sunna-inspired gathering, when we watch a Madani Muzakara, or any other time the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ is mentioned.

Dear Islamic brothers! Allah declares in the Quran:

وَتَعَزُّوهُ وَتُقَدِّرُوهُ

support him (the Messenger), revere him.¹

In *Tafsīr Širāṭ al-Jinān*, it is mentioned regarding this:

This is visible evidence Allah wants His Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ to be revered and respected to an immense degree. This is a matter of steep sensitivity and critical importance. In this verse, Allah clarifies how revering and respecting the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ is a matter which takes precedence, even above phrases of divine glorification.

Those who revere the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ after becoming believers have been declared as successful by Allah Himself:

فَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِهِ وَعَزَّرُوهُ وَنَصَرُوهُ وَاتَّبَعُوا النُّورَ الَّذِي أُنزِلَ مَعَهُ ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ ﴿١٥٢﴾

so those who believe in him (the Prophet) and honour him, and help him, and follow the light which was revealed with him; it is they who are successful.”²

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

¹ Al Quran, Al-Faḥ, part 26, verse 9; translation from Kanz al-ʿIrfān

² Al Quran, Al-Aʿrāf, part 9, verse 157; translation from Kanz al-ʿIrfān

O those who love the month of the Mawlid! We were just discussing to the blessings and virtues of Rabi' al-Awwal. What can be said of them! This month has a special connection to the greatest of all creation, the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. This means this month is completely unique, and its 12th night is sacred to an unexplainable extent.

On its 12th night, we sinners received the greatest mercy of Allah, in the form of the final Prophet ﷺ. We should express gratitude and joy upon this mercy. In fact, Allah Himself has commanded us to express joy upon receiving divine mercy:

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

Say, "Only with the Grace of Allah and His Mercy they should rejoice; this is better than that which they amass."¹

Mufti Ahmad Yār Khan Na'imī رحمه الله عليه comments on this verse by saying:

Allah ordained for His beloved to issue people glad tidings, and to also instruct them to express joy upon receiving grace and mercy from Allah.

This entails us to always express joy and happiness regarding this throughout the year, but particularly at times in which we are granted divine bestowal.

For example, the grace of Allah we were given in Ramadan was the Quran, so we must express joy regarding this during that month. Similarly, in Rabi' al-Awwal, the final Prophet ﷺ was born on its 12th day. This grace and mercy or rejoicing upon them is better than all the worldly things we have gathered, be it wealth, homes, animals, land, or even children etc.

The benefit of this rejoicing is not just personal but extends to the entire Umma. Said benefit is also not transient but everlasting and

¹ Al Quran, Yūnus, part 11, verse 58; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

applies to both this world and the Hereafter. It is not restricted to the body, but also permeates the heart and soul. It is never squandered, and one earns reward for it. ¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Rabīʿ al-Awwal, and especially its 12th date, is an extremely auspicious time. On that day, the darkness of polytheism and oppression was banished forever. Light and happiness spread in every direction.

Archangel Jibrīl عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ planted a flag upon the roof of the Kaʿbah. The palace of Chosroes, the king of Iran, was shaken by an earthquake and had cracks appear in it. A fire stoked by the Persians in their temple for 1000 years suddenly extinguished by itself. By the command of Allah, the doors of the skies and heaven were opened, and Satan was humiliated.

As for those who love the Prophet, the 12th of Rabīʿ al-Awwal is the biggest of Eids, which is higher in rank than even Laylat al-Qadr.

Shaykh ʿAbd al-Ḥaqq al-Dīhlawī رَحِمَهُ اللهُ وَعَلَيْهِ states:

The night in which the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was born is superior to Laylat al-Qadr. This is because the night in which the miraculous birth occurred marks the arrival of the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ in this world, whereas Laylat al-Qadr was a night granted to him. The night distinguished by being the night in which the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ arrived in this world, harbours more honour than the night in which angels descend.²

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

O those who love Allah’s Messenger! Staying within the bounds of Islamic law,

¹ Tafsīr Naʿīmī, Yūnus, part, 11 verse 58; summarized

² Mā Thabata bi-Sunna, p. 153

we should make special arrangements and spend this day (the 12th), and in fact, all Rabīʿ al-Awwal performing pious deeds. Alongside obligatory salah, offer voluntary prayers in this month, such as *tahajjud*, *ishrāq*, *ḍuḥā* and *awwābīn*. Recite the Quran in abundance, give charity, invite believers to righteousness, and save them from sin.

Also, travel in Madani Qafilahs and take others with you. Attend the weekly Sunna-inspired gatherings and watch the special Madani Muzakaras that take place in the first 12 days of Rabīʿ al-Awwal.

