

The Virtues of Sha'baan  
& Virtuous Actions of  
**Shab e Bara-at**

**WALTHAM FOREST ISLAMIC ASSOCIATION**

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**In Allah's Name we begin, The Compassionate, The Most Merciful and Peace and Blessings on his Messenger**

Shab e Bara-at: the eve of the 15<sup>th</sup> of Sha'baan is a very blessed night. There are many traditions (ahadith) which have been mentioned about its virtue. Almighty Allah assigns to the Angels, the administration of all that which is to happen in the coming year.

Information about the amount of sustenance that we will receive, and all the good and bad which we will do, and all the incidents and matters which will take place in that year, such as illness, good health, comforts and hardships, life and death, are all given to the Angels.

Allah Almighty says in the Holy Quran:

Indeed, we revealed it (The Holy Quran) during a blessed night, that we should warn with surety. In it (this blessed night) are decreed all matters of wisdom.

[Surah Ad-Dukhaan (44), verse 3-4, Part 25]

In the explanation of this blessed verse the author of Tafseer Roohul Bayaan says,

On this night Almighty Allah gives Hazrat Mika'eel Alaihis Salaam the entire information (i.e., commands) concerning sustenance.

The information (commands) concerning deeds and actions, Almighty Allah gives to the Angel of the first sky, (whose name is) Hazrat Isma'eel (Alaihis Salaam).

Similarly, the information (i.e. commands) concerning difficulties and calamities, are given to Hazrat 'Izra'eel Alaihis Salaam.

[Tafseer Roohul Bayaan Vol.3 Page 598]

## THE BLESSED TRADITIONS RELATED TO 15<sup>TH</sup> SHA'BAAN

### The First Hadith

It is reported from Hazrat Ma'az ibn Jabl (Allah be pleased with him) that Rasool ullah (peace and blessings be upon him and his progeny) said, on the eve (night) of the 15<sup>th</sup> of Sha'baan, Allah Almighty manifests His special attention towards the entire creation, so with the exception of the unbelievers and those who harbour enmity, He forgives all others. [Tabrani, Ibn Hib'baan]

### The Second Hadith

It is reported from Ummul Momineen Hazrat A'isha (Allah be pleased with her) that Rasool Ullah (peace and blessings upon him and his progeny) said, Jibra'eel Alaihis Salaam visited me, and said that this is the eve of the 15<sup>th</sup> of Sha'baan. In it Almighty Allah frees people from hell, more than the hair on the backs of the goats of Bani Kalb, but He does not place His special attention of mercy upon the unbelievers, and upon those who harbour enmity, those who break family ties, those who allow their clothing to trail (out of pride), those who disobey their parents, and the alcoholics. [Baihaqi]

### The Third Hadith

In the narration reported by Imam Ahmed in his Musnad from Hazrat Abdullah ibn Umar (Allah be pleased with him) a murderer is also mentioned (amongst those upon whom Allah Almighty does not place His special attention of mercy). [Musnad Imam Ahmed]

### The Fourth Hadith

It is reported on the authority of Hazrat Maula Ali (Allah ennoble his blessed countenance) that Rasool Ullah (peace and blessings on him and his progeny) said, When the eve (night) of the 15<sup>th</sup> of Sha'baan arrives, then remain standing in it (i.e., in worship), and fast in the day, for at the time of Sunset (on the eve of the 15<sup>th</sup>) Almighty Allah manifests His special blessings onto the sky of the earth, and announces, "Is there anyone who wishes to be forgiven, so that I may forgive him? Is there anyone who wishes for sustenance, so that I may bless him with sustenance? Is there someone who is gripped (by some

calamity), that I may grant him peace? Is there anyone? Is there anyone?" He announces this until the break of dawn. [Ibn Majah]

### VISITING THE GRAVES ON 15<sup>TH</sup> SHA'BAAN

It is reported on the authority of the Mother of the Believers Hazrat A'isha Siddiqa (Allah be pleased with her) that one-night Rasool Ullah came to my home, but then He woke early (i.e., left early), whereas this was my allocated night, so I also (discreetly) walked behind Him. I observed that He went into Baqi Shareef (The Blessed Cemetery of Madina Shareef), and He raised his head towards the sky, and was engrossed in Dua. When He saw me, He said, O A'isha! Did you think that I was being unjust towards you? Hazrat A'isha (Allah be pleased with her) said, I said, Ya Rasool 'Allah, I assumed that you had gone to visit another one of your blessed wives. The Beloved Rasool Ullah said, O A'isha! This is the even (night) of the 15<sup>th</sup> of Sha'baan. In this (night) Allah Almighty manifests His special blessings on the sky above the earth and He forgives more people, than the amount of hair on the backs of the goats of Bani Kalb.

[Sunan Tirmidhi; Madarijun Nubuw'wah]

**Important Note:** This Hadith Shareef proves that to visit the cemetery is the Sunnah of Nabi Kareem.

Ghauth e Azam Hazrat Shaykh Sayyid Abdul Qadir Jilani (Allah be pleased with him quotes a hadith tradition that, Rasool Ullah (peace and blessings on him and his progeny) says;

"On the eve of the 15<sup>th</sup> of Sha'baan, Jibra'eel Alaihis Salaam visited me, and said to me, Ya Rasool Allah! Raise your blessed head towards the sky (i.e., look towards the sky). I asked; which night is it? This is that night in which Almighty Allah opens three hundred doors of Mercy, and on this night, Allah forgives every such person who is not a Mushrik (polytheist), except for those who do jadu (sorcery/black magic), alcoholics, and those who take interest (Riba). He does not forgive them on this night until such time that they repent sincerely." [Ghuniyatut Taalibeen]

## VIRTUOUS DEEDS ON THIS NIGHT

Recite forty times before sunset (of the 15<sup>th</sup> Sha'baan),

La Hawla Wa Laa Quwwata il-laa bil-laahil Aliyyil Azeem  
(There is not might nor power except with Allah, The Lofty, The Great)

And then recite one hundred Durood Shareef.

