



In the Name of Allah the Most Compassionate Very Merciful

All Praise Due to Allah Almighty the Lord of Hazrat Muhammad – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him

## The Significance of Lailatul-Bara't

نَحْمَدُهُ وَنُصَلِّي عَلَى رَسُولِهِ الْكَرِيمِ

All praise due to Allah and the choicest of peace and the most glorious benedictions be upon His chosen beloved and most extraordinary Messenger Hazrat Muhammad (peace be upon Him).

The middle night of the 8<sup>th</sup> Islamic calendar month Sha'ban-al-Mu'azzam is a great a means of receiving Allah's mercy and forgiveness. There are numerous Hadeeths narrated regarding the excellence of this sacred night in many great books of Hadeeth. The entire nation of our beloved Prophet (peace be upon Him) around the globe celebrates and commemorates this auspicious event and make Du'a for the betterment of their hereafter and their well-being in this world. The Glorious Quran is recited in abundance, Nawaafil are excessively performed and the loved ones, that had passed away, are remembered.

The Messenger of Allah, the lamp of guidance has reminded us of this blessed night at numerous occasions and thanks to the Masters of Hadeeth that preserved His luminous words into the books of Hadeeth. I shall now quote a large number of Hadeeths on the excellence of the Lailatul-Bara't which is also known and celebrated as Shabe Bara't and Lailtum Min Nisf Al-Sha'ban worldwide:

1: عَنْ مَعَاذِ بْنِ جَبَلٍ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ ﷺ، قَالَ، "يَطْلُعُ اللَّهُ إِلَى جَمِيعِ خَلْقِهِ لَيْلَةَ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ فَيَغْفِرُ لَجَمِيعِ خَلْقِهِ إِلَّا لِمُشْرِكٍ أَوْ مُشَاحِنٍ" - رَوَاهُ الطَّبْرَانِيُّ وَابْنُ حَبَّانٍ فِي صَحِيحِهِ ❁

**Hadeeth # 1:** Hazrat Ma'aaz Ibn Jabal narrated from the Prophet (peace be upon Him) that He said, "Allah Almighty pays attention towards His entire creation in the middle night of Sha'ban and forgives them all except the polytheist and the envious person." Tabraani has narrated it and Ibn Habban has recorded it in His Sahih (authentic Hadeeth book).<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Imam Tabrani has narrated it in Kabeer Vol. 20, p. 109.

Imam Ibn Habbaan in his Sahih, Hadeeth No. 5236.

Imam Abu Bakr 'Amr Ibn Al-'Aas in Kitab Al-Sunnah p. 224, 512.

2: (قَالَ الْحَافِظُ) وَرَوَاهُ الطَّبْرَانِيُّ وَالْبَيْهَقِيُّ أَيْضًا عَنْ مَكْحُولٍ عَنْ أَبِي ثَعْلَبَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ ﷺ قَالَ، "يَطْلُعُ اللَّهُ إِلَى عِبَادِهِ لَيْلَةَ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ، فَيَغْفِرُ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ، وَيُهْمِلُ الْكَافِرِينَ، وَيَدْعُ أَهْلَ الْحَقْدِ بِحَقْدِهِمْ، حَتَّى يَدْعُوهُ." قَالَ الْبَيْهَقِيُّ، "مُرْسَلٌ جَيِّدٌ." (الْتَرَاهُيبُ وَالتَّزْهِيْبُ 461/3)

**Hadeeth # 2:** (Hafiz Mundhiri says) Tabrani and Baihaqi have also narrated it from Mak'hool, and he narrated from Abu Tha'labah that the Prophet (peace be upon Him) stated, "Allah Almighty pays attention towards His servants in the middle night of Sha'ban. He forgives the believers, and grants the infidels an opportunity, and leaves the envious ones in the state of their envy." Imam Baihaqi said, "It's Mursal jayyid."<sup>2</sup>

3: عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ عُمَرَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ ﷺ قَالَ، "يَطْلُعُ اللَّهُ إِلَى خَلْقِهِ لَيْلَةَ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ، فَيَغْفِرُ لِعِبَادِهِ إِلَّا اثْنَيْنِ مَشَاحِنِ، وَقَاتِلِ النَّفْسِ." (الْتَرَاهُيبُ وَالتَّزْهِيْبُ 461/3)

**Hadeeth # 3:** Hazrat 'Abdullah Ibn Umar narrated that the Prophet (peace be upon Him) said, "Allah Almighty pays attention towards His creation in the middle night of Sha'ban and forgives His servants except the two; an envious person, and a murderer."<sup>3</sup>

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Imam Baihaqi in Shu'ab Al-Iman, Hadeeth No. 3833.

Imam Mundhiri in Al-Targheeb Wal-Tarheeb, Vol. 2, p.118.

Imam Haithami in Majma' Al-Zawaa'id, Vol. p. 68.

Imam Diyamti in Al-Muttajar Al-Raabe'h.

Shaikh Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlvi mentioned it in his Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah and proved the excellence of Lailatul Bara't.