Plan for voluntary fasting

Dear Islamic brothers! There is no guarantee concerning our lives. We do not know when our breathing will cease and our actions will come to an end. We should not let any opportunity to perform good deeds pass us by. By the grace and mercy of Allah, we have been granted another opportunity to witness the sacred month of Rabīʿ al-Awwal.

Appreciating every day of it, we must perform as many good deeds as possible. To please Allah and earn His mercy, and with the intention of presenting the reward we will earn to our Prophet ﷺ, keep 12 voluntary fasts from the first of this month up to the 12th. Attempt to fast on the 12th, as our Prophet ﷺ would fast Mondays to commemorate his birth.

The Companion Abū Qatāda رضى الله عنه states: “Allah’s Messenger ﷺ was about fasting on Monday, to which he replied, ‘That was the day in which I was born and when revelation was sent to me.’”¹

O those who love Allah’s Messenger! Certainly, a true sign somebody loves the Prophet ﷺ, is when a person discards his love for this world and follows the Prophet’s way and example in absolutely every matter of life.

An example of this can be found in the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah, Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri دامته بركاته العالمة. He fasts the 12th of Rabīʿ al-Awwal and every Monday also. He also encourages his murids and those who are inspired by

¹ Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim, p. 455, hadith 2750

him, to do the same. We should not only fast the 12th ourselves, but out of loving memory of the Prophet ﷺ, to convey our reward to him as a humble gift, and out of gratitude to Allah for this great blessing, we should invite our families, relatives, and friends to do so as well. If we do this, we will acquire huge blessings in this world and the Hereafter.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Remember and recall the beloved

Dear Islamic brothers! Love of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is the foundation of our faith. A sign of love is to mention who you love profusely. A narration explains, مَنْ أَحَبَّ شَيْئًا أَكْثَرًا ذَكَرَهُ – “Whoever loves something mentions it often.”¹

We should remember the Messenger of Allah ﷺ all year long, mention him, and express our love for him in our speech and actions. This should be accentuated and increased during the days of Rabi' al-Awwal. A great means of achieving this is to recite ṣalāt upon the Prophet in huge numbers, and there are countless benefits that come with this.

The benefits of sending ṣalāt upon the Prophet

Through sending ṣalāt upon the Prophet, our hearts become pure, we attain blessings in our sustenance, we will cross the Bridge of Sirāt bridge with ease and be blessed with the intercession of the Prophet ﷺ himself. Ensure to recite an abundance of ṣalāt in this blessed month.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Increasing in voluntary salah

Dear Islamic brothers! We were just talking about good deeds we can do in

¹ Al-Jāmi' al-Ṣaghīr, p. 507, hadith 8312

Rabi' al-Awwal. In this month, we must do that which takes us closer to Allah and His Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. An excellent means of achieving this is to perform many voluntary units of salah. Due to this, our pious elders رَحِمَهُمُ اللهُ would perform an abundance of voluntary units alongside the obligatory.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Madani Muzakara and Mawlid procession

O those who love the Mawlid! Alongside the other good deeds we can perform in this month, try and watch the daily Madani Muzakarabroadcast on Madani Channel from the 1st to the 13th of Rabi' al-Awwal, and the Mawlid procession prior to them. Also:

- Arrange for Madani Channel to be watched in your homes in these days, so that all members of your household benefit from the blessings of the Mawlid.
- Rejoice in the Mawlid alongside what is broadcast on Madani Channel and seek the knowledge given out in the Madani Muzakarabroadcast.
- Reply to the slogans raised in the broadcast Mawlid procession, raise your flags, and wholeheartedly take part. You shall earn immense reward, benefits, and blessings.
- Special gatherings in which Allah and His Messenger are praised, should be arranged for the first 12 days of Rabi' al-Awwal.
- Arrangements should also be made to decorate one's home during this time. Students of Jamia and Madrassat al-Madina should especially ensure to do this.
- Arrange to note down questions and answers when viewing Madani Muzakarabroadcast; your knowledge will grow as a result.

Madani Muzakara: One of the 12 Islamic Activities

- Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَةِ is a great religious personality of this age. Every Saturday, he conducts a Madani

Muzakaraa after 'ishā' salah. Muslims from across the world ask questions related to Quran, hadith, Islamic law, and a host of other subjects. This is broadcast live on Madani Channel.

- The Madani Muzakara itself is an excellent means of correcting one's beliefs and actions.
- **لَا يَكْفُرُ اللَّهُ** even disbelievers have embraced Islam due to watching it.
- A huge number of people began offering their salah after watching it.
- Thousands of hearts have been rectified.

You should also participate in Madani Muzakarah. **إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ** You will gain Islamic knowledge, and begin to love Allah and His Messenger **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** more. You will also begin to hate sin, gain a deep-rooted passion for good deeds, and find your character becoming ever more beautiful.