After Maghrib Salaah, perform six Raka'ats of Nafil Salaah in cycles of two.

- The first two Raka'ats should be performed with the Niyyah (intention) of long life with goodness (i.e., with Imaan and virtue).
- The second two Raka'ats should be performed with the Niyyah (intention) of having all evils eradicated.
- The third two Raka'ats should be performed with the Niyyah of not being dependant on the creation.

After every two Raka'ats recite Surah Yaseen Shareef once, then the Dua e Nisf Sha'baan.

On this night we should visit the Muslim Cemeteries to recite Faateha. Whatever we recited should be afforded as Esaal e Thawaab (sending of reward) to the souls of the believing men and believing women. The one who sends this reward will receive reward equivalent to all those deceased who receive its reward.

Asbahani reports on the authority of Hazrat Anas ibn Malik (Allah be pleased with him) that Rasool Ullah (peace and blessings on him and his progeny) said to Hazrat Maula Ali (Allah be pleased with him and ennoble his blessed countenance) "O Ali, should I not teach you that Dua, that when you are faced with any anguish of distress, if you recite this Dua then Almighty Allah will accept your Dua and remove your anguish? After Wudu, perform two Raka'ats of Namaaz (Salaah), and thereafter praise and glorify Allah, and send Durood upon your beloved Nabi, and seek forgiveness for all the Muslim men and Muslim women and then say,

Allahum-ma Anta Tahkumu Bayna 'Ibaadika Feema Kaanu Feehi Yakhtalifoon. Laa Ilaaha il-Allahu-I Aliy-yul 'Azeem. Laa Ilaaha il-Allahul Haleem-ul Kareem. Subhaan'Allahi Rab-bis Samawaatis Sab'ee Wa Rab- bil 'Arshil Azeem. Alhamdu Lil-Allahi Rab-bil Aalameen; Allahum-ma Kaashifal Gham-mi Mufar-rijal Ham-mi, Mujeeba Da'watil Mud-tar-reena Idha Da-awka, Rahmaanad-Dunya Wal Aakhirati Wa Rahima-huma, Farhamni Fee Haajati Haadhi-hi Bi Qadaa-iha Wa Najaahiha Rahmatan Tughneeni Biha 'An Rahmati Man Siwaak.

Thereafter make Dua for your need. (This Dua can be read when facing any difficulty).

[At Targheeb Wat Tarheeb Lil Mundhiri, published by Darul kutub al ilmiyah]

Perform one hundred Raka'ats with ten (10) times Surah Ikhlaas (Qul Huw'Allah) in every Raka'at. There are many blessings in this. Hazrat Hasan Basri (Allah be pleased with him) states that thirty Sahaba e Kiraam (Allah be pleased with them all) of the beloved Rasool Ullah (peace and blessings on him and his progeny) have mentioned that the one who performs this Salaah on this night (of Bara-at), Allah Almighty places His special merciful attention upon him seventy times, and for every time, He fulfils seventy of his needs, of which the minimum need, is that He forgives his sins.

### Note of Caution

Those who perform Ishraaq, Tahaj-jud, Aw-wabeen, Salaatut Tasbeeh and other Nawafil on special nights, must take note that if they are responsible for any Qaza Salaahs that are yet to be made up, then performing these Nafils (supererogatory prayers) etc will not afford them any real benefit.

They should perform the intended Raka'ats as Qaza Salaah (and In'sha Allah they will receive the rewards of those blessings as well). It is mentioned in Fatawa Alamgiri etc that, 'To perform ones Qaza Salaah is more important than performing Nafils etc. [Alamgiri]

# The Dua Nisf Sha'baan

(Transliteration)

Allahum-ma Yaa Dhal Man-ni Wa laa Yuman-nu 'Alayh Yaa Dhal Jalaali wa'l  
Ikraam

Yaa Dhat-Tawli wa'l In'aam Laa Ilaaha il-la anta

Zahru'l-laajeen wa Jaaru'l Mustajeereen wa Amaanu'l khaa-ifeen

Allahum-ma in Kunta Katabtanee 'Indaka Fee Um-mil Kitaabi Shaqiy-yan aw  
Mahruman aw Matrudan aw Muqat-taran 'Alay-ya Fi'r-

Rizqi - Fa'mhu Allahum-ma Bi Fadlika Shaqaawatee wa Hirmaanee  
wa Tardee Wa'qtitaara Rizqee

Wa-athbitnee 'Indaka Fee Um-mil Kitaabi

Sa'eedan Marzuqam Muwaf-faqan li'lkhayraati Fa Innaka Qulta wa Qawluka'l Haqqu

Fee Kitaabika'l Munaz-zali 'Alaa lisaani Nabiy-yika'l Mursal Yam-hullahu Maa  
Yashaa'u wa Yuthbit

Wa 'Indahu Um-mul Kitaab

Ilaahi Bit-tajalli'l A'zam

Fee laylatin-Nisfi min Shahri Sha'ban Al-Mukar-ram

Al-latee Yufraqu Feehaa Kul-lu Amrin hakeemin wa Yubram An Takshifa 'An-naa  
Mina'l Balaa-i wa'l Balwaa-i

Maa Na'lamu wa Maa laa Na'lam Wa Anta Bihi A'lam

In-naka Anta'l A'azzu'l Akram

Wa Sall Allahu Ta'ala 'Alaa Say-yidina Muhammad-in Wa 'Alaa Aalihi wa  
As'haabihi wa Sallam

Wa'l Hamdu Lil-laahi Rab-bi'l 'Aalameen