

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."