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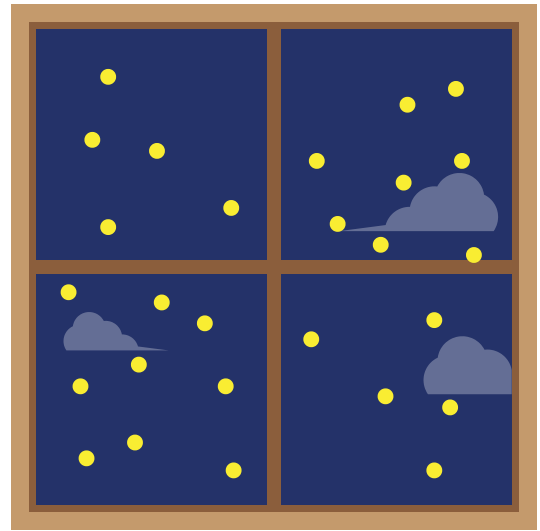
with
Ustazah
Samah

Better than 1000 Months

WHAT IS LAYLAT AL QADR AND HOW
DO WE MINDFULLY SEEK IT OUT?



Chapter Markers



03

WHAT IS LAYLATUL QADR?

Breaking down the verses of Al-Qadr, to understand the Night of Qadr.

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HOW TO GAIN LAYLATUL QADR?

Find out what acts of worship we can do during the blessed night of Qadr.

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HOW TO PREVENT BURNOUT?

Just remember these three tips when you are feeling a bit overwhelmed.



What is Laylatul Qadr?



إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ ﴿١﴾ وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ ﴿٢﴾
لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ ﴿٣﴾ نَزَّلَ الْمَلَكُ وَالرُّوحُ
فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِّنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ ﴿٤﴾ سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ ﴿٥﴾

Indeed, We sent it down during the Night of Decree. And what can make you know what is the Night of Decree? The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months. That night the angels and the 'holy' spirit¹ descend, by the permission of their Lord, for every 'decreed' matter. It is all peace until the break of dawn.

(Al-Qadr 97:1-5)

When is Laylatul Qadr?

- **قدر** means “power” but can also be translated as “fate”, “decree” or “great and precious value”. All these can be used to describe the Night of Qadr.
- There are many opinions on when the Night of Qadr is but the most convincing falls in the last 10 nights of Ramadan as per the hadith of the Prophet ﷺ.

*Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said, "Search for the Night of Qadr in the odd nights of the last ten days of Ramadan."
(Sahih al-Bukhari 2017)*

- Some signs of Laylatul Qadr can be seen on the following day when the sun rises early in the morning without rays or sometimes in the weather.
- However, in the ever-changing climate, it is hard to notice these indications sometimes. Hence, we have to do our best through the 10 nights.

A Blessed Night

- No other day is dedicated entirely in the Quran except for Laylatul Qadr.

وَالْكِتَابِ الْمُبِينِ ﴿٢﴾ إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةٍ
 مُبَارَكَةٍ إِنَّا كُنَّا مُنذِرِينَ ﴿٣﴾ فِيهَا يُفْرَقُ كُلُّ أَمْرٍ حَكِيمٍ ﴿٤﴾
 أَمْرًا مِّنْ عِنْدِنَا إِنَّا كُنَّا مُرْسِلِينَ ﴿٥﴾ رَحْمَةً مِّنْ رَبِّكَ إِنَّهُ هُوَ
 السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ ﴿٦﴾

By the clear Book! Indeed, We sent it down on a blessed night, for We always warn 'against evil'. On that night every matter of wisdom is ordained by a command from Us, for We have always sent 'messengers' as a mercy from your Lord. He 'alone' is truly the All-Hearing, All-Knowing— (Ad-Dukhan 44:2-6)

- We should be present on this day and ask Allah SWT for all goodness. Don't ask for minimal things - ask for grand things! For example: when asking for Jannah, ask for the Highest of Jannah.



Sent down from Heaven

إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ

Indeed, We sent it down during the Night of Decree.

