



The Night of Qadr is better than a thousand months

The First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah Who has honored us with the Night of Qadr and has made its reward greater than a thousand months. A night in which Angels descend with mercy, goodness and grace. And I bear witness, with every facet of my being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love and adoration, except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing second in that One-ness. And I bear witness that our Leader and Master, our Prophet, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), is the perfect example of servanthood unto Allah, and His sent Messenger unto the entire universe.

To Continue: I advise you, dutiful servants of Allah, and myself, to adhere to a heartfelt consciousness (Taqwa) of Allah. For He, the Most Gloriously Transcendent, states: يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ

وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

O mankind, worship your Lord, who created you and those before you, that you may become people of Taqwa [Qur'an: ٢:٢١]

O You who are fasting:

In these blessed days, the believers are avid to increase their acts of devotion and strive towards goodness. In particular, they seek the bounty of the Night of Qadr, for it is a night of the highest of honor, of immense magnitude, decree and power (all meanings contained in the word ‘Qadr’), and it for this reason it was called the Night of Qadr. In honor of this night, Allah revealed in the Qur’an an entire chapter (Surah) devoted to describing its merits, clarifying for the people its virtues. This being the Surah of al-Qadr, the opening verse of which is: **إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ**

Indeed, We sent the Qur'an down during the Night of Qadr. [Qur'an: ٩٧:١]

This verse supports the understanding that Allah revealed the entirety of the Qur'an in one go on the Night of Qadr. This revelation was firstly sent down from the Preserved Tablet (Lawh al-Mahfuz) to a celestial abode in the Heavens called the Abode of Majesty (Bayt al-Izzah). Then it descended part-by-part through the revelation that revolved around events of the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him). So the Night of Qadr is a blessed night about

which Allah says: **إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةٍ مُبَارَكَةٍ**

Indeed, We sent it down during a blessed night.

[Qur'an: ٤٤:٣]

In order to draw our attention to the immensity of this night, Allah says: وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ:

And what can make you know what is the Night of Qadr? [Qur'an: ٩٧:٢]

So in this night Allah apportions much good, blessings of great bounty, the likes of which cannot be attained in a thousand months. Allah says:

لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ

The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months. [Qur'an: ٩٧:٣]

In other words good deeds done on this night are better than devotion done on a thousand months.

O Worshippers:

The Night of Qadr is also characterized by the descent of a multitude of noble Angels, at the forefront of whom is the Angel Jibril (may Allah be pleased with him), as Allah says:

تَنْزَلُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ

The angels and the Spirit descend therein by permission of their Lord for every matter.

[Qur'an: ٩٧:٤]

The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) is reported to have said:

إِنَّ الْمَلَائِكَةَ تِلْكَ اللَّيْلَةَ فِي الْأَرْضِ أَكْثَرُ مِنْ عَدَدِ الْحَصَى

Indeed the Angels on that night in terms of number on the Earth will be greater than grains of gravel.

[Musnad of Imam Ahmad]

They will descend with the grace and mercy of Allah. Supplicating on behalf of those who worship and make remembrance of Allah, saying Ameen to their supplications (so make much dua therein) – doing so, all the way till the onset of Fajr.

The Angels on that night will be carrying every matter that Allah has decreed to occur for that year, this is what is generally understood to be the meaning of the

words: مِنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ

for every matter. [Qur'an: ٩٧:٤]

In that, Allah discloses to each of the Angels what will occur with people with regards to their sustenance, lifespan and the like. The Angels are commanded to perform their duties therein, as Allah says:

فِيهَا يُفْرَقُ كُلُّ أَمْرٍ حَكِيمٍ

On that night is made distinct every precise matter

[Qur'an: ٤٤:٤]

Allah ends this noble Surah with an apt description of the 'felt sense' of this night, stating:

سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطَلَعِ الْفَجْرِ

'Peace' it is until the emergence of dawn.

[Qur'an: ٩٧:٥]

In other words, this night is full of goodness from the beginning to the end, it is full of blessings likewise, all the way till the onset of Fajr.