Make intention to watch the Madani Muzakarah every week. If you wish, participate by watching it with all your family. Or if there is a prior arrangement to watch it at an Islamic brother's home, one may do so collectively. **إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ** We will attain steadfastness in this good action.

Reward for celebrating the Mawlid

Shaykh 'Abd al-Haqq al-Dīhlawī once said:

Those who rejoice on the night in which the Prophet **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** was born; these individuals shall be rewarded with entry into Jannat al-Na'īm by the grace of Allah. Muslims have always arranged Mawlid gatherings, extended invitations out of happiness during this occasion, arranged for food, and gave charity in abundance during it. They arranged for the Prophet's birth to be celebrated and mentioned. Due to these good deeds, Allah sent His mercy upon them.¹

Within the limits of Islamic law, we too should happily spend this month performing good deeds, arranging Mawlid gatherings, waving flags, taking part

¹ Mā Thabata bi-Sunna, p. 155

in Mawlid processions, and giving charity. If Allah wills, we will earn unimaginable blessings.

Dear Islamic brothers! Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri **دامت بركاتهم العالمة** wrote a letter addressed to all those who celebrate the Mawlid, in which he outlined important matters. Let us look at some of them.

Points from the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah's letter

1. Make the following announcement 3 times in the masjid when the moon is sighted: "Congratulations, the moon of Rabīʿ al-Awwal has been sighted!"
2. Every Islamic brother, including responsible brothers, should travel on a Madani Qafilah for at least three days in this month. Islamic sisters should deliver a lesson at home (in front of Islamic sisters and *maḥram* males only) daily in this month. They should also make intention to continue this thereafter.
3. If a flag has an image of the Green Dome, the Prophet's blessed sandal, or or sacred words, one must ensure it does not tear or descend to the floor. If the correct manners cannot be maintained, plain flags without these images should be used (I place plain flags upon my home).
4. If possible, distribute 12 copies of the book *The Dawn of Blessings*, after purchasing them from Maktabat al-Madina. Give this literature particularly to the heads of companies who organise lighting displays, gatherings, and processions, during Rabīʿ al-Awwal.
5. Spend the 12th night of Rabīʿ al-Awwal in the Mawlid gathering and welcome the dawn of blessings; flag in hand and with eyes full of tears. Immerse yourself in sending ṣalāt upon the Prophet during this time. Embrace and congratulate one another after Fajr salah and continue doing this throughout the day.
6. The beloved Prophet **صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** would commemorate his birth by fasting every Monday. You too should fast on the 12th of Rabīʿ al-Awwal and participate in a Mawlid procession. As much as possible, remain in a

state of ablution and travel in the procession with eyes lowered. Avoid actions that may become a cause of criticism.

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

7 points concerning praying in congregation

Dear Islamic brothers! Let us listen to 7 points from the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah's written Madani Muzakarah, in which he discusses offering salah in congregation.

1. If one fears prolonged sleep, he should not use a pillow or mattress. Sleeping without a pillow and mattress is Sunna.
2. Before sleeping, keep the heart attached to the thought of prayer in congregation, as sleep in a state of concern is not heedless.
3. Eat the night meal early, so that the effects produced by the food dissipate and do not lead to lengthy sleep.
4. The best treatment is to eat less. Eating to a full stomach and then expecting to stand in prayer for the entire night, is like trying to find a needle in a haystack. Whoever eats a lot, drinks a lot. Whoever drinks a lot, sleeps a lot. Whoever sleeps a lot loses much goodness.

Announcement

More points concerning praying in congregation will be mentioned in study circles; please do participate in them to learn more!

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

The 6 ṣalāt upon the Prophet and 2 duas recited in the sunnah-inspired weekly gatherings of Dawat-e-Islami



1. The ṣalāt for the night preceding Friday

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

Saints of Islam have quoted, that whoever recites this ṣalāt upon the Prophet at least once on the night between Thursday and Friday on a regular basis, then as they are passing away, they will be blessed with a vision of Allah's beloved Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. They will even see him when they are being buried, to the extent they will see him lowering them into the grave with his own merciful hands.¹

2. All sins forgiven

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَسَلِّمْ

The Companion Anas صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ narrates, that Allah's Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ stated, "Whoever recites this ṣalāt upon me whilst standing, then prior to him sitting; and if he recites it whilst sitting, then before he stands, his sins will be forgiven."²

3. 70 doors of mercy

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

70 doors of mercy are opened for whoever recites this.³

¹ Afḍal al-Ṣalawāt 'alā Sayyid al-Sādāt, p. 151

² Ibid, p. 65

³ Al-Qawl al-Badī', p. 277

4. The reward of 600,000

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

Shaykh Aḥmad Sāwī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ reports from some saints of Islam, that by reciting this ṣalāt once, a person attains the reward of reciting ṣalāt 600,000 times.¹

5. Being close to the Prophet ﷺ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا تُحِبُّ وَتَرْضَى لَهُ

Once, a person came to the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. Amazingly, the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ made this person sit between himself and Sayyiduna Abū Bakr Ṣiddīq رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ.