(Al-Qadr 97:1)

- We know that ‘it’ in the verse refers to the Quran. On many occasions in the Quran, Allah SWT also refers to the Quran as ‘it’ without spelling it out, because it is a major topic at the time of the revelation.
- Abdullah Ibn 'Abbas said, “The (whole text of the) Qur’an was sent down to the lowest Heaven at one time, yet it was later revealed piecemeal over 20 years” (An-Nasa’i and Al-Hakim).
- Abdullah Ibn 'Abbas was known as turjuman ul-Qur'an (or Translator of the Quran), and the Prophet ﷺ made this du’a for him: “O Allah! Teach him (the knowledge of) the Book (Quran).” (Sahih al-Bukhari)

A Second Opinion

TIMESTAMP: 8:50



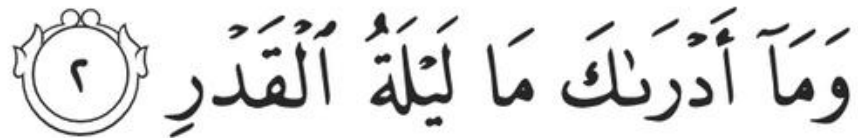
- In another opinion, the Quran was said to be sent down during the first revelation when Angel Jibril instructed the Prophet to read,

أَقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ

“Read, (O Prophet,) in the Name of your Lord Who created—.” (Al-‘Alaq 96:1)

- This event happened during Ramadan and may or may not happen during the night of Qadr. Allah knows best.
- We can actually combine the two opinions in that the Quran was sent down in different Laylatul Qadr because this Night of Power doesn't just occur once - it comes every single year in Ramadan!

A Significant Night



- And what can make you know what is the Night of Decree? (Al-Qadr 97:2)
- When a person of authority tells us that we can't imagine how significant or important something is, PAY ATTENTION! That means that thing super duper important. In this context, Allah SWT is telling us of the importance of this night and that missing it would incur a great loss for us.
- For example, we would be foolish to decline a scholarship offer to a university, so why would we decline the Mercy of Allah on this blessed night by not being awake and working and reaping its precious benefits?

But... why just a thousand?

لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ ﴿٣﴾

The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months.
(Al-Qadr 97:3)

- Unlike today, the biggest number Arabs could think of at that time was only up till a thousand (أَلْفٍ). Hence when Allah SWT sent down this verse, أَلْفٍ was used so that they were able to relate to it!
- But in actual fact, the night of Qadr is better than our entire lives!

نَزَّلُ الْمَلَائِكَةَ وَالرُّوحَ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِّنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ ﴿٤﴾

That night the angels and the 'holy' spirit descend, by the permission of their Lord, for every 'decreed' matter.
(Al-Qadr 97:4)

- Allah SWT uses the verb in the present tense to indicate that Laylatul Qadr is not just exclusive to one night - as it will return every year!

- وَالرُّوحُ refers to Jibril AS, who was emphasised in this verse for his importance.

سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ

Peace it is until the emergence of dawn.

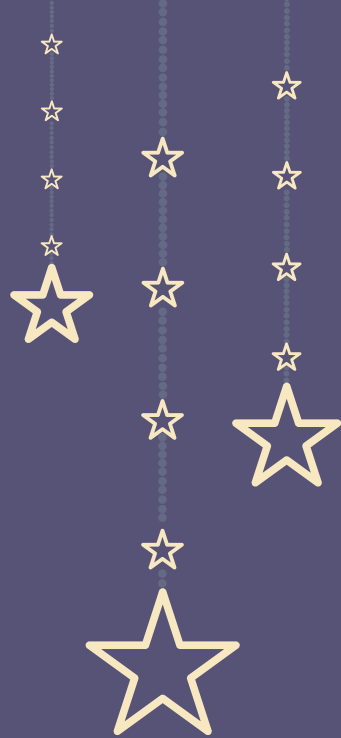
(Al-Qadr 97:5)

- Normally, we would say هِيَ سَلَامٌ, “It is peaceful” but in this verse, Allah SWT places سَلَامٌ ‘peace’ at the forefront of the Ayah to stress an emphasis.
- Allah SWT also uses “Peace it is” instead of “It is peace” to stress the unusual peace that we would feel on the night of Qadr.
- But it is not just our surrounding environment that is peaceful during the Night of Qadr, our state of being should also be one that is peaceful!

An Unusual Night



- We may feel this unusual peace and connection to Allah SWT on some nights in Ramadan, but perhaps there is one particular night where we feel extreme khusyu that is not comparable to any other night in Ramadan - this could be our Night of Qadr. The night that our lives will change for good!
- It is part of Allah SWT's Wisdom that He doesn't say when Laylatul Qadr occurs so that we constantly and consistently seek Him out and talk to Him.
- We should focus on the One Who created Laylatul Qadr Himself because we are not worshipping for Laylatul Qadr; we are worshipping only for Allah SWT.



The Lord of the
Night of Qadr is
also the Lord
of all the other
nights.