O You who desires to attain the Night of Qadr:

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) encouraged us to stay up in the night and worship therein, in desire of its reward and honor of its magnitude. For he said:

مَنْ قَامَ لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ إِيمَانًا وَاحْتِسَابًا؛ غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ

Whoever spends the night of Laylat al-Qadr in prayer out of faith and in the hope of reward, he will be forgiven his previous sins

[Bukhari and Muslim]

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) also called us to increase in goodness in this month. Things like giving food to others, giving charity, being kindly and good in manners, remembrance of Allah, reciting the Qur'an, prayer, and intimate supplication. Concerning the last point, Ayesha (may Allah be pleased with her) asked the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) about which supplication is the best to make on this night, in the hope that the Angels will say 'ameen' to her supplication. So she said: "O Messenger of Allah! If I realize Laylat al-Qadr (Night of Qadr), what should I supplicate in it?" He (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) replied, "You should supplicate:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوفٌ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

O Allah, You are the Most Forgiving, and You love to forgive; so forgive me [Tirmidhi]

For indeed were Allah to grant his comprehensive forgiveness to a person, then they will find their sins forgiven, their good deeds magnified, such that they be from those who are blessed and successful in this world and the next.

O servants of Allah:

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) encouraged us to seek out, adhere to and honor the Night of Qadr, for he said:

الْتَمِسُوهَا فِي الْعَشْرِ الْأَوَاخِرِ فِي وَتُرٍ

Seek it out in the last ten nights, [especially] on the odd-numbered nights. [Bukhari and Muslim]

This is so that each of us can attain its good, and get its reward. Thus the Muslim is someone who is avid to attain the reward of this night, who strives in his drawing near to Allah therein by doing whatever good he can do. At the very least they ensure that they perform their Isha and Fajr prayer in congregation, for the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

said: مَنْ شَهِدَ الْعِشَاءَ فِي جَمَاعَةٍ؛ كَانَ لَهُ قِيَامُ نِصْفِ لَيْلَةٍ، وَمَنْ

صَلَّى الْعِشَاءَ وَالْفَجْرَ فِي جَمَاعَةٍ؛ كَانَ لَهُ كَقِيَامِ لَيْلَةٍ

Whoever attends Isha (prayer) in congregation, then he has (the reward as if he had) stood half of the night. And whoever prays Isha and Fajr in congregation, then he has (the reward as if he had) spent the entire night standing (in prayer).

[al-Tirmidhi]

The Scholar of the People of Madinah, amongst the Taba'een (generation after the Prophet), Saeed ibn al-Musayyib (may Allah be pleased with him) is reported to have said: "Whosoever attains Isha on the Night of Qadr, has indeed taken his portion from it" [Muwatta of Imam Malik].

So O Allah make us from those who avail and benefit from the Night of Qadr, from those who hasten to and attain its good. And assist us all in the way of piety and obedience. Piety towards Your trustworthy Messenger, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), the ability to be dutiful towards those You have commanded us to be dutiful towards, in accordance with Your words: **O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you.** [Qur'an: ٤:٥٩]

May Allah bless me and bless you with the Noble Qur'an and with the Way (Sunnah) of His Noble Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him). I say this, and I seek forgiveness for me and for you, so seek His forgiveness, for He is the All-Forgiving and the All-Merciful.

The Second Khutbah

All praises are for Allah, as is deserving of His immense countenance and authority. And I bear witness, with every facet of my being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love and adoration, except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing second

in that One-ness. And I bear witness that our Leader and Master, our Prophet, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon his name), is the perfect example of dutiful servanthood towards Allah, and is His sent Messenger unto the entirety of the created universe. O Allah: We ask you to bestow Your peace, blessings and grace upon him; his family; all of his companions; and whomsoever follows and seeks to emulate him in the best of ways till the Last Day. I advise you, O servants of Allah, and myself, with Taqwa of Allah (glorified be He).

