

IMPORTANCE OF THE NIGHT OF QADR' - THE NIGHT OF POWER. - Exerts from Maulana Sadiq Hassans Majalis -

If you look back, you'll notice that every momeen goes through many problems and hardships during the year. Some experience problems in rizq, some in health and some in their personal and family lives.

When some of us are in these situations, we constantly look for a way out, a solution of some sorts (ie. taawiz)

But if on this night (of Qadr) , we clear our hearts, concentrate, and pray to Allah, it is said, the problems that lay ahead for the year, will dissipate. It is said, on this night everything is being written about the coming year. (example...)

- Who will get sick during the year
- Who will have to go through trials and tribulations,
- Which man or women will pass away
- Who is going to be blessed with the opportunity to go to hajj

All these and more are being forecasted for us on this night until Salaat –ul – Fajr. This is our chance to repent and pray to ALLAH (S.A.W) to be favorable towards us in his decisions.

Of course the convenient choice is available to sleep and ignore the powers of this night. Or to rush through the amaals, as a yearly ritual. The choice is definitely ours. However are we ready to take that chance – and not being an active participant in molding of our future year?

There are many things that should be done on this night. Sources say, three hold a stronger weighting.

1. Giving Charity – (Sadakaah).

Giving Charity (Sadakaah) is highly recommended in Islam. Many of us give charity in the name of ALLAH (S.A.W.) on a daily basis, to re-direct and miss-fortunes that might fall upon us during the day.

Giving charity on the night of Qad'r, is even more important. It is said giving charity on this night helps re-direct calamities and miss-fortunes for the coming year.

2. Praying for others – first

Many a times we pray repeatedly – however our prayers seem to be hitting deaf ears. Of-course this is not the case. ALLAH (S.A.W) grants all of us what is best for us. In other cases, ALLAH (S.A.W.) tests our patients and forbearance.

It is said, to avoid delay in your prayers being answered, you should pray for others around you. Always think of others before yourself. ALLAH (S.A.W.) prefers this type of prayer, as it displays to him a selfless act of worship, rather than a selfish wish list.

3. Maq'bul Dua (Dua which gets accepted)

Purity in the mind, soul and body are one of the keys to gaining closeness to the Almighty, thus having your prayers heard and answered. Some steps one should take on the night of Qa'dr is to do a the Mustahabaat Ghusal; which purifies not only the body, but also the soul alike.

Recitation of Namaz –e- Shab: We all know the great benefits of this highly recommended salaah. This salaah is the salaah of the night. It is recited late at night. Known benefits of reciting this salaah are, increases sustenance (rizq), forgiveness of sins – through dua, and acceptance of your dua's and amaals more readily. Keeping all of this in perspective, and multiplying it a 1000 X, you will understand the importance and magnitude of this amaal, on this night!

Prayers are a very important aspect of this night. We are a truly blessed ummah, as we have our 14 Masumeens, who we can use, and should use to pray to the Almighty. Praying through our Imams is definitely more effective than praying on your own. Put into perspective, the worth of your prayers, when it goes to ALLAH (S.A.W.) stained with your sins. On the other hand, when your prayer reaches ALLAH (S.A.W.) through a masum, and more so one of his Imams' – what is its' worth.

Many sources recommend us to recite the Ziyaraat of Imam Hussein, Hazrat Abbass, Hazrat Ali – Akber, and the Shuhadaa –e- Kerbala. (These are located in Mafati –ul- Jinaan). Other Recommended dua's are Dua' Nudbha, Dua –e- Salamaty Imame Zamaana. Dua –e- Kumayl and Dua –e- Tawbah. Dua –e- Kumayl, is a perfect example of the method of supplication we should use when supplicating to ALLAH (S.A.W.) In this dua, we first pray the Almighty and his great attributes. Thereafter, we repent for our sins, our evil works, and our flawed state.

There is a Salaah for the repentance of our sins. This is a 2 Rakat Salaah. Salaah – ul – Tawba. Reciting this Salaah has many perceived and un-perceived values. To recite this Salaah (you must be in Wudhoo) Do the Niyaat that you are reciting this Salaah, in hope for forgiveness from ALLAH (S.A.W.) In the both rakaats after Sura –e- Fateha, recite three times Sura-e-Ikhlās. After the salaah, recite 17 times the tasbeeh of astaghfirullah rabbi watubu ilaih. There after if you can recite Dua-e- Tawba.

Recitation of the Qur'an is also a great amaal for this night. Keep into perspective, on this night every good action you do, reaps a reward of 1000x – if accepted by ALLAH (S.A.W.) Some Sura's that are recommended to recite on the night of Qad'r are:

Sura Rum
Sura Dukhan

Sura Ankabut
Sura Yaseen
Sura Qadr

This night of Qadr' is the night of power. The night when ALLAH (S.A.W.) opens his doors of mercy. Lets take full advantage of this. Lets also remember all of our family friends and most importantly our Imam in our prayers. Think for a second. When our present Imam comes to know you have remember him in your prayers, how happy would that act make him feel. In-act he will turn around and pray for you. – Do you think his dua' will not be answered?

Lastly, it is said that on the day of judgment, when every sole will be crying from the fear of ALLAH (S.A.W.) and the fear of what is to come, there will a segment of people who will not be crying; those will be the ones who used to cry and repent for their flaws and sins during their life time and the one(s) who used to spend the night of power (Qad'r) in prayer. – Allah will be please with these two types of person(s).