Special Days in Islam

TIMESTAMP: 19:18

- Allah SWT is endlessly generous - He gives us special days where He pours Barakah in these days and multiplies the rewards in ways we cannot even imagine.
- Allah SWT wants good for us - He gives us seasons of Ibadah like the Day of Arafah, the White Days, Jumaah every week etc. He wants to give us opportunities (and plenty of it!) so that we don't miss out on the rewards and blessings!
- When Allah SWT hides a piece of information from us, it means it is not necessary for us; it will not affect our lives knowing it. On the other hand, when it's really necessary for us, He will make it very clear to us.



How to gain Laylatul Qadr?

Starting Early

May he be humbled, who enters the month of Ramadan and it passes before he is forgiven.

(Sunan al-Tirmidhi 3545)

- The main theme of Laylatul Qadr is al-Qiyam, standing in prayer at night.
- "Whoever stands (in the voluntary night prayer of) Ramadan out of faith and in the hope of reward, his previous sins will be forgiven. And whoever spends the night of Lailat Al-Qadr in prayer out of faith and in the hope of reward, his previous sins will be forgiven." (Sunan an-Nasa'i 5027)
- But what if we are overwhelmed with our roles and responsibilities and can't stand in prayer at night?



Hadith on Intentions

*"Remember well what I am going to tell you:
The world is for four kinds of people.*

(1) One upon whom Allah has bestowed wealth and knowledge and so he fears his Lord in respect to them, maintains the ties of kinship, and acknowledges the rights of Allah on him; this type will have the best position.

(2) One upon whom Allah has conferred knowledge but no wealth, and he is sincere in his intention and says: 'Had I possessed wealth, I would have acted like so-and-so.'

He will be treated according to his intention, and his reward is the same as that of the other.

(3) One whom Allah has given wealth but no knowledge and he squanders his wealth ignorantly, does not fear Allah in respect to it, does not discharge the obligations of kinship, and does not acknowledge the rights of Allah. Such a person will be in the worst position.

(4) One upon whom Allah has bestowed neither wealth nor knowledge and he says: 'Had I possessed wealth, I would have acted like so-and-so (i.e. he would squander his wealth).' He will be treated according to his intention, and both will have equal sin."

(At-Tirmidhi)



Intentions + Actions = Best Combo

- The hadith shows us how important intentions are, so even if we are unable to perform to our best, we should at least make intention AND do the minimum.
- This could mean simply making sure we are at least praying Isha in Jemaa, for example. In a Hadith, Rasulullah SAW said, "Whoever is present at Isha on Laylat al-Qadr has taken his portion from it." (Muwatta Malik)
- Even if we are overwhelmed, we should never abandon it completely. We should at least take a portion of the night!
- If we can't join a congregational prayer, we can do other Ibadahs on our own such as the nafl prayers after Isha since any Ibadah performed after Isha till Fajr is considered as Qiyam al-Layl. This includes the Taraweeh prayers, which the Prophet ﷺ never left in Ramadan.

Other Acts of Worship to do

1) Qiyam

We can make intentions for Qiyam on any good deeds done after Isha and before Fajr, not just prayers.

Make your nights blessed, and filled with Remembrance, Duas and acts of Services, especially during the last 10 nights.

2) Seeking Repentance

- Steps to Seek Repentance: 1) Stop doing it immediately. Our Fitrah is always leaning towards good so even if we think we are enjoying ourselves during the sin, the "bliss" is only temporary. It is unlike the bliss we feel when we are close with Allah SWT.
- Anyone who commits sin knows that sin is not good for them, because whatever that is good for us is already made Halal by Allah SWT. Anything that harms us, have been made forbidden upon us.

- 2) Have a sense of remorse or regret. To understand that it is not so much about the "size" of the sin, but to Whom are we sinning against.

- 3) Be determined not to come back to the sin. We have to be honest with ourselves and be serious about this commitment. We might return to the sin because we are only human, but for every time we falter, we "refresh" our Tawbah all over again.
(Repentance is rarely a one time thing, as we are but humans!)

- 4) If we wrong someone, we will need to correct it.**
 - If we have taken someone's rights, or backbite them, we have to ask for their forgiveness. If we have mentioned bad about someone in a gathering, we have to return and mention the good about them in a similar gathering.

 - Scholars have mentioned that we can also make Sadaqah in their name to compensate for the wrong that we did to them.

5) Forgive those who hurt us

- Our main concern is that Allah SWT forgives us, so we should also do the same to those who may have hurt us even though it may be hard.
- Achieve Tawakkul with Allah SWT - let go of the hurt and forgive others for His sake. Allah SWT is the Most Just!

