



Lailatul Qadr (Night Of Power)

In the name of **Allah**, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

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“Seek Lailatul Qadr in the odd-numbered nights of the last ten nights of Ramadan,” said the Prophet sallallahu `alayhi wa sallam.

What is Lailatul Qadr?

Lail means “night” “Qadr” is a Proper Noun, so Lailatul Qadr is Night of Qadr. Qur’an tells us “Lailatul Qadr is better than a thousand months.” Better than 1000 months. Better than 30,000 days? Better than 83 years? Notice the word “better” It is better than 83 years, not equivalent. How much better, that only Allah knows.

What is it about Lailatul Qadr that makes it so special?

Again, we refer to Qur’an for that. “We have indeed revealed this (Qur’an) in the Lailatul Qadr.” In Lailatul Qadr, the Almighty Creator Allah revealed His final message Qur’an, to the Best of all Creations our Beloved Prophet, for the Best Ummat of all Ummats the Muslims, and the Message was revealed in the Best Month Ramadan, in the Best nights of all nights — Lailatul Qadr. Think about this comparison, in Lailatul Qadr when everything is at its best, the Divine Mercy of Rabbil A’lameen is also at its best, and in all honesty it is this very perfection and eagerness of Divine Mercy which makes this night better than 3 thousand nights.

The sincere believer who worries day and night about his sins awaits patiently Lailatul Qadr. During it he hopes to be forgiven by Allah for his past sins, because the Prophet promised that whoever stood in prayer on the night of Al-Qadr, in faith and hoping for a reward from Allah, he will have all of his previous sins forgiven. To achieve this, the believer remembers the Prophet’s advice in different sayings wherein he used words like “seek”, “pursue”, “search” and “look hard” for Lailatul Qadr.

There is a difference of opinion as to when actually the Lailatul Qadr occurs. But there is no doubt that it is one of the odd numbered nights in the last 10 days of Ramadan. Some scholars do believe that the probability of Lailatul Qadr is on the 27th of Ramadan, but there is no way to be sure of it. Hence it



is best to do ibaadat in all the nights without actually trying to “catch” Lailatul Qadr. It is not essential for the one who “catches” Lailatul Qadr to know that he has “caught” it. The point is to strive hard and to be sincere in worship, whether or not one knows that one has “caught” it. It may be that some of those who do not know may be better in sight of Allah and higher in status than those who did know which night it was, because the former struggled harder than the latter.

The dua: **“Allahuma innaka ‘afuwwun karimun tuhibbul ‘afwa fa ‘afu anni Ya Ghafoor”** O Allah! You are the Most Forgiving and Most Gracious! You love to forgive, so forgive my errors and sins, oh Forgiver of sins.

Lailatul Qadr is the most blessed night. Peace descends in Lailatul Qadr until dawn. It may be that you may leave the Masjid after Fajr one day without realizing that you have been forgiven by Allah the Most Merciful. A person who misses it has indeed missed a great amount of good.

2nd Article:

A Simple Format for Ibadah on these Lailatul Qadr (Night Of Power) Nights

Our Beloved Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam has mentioned,

“Indeed your Lord has reserved certain special moments in time (during which he emits abundant/special mercy). So be sure to avail yourselves for these opportunities.” (Majma’uz Zawaaid)

We are usually aware of the significant occasions that present themselves each year. The crucial thing is how do we “avail ourselves” and maximise our benefit from these blessed nights?

Here under is a suggested format for “What to do on Blessed nights?”

1. Offer Esha & Fajr Salah in congregation.

Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam) said,

“One who performs Esha in congregation gets the reward of spending half the night in worship. And he who follows that up with the Fajr Salah in congregation, will be as if he has stayed up all night in Ibadah.” (Muslim; Abu Dawood)

2. Sleep in the state of wudhu



Hafidh Ibn Hajar Rahimahullah has mentioned a reliable narration that states: “The soul of one who sleeps with wudhu makes sajdah (prostrates) at the ‘Arsh of Allah.” **(Fathul Baari)**

Imagine our souls making sajdah at the throne of our Creator on a night like Laylatul Qadr!

3. Abstain from sin

It's not logical to fill the bucket when it has a hole...

One should specifically free the heart of any ill-feelings or malice towards fellow Muslims. (See here for “how to clean the heart” of such ailments)

4. Clear your heart from ill-feelings towards fellow Muslims.

The Ulama state that those who harbour ill-feelings are deprived of Allah's mercy and forgiveness on occasions like these.

