

Night before EID (Laylatul Jaa'izah)

Rasulullah sallallahu alayhi wasallam said,

‘On the last night of Ramadhaan the fasting Muslims are forgiven.’ The Sahaabah radiyallahu anhum inquired,

‘O Rasulullah sallallahu alayhi wasallam, is that the night of power(LAILATUL QADR)?’

Rasulullah sallallahu alayhi wasallam replied,

‘No! But it is only right that a servant should be given his reward on having completed his duty’ [Ahmad]

Hazrat Ibn Abbas(radhiyallahu anhu) says in a lengthy hadith, that he heard Rasullullah (sallallahu alaiyhi wassallam) say:

“And the night of Eid-ul-Fitr, the night that is called **Laylatul Jaa'izah**, (The night of prize giving), comes along. On the morning of Eid Allah sends down the Malaa'ikah to all the lands of the earth where they take their positions at access points of roads, calling out with a voice that is heard by all except man and jinn. “O Ummah of Muhammad (sallallahu alaiyhi wassallam) come forth from your houses towards a Lord that is noble and gracious, who grants much and pardons the major sins”.

When they proceed towards the places for their Eid salaah, Allah says to the Malaa'ikah: “What indeed is the reward of that employee who had rendered his services?” The Malaa'ikah replies, “O Lord and Master, it is only right that he should receive his reward in full for his services”. Allah then says, “I call you to witness, O My Malaa'ikah, that for their having fasted during the month of Ramadhaan, and for their having stood before Me in prayer by night, I have granted to them as reward My pleasure and have granted them forgiveness. O My servants ask now of Me, for I swear by My honour and My greatness, that whatsoever you shall beg of Me this day in this assembly of yours for the needs of the Hereafter, I shall grant you; and whatsoever you shall ask for worldly needs, I shall look at you favourably. By My honour I swear, as long as you shall obey My commands, I shall cover your faults. By My Honour and My Greatness do I swear that I shall never disgrace you among the evil-doing ones and disbelievers. Depart now from here, you are forgiven. You have pleased Me and I am pleased with you.

The Malaa'ikah on seeing this great reward bestowed by Allah upon the ummah of Muhammad(sallallahu alaiyhi wassallam) on the day of Eid-ul-Fitr



become greatly pleased and happy”. [Targheeb, also a similar hadith reported by Anas (radhiyallahu anhu) in Bayhaqi]

It had been the practice of the Prophet, Sall-Allahu alayhi wa sallam, that he would not sleep in the night preceding the day of Eid-ul-fitr. This night has been named in a Hadith as the Night of Reward (Lailatul Jaiza). Almighty bestows his rewards on those who have spent the month of Ramadan abiding by the dictates of Shari’ah, and all their prayers in this night are accepted. Therefore, it is desirable to perform nafl prayers in this night.

The Prophet, Sall-Allahu alayhi wa sallam, is reported to have said:

Whoever stands up (in worship) in the nights preceding the two Eids expecting rewards from his Lord, his heart will not die when the other hearts will die. (Ibn Majah)

To benefit from this opportunity, one should perform as much worship in this night as he can, and should pray for all his needs and desires.