6) Daily Sadaqah

The Prophet ﷺ was especially generous in Ramadan when the Jibril would come and review the Qur'an with him. Verily, when Jibril would come and review the Qur'an with him in Ramadan, the Prophet ﷺ was more generous than the free-blowing wind.

(Al-Bukhari, 1902; Muslim, 2308)

Be Extra Generous, like the Prophet



- Imam Ahmad records this hadith with the additional words at its end, "He was not asked for anything except that he gave it."
- There are so many ways to make Sadaqah these days. We can strive to do it daily, even if it is small and simple.
- A good deed that we do on the night of Qadr will be multiplied thousand times than the same deed that we do on regular days.
- Some people took leave during the last 10 nights of Ramadan to focus and exhaust themselves in their Ibadahs.

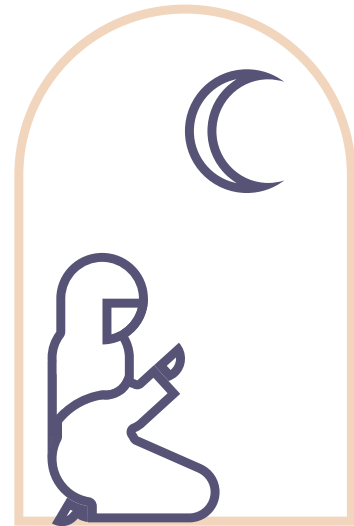
Quran, our BFF, especially in Ramadan



7) Read the Quran

- Try to understand and find the linkage between the verses in the Quran.
- Imam Shafie used to read the whole Quran twice a day in Ramadan! We can't be like Imam Shafie but we should strive to do our best with the Quran In Sha Allah.
- Because Quran includes Dhikrs and Du'as, Quran is the best remembrance to do! Every letter that we recite from the Quran is rewarded, and if we struggle, our reward will be doubled Ma Sha Allah.
- The most preferred Du'as are the ones mentioned in the Quran.
- *The Prophet said: "There is nothing more honourable with Allah [Most High] than supplication." (Sunan al-Tirmidhi 3370)*

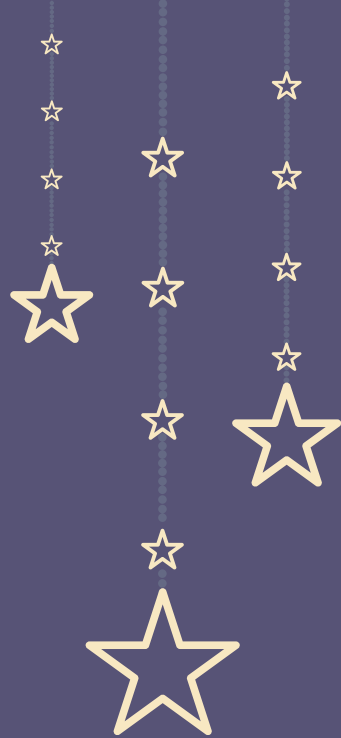
The Essence of Worship is Du'a



6) Make Du'a

- “Supplication is the path of worship.” (Related by At-Tirmidhi with a full chain of narrators.)
- “Verily supplication is worship.” (Related by the four Imams and At-Tirmidhi graded it as Sahih)
- Du’a shows our need towards Allah SWT. If we are not calling upon Allah SWT and not asking from Him, it's as if to say we don't need Him.
- The best Du'a we can make is to say Alhamdulillah. “If you are grateful, I will certainly give you more.” (Ibrahim 14:7)

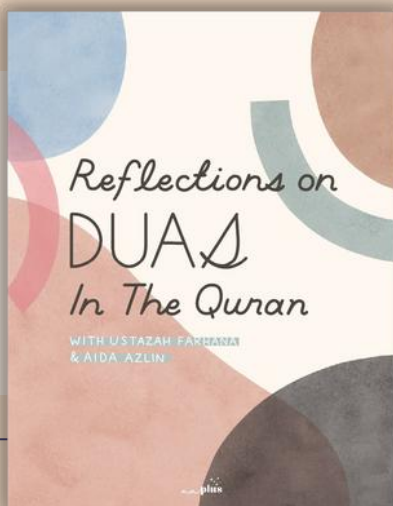
Allah intends ease for you, not hardship, so that you may complete the prescribed period and proclaim the greatness of Allah for guiding you, and perhaps you will be grateful.
(Al-Baqarah 2:185)



Du'a shows
our need
towards Allah
SWT as His
servant.