The Companions رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ were surprised as to who this honoured person was. When he left, the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ explained, “When he recites ṣalāt upon me, he does so in these words.”²

6. The ṣalāt of intercession

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَ أَنْزِلْهُ الْمَقْعَدَ الْمُقَرَّبَ عِنْدَكَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

The final Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: “My intercession becomes wājib

¹ Afḍal al- Ṣalawāt ‘alā Sayyid al-Sādāt, p. 149

² Al-Qawl al-Badī’, p. 125

for whoever recites ṣalāt like this.”¹

1. Good deeds for 1000 days

جَزَى اللَّهُ عَنَّا مُحَمَّدًا مَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ

The Companion ‘Abdullah Ibn ‘Abbās رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا narrates; the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ stated, “Seventy angels write good deeds for a thousand days, for whoever recites this.”²

2. An easy way to spend every night in worship

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

The final Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “Whoever recites this dua three times; it is as if he attained Laylat al-Qadr.”³

Halqa schedule for weekly gathering - overseas - 05th September 2024

Teaching Sunnas and manners – **5 minutes**

Memorising dua – **5 minutes**

Summary – **5 minutes**

15 minutes in total

¹ Al-Targhīb wa al-Tarhīb, vol. 2, p. 329, hadith 30

² Majma‘ al-Zawā'id, vol. 10, p. 254, hadith 17305

³ Tarīkh Ibn ‘Asākir, vol. 19, p. 155, hadith 4415

Remaining points concerning praying in congregation

5. If one can only pray for a short time at night, he should do so. For example, having offered 'ishā prayer and fallen asleep even for a while, one can arise at any time in the night and offer two complete units of salah. Even if this falls inside the first half of the night, it will be considered as tahajjud. For example, if one offered 'ishā at 9pm, slept, and arose at 10pm to offer two units, this would be regarded as tahajjud.
6. One should supplicate to Allah for the ability to participate in the congregation and have firm reliance in Him. Allah will certainly aid you when you have pure intention and sincere resolve.

وَمَنْ يَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ فَهُوَ حَسْبُهُ^ط

And whosoever places his trust in Allah, then He is sufficient for him.¹

7. Arrange for a reliable person in your household or other than them to awaken you prior to the congregation.

If someone acts upon these seven points and goes sleep, he will be protected from missing the congregational prayer **رَبَّنَا صَلِّ عَلَيْنَا**. If it happens that one day, one's eyes do not open, the person appointed to awaken you forgets or oversleeps himself (as happened with Sayyiduna Bilāl **رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ**), your excuse will be **masmū'**. This means, after all these precautions, if you do not awaken and miss the salah, you will not be sinful. It is also hoped that one will receive the reward of participation in the congregation, due to his preparation and sincere intention.²

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dua for entering the mercy of Allah

In accordance with the schedule of Dawat-e-Islami's Sunna-inspired weekly

¹ Al-Quran, Al-Talāq, part 28, verse 3; translation from Kanz al-'Irfān

² Fatāwā Riḍawīyah, vol. 7, pp. 88-91 Selected

gathering, we will now learn a dua. This week, we will learn a dua we can recite to enter the mercy of Allah. It is as follows:

(اللَّهُمَّ رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِإِخْوَتِي وَأَدْخِلْنَا فِي رَحْمَتِكَ وَأَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّاحِمِينَ ﴿١٥١﴾)

O my Lord! Forgive me and my brother and make us enter Your mercy, and You are the most Merciful of the merciful.²

(Recite ṣalāt upon the Prophet once before and after reciting this, and recite it every prayer)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

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

The Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “Contemplating (over the Hereafter) for a moment is better than worshipping for 60 years.”³

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

1. To please Allah, 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.
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

¹ Al-Quran, Al-A'rāf, part 9, verse 151

² Faizān-i-Duā, p. 253

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

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 عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

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-Ikhlās 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 Wazaif 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 Qufi-i-Madina

- 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 Ijtima of Islamic sisters?
58. Watched or listened to the Weekly Madani Muzakarah?
59. Attended the Weekly Ijtima 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?

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah's prayer

O Allah! The one who sincerely acts upon Pious Deed, fills in the booklet by performing self-accountability 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 خَاتِمِ النَّبِيِّنَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوْا عَلَی الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلٰی مُحَمَّدٍ