5. Salatut Tasbeeh

This is very strongly recommended due to its huge reward. See here for a detailed article on its authenticity, and here for the format of Salatut Tasbeeh.

6. Taubah

Since the purpose of the turning to Allah on these nights is precisely to attain forgiveness from Allah, this act is a fundamental on such occasions.

The procedure for Taubah is:

- a. Perform two Rakaats of Salaah. (Optional)
- b. Stop the sin that one is repenting from.
- c. Regret the sin from the bottom of your heart.
- d. Make a determined pledge with Allah never to repeat that sin. Besides the two Rakaats of Salah, the remainder are all fundamental.

Furthermore, if the sin involved usurping the right of the next person, one needs to ask him/her for forgiveness too. Without this we are not guaranteed forgiveness.

If that person has passed away, we could make Dua for him and repay the debt (if any) to his heirs.

7. Zikr

There are many forms of zikrullah. I would suggest the following:

A hundred times “Laa ilaah illallah”

A hundred times repeating the name of “Allah”

And a hundred times:

“Subhaanallahi wabihamdihi subhanallahil ‘Azeem”

The reason for the third one is the following:

Rasulullah Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam said,

1. *“He who recites this one hundred times will have all his sins forgiven even if it be equal to the foam of the ocean.”* **(Sahih Bukhari)**

2. “These words are beloved to Allah Ta’ala, easy on the tongue and weighty on the scales (of deeds on Qiyamah).” **(Sahih Bukhari)**

8. Salawat on Rasulallah Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam

If it was not for our beloved Nabi Alayhi Salatu WaSalam, we would not have these Blessed occasions. Therefore we cannot afford moments like these to pass without remembering him. In Fact by doing so we ourselves benefit.

One Hadith states:

“He who sends salutations upon me once, Allah Ta’ala sends ten salutations upon him.” **(Muslim)**

9. Tilawat (Recital) of Quran

This is considered the best form of Zikr. One could recite even a quarter juz or just the Masnoon Surahs that are to be recited every night. Like Surah Waqi’ah, Mulk, Sajdah, Yaseen etc.

10. Dua

“Dua is the essence of Worship” and hence cannot be omitted when we engage in worship. More so on occasions when Almighty Allah accepts Duas such as on the night of Qadr. One should spend a lengthy duration in begging from Allah, as we are all in need of it. In light of the current world crisis, do remember our oppressed brethren around the globe.

On the night of Qadr the following Dua should also be repeated as taught by Rasulallah Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam to his beloved wife Sayyidah Aisha Radhiyallahu Anha:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوفٌ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

“Allahumma innaka ‘afuwwun tuhibbul ‘afwa fa’fu ‘Anni”

O Allah! You are indeed Most Forgiving, so forgive me.

Note 1: The night commences at Maghrib, not after Esha or after Taraweeh or at Sehri time. Therefore one can and should commence Ibadah from Maghrib, although it is indeed best to do so at the last part of the night.

Note 2: These are mere suggestions intended to make it easy for people. One may engage in whatever form of Ibadah one is comfortable with.

May Allah Ta’ala grant us all complete forgiveness and steadfastness on guidance. Ameen.

Deeds of the Prophet Muhammad (saw) during the last ten days of Ramadan

The Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) used to do specific deeds during the last ten days of Ramadan that he did not do at any other time of the same month. My Muslim brother and sister, we will mention the guidance of the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) during the last ten days of Ramadan.

Deeds of the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) during the last ten days of Ramadan:

Firstly: ‘A’ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, said, “The Messenger of Allah sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) used to strive hard (in worship) during the last ten days of Ramadan in a way that he did not strive at any other time.” [Muslim]

He sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) also used to stay awake, spending the night in prayer, supplicating Allah Almighty, seeking His forgiveness, and the like, as it was narrated that ‘A’ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, said, “When the last ten days of Ramadan came, the Messenger of Allah sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) –would stay up at night, wake up his family (to pray), strive hard, and tighten his waist belt.” [Al-Bukhari and Muslim]

Her phrase, “tighten his waist belt,” is a metaphor for keeping away from women (i.e. abstaining from sexual relations) and occupying himself with worship.