O Worshippers:

Indeed Allah has made Zakat al-Fitr as a means of purification for those who fast, and a means of food for those who are poor [and unable to buy it themselves]. The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said it was an obligation, wherein it is one Sa'a (a measurement of four handfuls being approximately ۱,۰ kg) of dates or one Sa'a of barley. It is permissible to pay the equivalent of this in money, which has been estimated to be about ۲۰ AED for every person in the family. The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) stated that it should be distributed before the people leave for the Eid prayer, so the last time it can be paid is when the Imam gets up to lead the prayer of Eid, although its obligation does not end if one misses the time to have performed it. The companions of the Prophet used to generally a day or two before Eid-ul-Fitr, so let us ensure that we give our Zakat al-Fitr

early too. This is to ensure that we attain the maximum reward we can from this month, and that we can say we have given it its due in terms of honor and respect.

And with this, let us send our peace and blessings upon the one we have been commanded to send our peace and blessings upon, as Allah says: **Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace.** [Qur'an: ٣٣:٥٦]. So, O Allah, bestow Your peace, blessings and grace upon our Master, our Prophet and upon his family and all of his companions. And may Allah be pleased with the Righteous Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, Ali; and the noble companions of the Prophet, the Sahaba, may Allah be pleased with all of them. O Allah, we ask You for soundness in our faith, and trust in good character, and a true success that will be followed by eternal bliss. O Allah, we ask You for Your mercy, for true prosperity, for Your redemptive forgiveness and Your pleasure. O Allah, make us from those who are obedient, respectful, those who venerate their parents, honoring their mothers and their fathers, embodying excellent character towards their families and wider societies.

O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and guide him to all that is good. O Allah, we seek Your favour in granting him continued good health and care. O Allah,

we also ask You to grant success to the Vice-President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates.

O Allah, we ask You to forgive all of the Muslims, both the men and women, the living and dead. O Allah, bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the other late UAE Sheikhs who have passed on to the mercy of their Lord. O Lord, grant them from your abundant mercy and bless them with Your kindness and satisfaction. O Allah, we ask you to admit them into Paradise, being given bounties therein without being taken to account. O Lord, forgive and show mercy on our parents, relatives and whosoever may have a right upon us.

O Allah, we ask You, from your loving kindness, for the immensity of your forgiveness, for the reward of all righteousness, for the safety and protection from all sin. O Allah, we ask you for the ultimate success in attaining Paradise, and the ultimate respite in being saved from the Fire. O Allah, do not allow us to sin except that You forgive us, nor to have any worry except that you relieve us therein, nor for any debt to come upon us except that You see it compensated, nor for there to be any sick amongst us except that You see them healed. Let there be no dead, except that You have covered them in Your mercy, and let there be no pressing need, amongst any of us, except that You see it met and fulfilled. O most Noble of the Noble, You

are capable over all things, and You are the most generous in responding to those who call upon You.

We ask You, O Allah, the Lord of all domains, to continue blessing the UAE with stability, welfare, increase in its bounties, knowledge, civilization, happiness, beauty and tolerance. O Allah, please continue blessing it with safety and security. O Allah, have mercy on the honorable martyrs of our nation and gather them with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favour of the Prophets. O Allah, make the dwelling of the martyrs, their families, parents and relatives with the righteous. Indeed, You are ever-responsive to those who call upon You. O Allah, grant to the people of Yemen that which is good, and unite them upon that which is True and Sacred, and provide for them all manners of prosperity, O most Noble of the Noble. O Allah, spread peace and security amongst all the Muslim nations, and the entirety of the world. O our Lord, we ask You for the best of this World, the best of the Hereafter, that You will protect us from the punishment of the Fire, and that You enter us into Your paradise with the righteous. Indeed You are the Most Generous and Most Forgiving.

O Servants of Allah: Remember Allah, the Majestic, and He will remember you. Thank Him for His blessings and He will increase you therein. And establish the prayer. **So stand up for prayer.**