- The most excellent words of remembrance of Allah is La Illa ha Illa Allah, and the most excellent du'a is saying Alhamdulillah.
- Du'a can change our reality and fate: “Nothing repels the divine decree but supplication. (Sunan al-Tirmidhī 2139)
- The fastest du'a that Allah SWT answers are the Du'a we make for another person in their absence:

He who supplicates for his brother behind his back (in his absence), the Angel commissioned (for carrying supplication to his Lord) says: Amen, and it is for you also. (Sahih Muslim)



Listen to our series on the Duas in the Quran [here](#) to learn more about the du'as made by the pious and the previous prophets in the Quran.

Du'a of Laylatul Qadr



- Islam is the religion of Jemaah (congregation). It thrives and flourishes on community and togetherness because angels come down in these gatherings.

Aisha Ra asked the Prophet, "O Rasul Allah, if I witnessed and was able to tell that it is the night of decree, then what kind of dua should I make?"

He replied, "Say

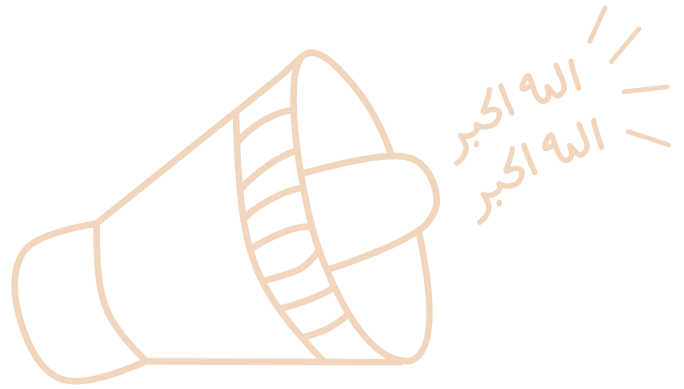
اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ تَحُبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

(O Allah, You are Pardoning and you love pardon, so pardon me.)"

(Tirmidhi)

- Du'a is important for ourselves and also for others.

Respond to the Adhan



7) Interact with the Adhan

- We can listen to the Adhan, repeat after it and make Du'a after Adhan.
- “The supplication made between the adhan and the iqamah is not rejected.” (Sunan Abi Daud)
- Mu'awiyah reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, “The callers to prayer will have the longest necks of the people on the Day of Resurrection.” (Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim 387)
- If we live in a country where the Adhan is not called out in public, we can try to arrive early in the mosque and wait for the Adhan to be called out. If not, we can also listen to the Adhan through our phone.

Start with the closest to you

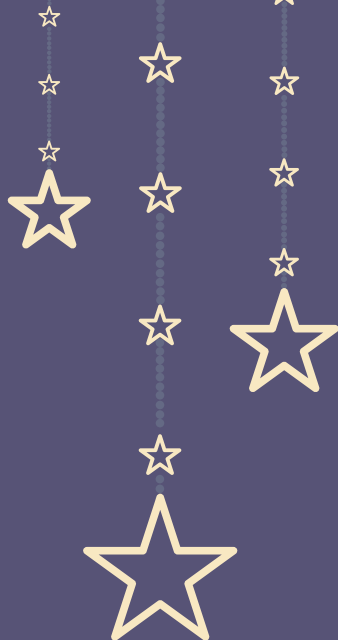
8) Bring happiness to someone

- "The most beloved deed to Allah is to make a Muslim happy, or to remove one of his troubles, or to forgive his debt, or to feed his hunger." (al-Mu'jam al-Awsat 5081)
- There are so many ways to make others happy - through messaging them or showing our gratitude.
- We can always start with the closest to us, like our parents and our family. Remind them of the things that we are grateful to them for.
- Making our parents happy is such an honourable thing to do as seen in the following verse, "For your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him. And honour your parents." (Al-Isra 17:23)

Last 10 Nights Epic Ibadah List:

- 1) Intend Qiyam
- 2) Make Repentance
- 3) Forgive those who hurt us
- 4) Make daily Sadaqah
- 5) Read the Quran
- 6) Make Supplication
- 7) Interact with the Adhan
- 8) Make someone happy





If you are feeling burned out..

- Make the last 10 nights your "end goal" in Ramadan. So pace yourself, knowing that your finale is the last 10 Nights!
- Don't rely on yourself - rely on Allah SWT. Shift the focus away from you and instead focus on Allah.
- And make du'a to meet for Laylatul Qadr every single day in Ramadan.