The mother of the Believers ‘A’ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, also said, “The Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) used to mix the (first) twenty (days of Ramadan) with prayer, fasting, and sleeping. However, when the last ten came, he strove hard and tightened his waist belt.” [Ahmad]

Secondly: The Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) during the last ten days of Ramadan, used to wake up his family for prayer, thikr (remembrance of Allah Almighty), and supplicating Him. He was



keen on making the most of these special, blessed nights, as it was narrated that 'A'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, said, "When the last ten days of Ramadan came, the Messenger of Allah sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) would stay up at night, wake up his family, strive hard, and tighten his waist belt." [Al-Bukhari and Muslim]

The Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) used to knock at the door of Fatimah and 'Ali, may Allah be pleased with them, during the night, saying, "Do you not get up to pray?" [Al-Bukhari and Muslim]

Thirdly: The Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) used to observe i'tikaf (ritual seclusion in the mosque) during the last ten days of Ramadan, as it was narrated that 'A'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, said, "The Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) used to observe i'tikaf for ten days every Ramadan, and in the year in which he passed away, he observed i'tikaf for twenty days." [Al-Bukhari]

Doing i'tikaf means staying in the mosque to worship Allah Almighty. It is one of the recommended acts affirmed by the Book of Allah Almighty and the Sunnah of His Messenger sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention). In this effect, Allah Almighty says (what means): {And do not have relations with them as long as you are staying for worship in the mosques.} [Quran 2: 187]

It was narrated that Abu Hurayrah, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "The Messenger of Allah sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) used to observe i'tikaf for ten days every Ramadan, and in the year in which he passed away, he observed i'tikaf for twenty days." [Al-Bukhari]

Allah Almighty prescribed i'tikaf so that a Muslim individual can be away from anything that might divert his heart from worshiping Him, the Almighty.

Therefore, one who observes i'tikaf should occupy himself with thikr, reciting the Quran, praying, worshiping, and avoiding all worldly matters that cannot help him.

Fourthly: The Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) used to seek Laylat Al-Qadr (the Night of Decree) during these last ten nights. Allah Almighty named this night thus because it has great value, honor and status to Him, the Exalted. Also, it is because so many sins are



forgiven and so many faults are concealed during this night, and the decrees of Allah Almighty are decreed and written down on this same night.

Allah Almighty has given this night special characteristics that make it unique:

1- It is the night in which the Quran was revealed. The Quran implies guidance to all of humanity and their happiness in the life of this world and the Hereafter. It is the everlasting miracle. Allah Almighty says (what means): {Indeed, We sent the Quran down during Laylat Al-Qadr (i.e. Night of Decree).} [Quran 97: 1]

2- Allah Almighty described it as being better than a thousand months (i.e. more than eighty years). Allah Almighty says (what means): {Laylat Al-Qadr is better than a thousand months.} [Quran 97: 3]

3- Allah Almighty described it as being blessed (i.e. has many blessings and goodness), as Allah Almighty says (what means): {Indeed, We sent it down during a blessed night.} [Quran 44: 3]

4- On this night, the angels and Ar-Rooh descend, meaning that many angels descend on this night because it is so blessed that they come down when Allah's goodness, blessings and mercy come down.

Ar-Rooh is Jibreel (i.e. Gabriel), may Allah exalt his mention, who is specifically mentioned in this manner as a sign of respect for him and showing his great status. Allah Almighty says (what means): {The angels and the Spirit descend therein by permission of their Lord for every matter.} [Quran 97: 4]

5- This night is described as peace (i.e. it is safe) because Shaytan (Satan) cannot do any evil or cause any harm on this night. It is also safe for the believers from all fears because many people are saved in it from Hellfire and punishment, as Allah Almighty says (what means): {Peace it is until the emergence of dawn.} [Quran 97: 5]

6- About it, Allah Almighty says (what means): {On that night is made distinct every precise matter.} [Quran 44: 4]

This means that on Laylat Al-Qadr, the decrees are transferred from Al-Lawh Al-Mahfooth to the (angelic) scribes who write down the decrees of the (coming) year including life spans, provisions and what will happen to the people and the like. The saying of Allah Almighty (what means): {On that night is made distinct every precise matter} means the perfect and most correct



Commands of Allah Almighty, which have no misguidance, defects, foolishness, or falsehood for they are the determination of the Exalted in Might, the Knowing.

