

# MERITS OF SHA'BAN



28th Rajab 1437

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The scholars say that the linguistic root of the word Sha`ban is a branch and it acts as a bridge between the two blessed months of Rajab and Ramadan. In spite of this, it is often neglected.

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ alerted us to this fact when he was asked why he was fasting so much in Sha`ban. He replied: "It is a month that people neglect, between Rajab and Ramadan. It is a month in which actions are raised to the Lord of the Worlds and I love for my actions to be raised while I am fasting" (Narrated by Ahmad and al-Nasa'i)

## FASTING

One of the greatest works we can perform in Sha`ban is **fasting**, and this is what the Prophet ﷺ loved to be doing when his actions were raised, on Monday and Thursday and also during Sha`ban. Sayyidah `A'ishah said of the Prophet: ﷺ "I did not see him fasting in any month more than Sha`ban" (Narrated by al-Bukhari and Muslim). She also said: "The month which he loved to fast the most was Sha`ban" (Narrated by al-Nasa'i)

## SALAWAT

Other than fasting, it is recommended to **bestow abundant prayers and peace upon the Beloved of Allah ﷺ** It was in this month that Allah revealed:

﴿إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا﴾

Allah and His angels bestow their prayers upon the Prophet. O you who believe bestow prayers and peace upon him in abundance!

## THE FIFTEENTH NIGHT OF SHA'BAN

The Fifteenth Night of Sha`ban is one of the greatest nights of the year. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: "Allah gazes at His creation on the fifteenth night of Sha`ban and then forgives all His slaves except for two types of people: those who attribute partners to Allah and those who have rancour for their fellow Muslims." (Narrated by Ahmad)

The Prophet ﷺ said that **when this night comes we should spend it in prayer and fast the following day**, because Allah calls out to His slaves from sunset until dawn: "Is there anyone seeking forgiveness from Me so that I may forgive him? Is there anyone seeking provision from Me so I may provide for him? Is there anyone suffering so I may relieve his suffering?" (Narrated by Ibn Majah)

*The scholars of Sirah say that Sha`ban was the month in which the moon was split in half for the Messenger of Allah (may Allah bless him and grant him peace).*

*It was also the month in which the Qiblah (direction of prayer) was changed from Bayt al-Maqdis in Jerusalem to the Ka`bah in Makkah.*

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَنَا فِي رَجَبٍ وَشَعْبَانَ  
وَ بَلِّغْنَا رَمَضَانَ

"O Allah bless us in Rajab and Sha`ban and enable us to reach Ramadan!"

(Narrated by Ahmad)

Sayyiduna `Umar bin `Abd al-`Aziz said: "Do not neglect four nights in the year, because in those nights Allah pours His mercy on His slaves: the first night of Rajab, the fifteenth night of Sha`ban, the night before `Eid al-Fitr and the night before `Eid al-Adha."