7- Allah Almighty forgives the previous sins of the one who stays up and prays during this night out of faith and in hope of earning the reward from Him, as the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, "Whoever stays up during Laylat Al-Qadr out of faith and in the hope of earning reward, all his previous sins will be forgiven." [Al-Bukhari and Muslim]

8- Allah revealed a complete soorah (a chapter of Quran), which will be recited among people until the Day of Resurrection, concerning this night.

In which night will Laylat Al-Qadr be?

It will be in the month of Ramadan because Allah Almighty revealed the Noble Quran in it, and He, the Exalted, said that He revealed the Quran in the month of Ramadan, saying (what means): {The month of Ramadan [is that] in which was revealed the Quran...} [Quran 2: 185]

It will be in the last ten days of Ramadan, as the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, "Seek Laylat al-Qadr in the last ten days of Ramadan." [Al-Bukhari and Muslim]

It is more likely to be one of the odd-numbered nights as the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, "Seek Laylat al-Qadr in the odd-numbered nights of the last ten days of Ramadan." [Al-Bukhari]

It is more likely to be in the last seven days, meaning the night of the twenty-fifth, the twenty-seventh, or the twenty-ninth for the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, "Seek it in the last ten nights, and if any of you are weak or unable to do so, then let him not miss the last seven." [Muslim]

Also, the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, "It seems that your dreams agreed that it is one of the last seven nights so let whoever wants to seek it seek it in the last seven nights." [Al-Bukhari and Muslim]

It is most likely to be on the night of the twenty-seventh. It is the opinion of the majority of the scholars because of the hadith narrated by Ubay ibn Ka'b, may Allah be pleased with him, in which he said, "By Allah, I do know which night it



is. It is the night in which the Messenger of Allah sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) commanded us to pray (qiyam). It is the night the morning of which is the twenty-seventh.” [Muslim]

Also, the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, “Laylat Al-Qadr is the night of the twenty-seventh.” [Ahmad and Abu Dawood]

Ibn Hajar, An-Nawawi, and some other scholars may Allah have mercy upon them viewed that Laylat al-Qadr changes and does not come on a specific night each year. Thus, it may be on the night of the twenty-seventh one year while on the twenty-fifth in another according to the Will and Wisdom of Allah Almighty, for the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, “Seek it in the last ten days of Ramadan when there are nine days left, seven days left, or five days left.” [Al-Bukhari]

The wisdom behind concealing this night is that Allah Almighty wants His slaves to strive in seeking it and strive hard in prayer, thikr, and supplication so that they may draw closer to Him, the Exalted.

Signs of Laylat Al-Qadr:

There are signs by which Laylat Al-Qadr is known that the Messenger of Allah sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) mentioned:

The first sign: It is a pleasant night that is neither hot nor cold, as the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, “Laylat Al-Qadr is a pleasant night, neither hot nor cold, and in the following day the sun rises red and weak.” [Ibn Khuzaymah]

The second sign: Light and brightness will be great, and hearts will be happy on this night, more than on any other night. The wind will be calm, and no meteors will be seen in it, for the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, “Laylat Al-Qadr is a bright night, neither hot nor cold, in which no meteors are seen.” [Ahmad]

The third sign: The sun will rise on the following morning having no (visible) rays (i.e. it will be pure), unlike what it is usually like on other days for the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, “On the morning following Laylat Al-Qadr, the sun rises, not having any rays, as if it were a brass dish, until it rises up.” [Muslim]

What should a Muslim do in it?



One should stay awake in it to perform Tahajjud (night prayer), for the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, "Whoever stays up during Laylat Al-Qadr out of faith and in the hope of earning reward, all his previous sins will be forgiven."

One should also do a great deal of supplication on this night, especially the supplication of 'A'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, when she asked the Prophet sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) "If I witness Laylat Al-Qadr, what should I say in it?" He sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) said, "Say, O Allah, You are Forgiving and Generous, and You love forgiveness, so forgive me."

Moreover, one should do a great deal of reciting the Quran, thikr, and seeking forgiveness. O you, may Allah have mercy upon you, strive hard in seeking this night for this is the due time for seeking it, and beware of negligence for it implies all loss.

In conclusion:

O Allah, include us among those who fasted this month properly, attained the goodness of Laylat Al-Qadr, and attained the great reward. O Allah, guide us to make the most of goodness, raise our degrees, and render us successful in this month with a great share, You hear and are responsive, O, Most Merciful of the merciful. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon our Prophet Muhammad sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention) and his household and his Companions.