Imam Ibn Hajar Haithami said, "Imam Tabraani has recorded it in Kabeer and Awsat and the narrator of both are reliable." (Majma' Al-Zawaa'id, p. 65)

<sup>2</sup> Al- Targheeb Wal Tarheeb Vol. 3, p. 461

Al- Targheeb Wal Tarheeb Vol. 3, p. 461

Imam Bahaqi narrated in Shu'ab Al-Iman, Hadeeth No. 3832

Imam Abu Bakr 'Amr Ibn 'Aasim in Kitaab Al-Sunnah, Hadeeth No. 511

Jaame' Al-Masaaneed, Vol. 3, p. 454, Hadeeth No. 10875

Shaikh 'Abdul Haq Muhaddith Dehlvi in Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah, p. 202

<sup>3</sup> Imam Ahmad Ibn Hambal narrated in his Musnad, Vol. 2, p. 368

Majma' Al-Zawaa'id Vol. 8, p. 65

Mishkaat Al-Masaabeeh, 1307

Lataa'if Al-Ma'arif, p. 262

This Hadeeth is Hasan.

4: عَنْ أَبِي مُوسَى الْأَشْعَرِيِّ عَنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ ﷺ قَالَ، "إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَيَطَّلِعُ فِي لَيْلَةِ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ، فَيَغْفِرُ لَجَمِيعِ خَلْقِهِ إِلَّا لِمُشْرِكٍ أَوْ مَشَاحِنٍ۔"

**Hadeeth # 4:** Hazrat Abu Moosa Al-Ash'ari narrated from the Prophet (peace be upon Him) that He said, "Allah Almighty pays attention in the middle night of Sha'ban and forgives the entire creation except the polytheist and the envious person."<sup>4</sup>

5: عَنْ عَلِيِّ بْنِ أَبِي طَالِبٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ، "إِذَا كَانَتْ لَيْلَةُ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ فَقُومُوا لَيْلَهَا وَصُومُوا نَهَارَهَا، فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ يَنْزِلُ فِيهَا لَغُرُوبِ الشَّمْسِ إِلَى سَمَاءِ الدُّنْيَا، فَيَقُولُ، "أَلَا مِنْ مُسْتَغْفِرٍ لِي فَأَغْفِرَ لَهُ؟ أَلَا مِنْ مُسْتَرْزِقٍ فَأَرْزُقَهُ؟ أَلَا مِنْ مُبْتَئِلٍ فَأُعَافِيَهُ؟ أَلَا كَذَا، أَلَا كَذَا" حَتَّى يَطْلُعَ الْفَجْرُ۔"

**Hadeeth # 5:** Hazrat 'Ali (RadhiAllahu Anhu) is reported to have said: When it is the middle night of Sha'ban, worship in it and keep the fast of that day, for Allah Almighty comes down at the first sky of the world at sunset, then He continues to proclaim, "Is there anyone seeking my forgiveness, so that I forgive him? Is there anyone seeking sustenance, so that I grant him the sustenance? Is there anyone sick, so that I may bless him with good health? Is there such a person? Is there such a person?", till the dawn rises.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> Imam Ibn Majah narrated in his Sunan, 1390

Kitaab Al-Sunnah, Hadeeth No. 510

Imam Abu Bakr 'Amr Shaibaani and Imam Baihaqi in Fadhaail Al-Auqaat, p. 132, Hadeeth No. 29

Mishkaat Al-Masabeeh, 1302

Al-Muttajar Al-Raabeh, Hadeeth No. 769

Lataaif Al-Ma'arif, p. 261

Al-Taaj Al-Jaame', Vol. 2, p. 93

Jaame' Al-Masaaneed, 580

Kanz Al-'Ummaal 313, Hadeeth No. 35174

Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah, p. 201

It is said to be Sahih Hadeeth in the footnotes of Kitaab Al-Sunnah

<sup>5</sup> Imam Baihaqi narrated in Shu'ab Al-Iman, 3822

This Hadeeth is narrated through other different chains of narrators.

Fadhaail Al-Auqaat, Hadeeth No. 24

Imam Majah narrated in his Sunan, Hadeeth No. 1388

Imam Ibn Habbaan in his Sahih, 470. He mentioned this Hadeeth to be authentic.

Lataaif Al-Ma'arif, p. 261

Mishkaat Al-Masabeeh, 1308

Al-Muttajar Al-Raabeh, p. 261, Hadeeth No. 771

Jaame' Al-Masaaneed, p. 20, Hadeeth No. 407

Kanz Al-'Ummaal, 314, Hadeeth No. 35177

6: عَنْ عُثْمَانَ بْنِ أَبِي الْعَاصِ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ ﷺ قَالَ، "إِذَا كَانَ لَيْلَةُ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ فَإِذَا مُنَادٍ هَلْ مِنْ مُسْتَغْفِرٍ فَأَغْفِرُ لَهُ هَلْ مِنْ سَائِلٍ فَأُعْطِيهِ فَلَا يَسْئَلُ أَحَدٌ إِلَّا أُعْطِيَ إِلَّا زَانِيَةً بِفَرْجِهَا أَوْ مُشْرِكٍ۔"

**Hadeeth # 6:** Hazrat Uthman Ibn Abu Al-‘Aas narrated from the Prophet (peace be upon Him) that He said, “When it is the middle night of Sha’ban, the Announcer proclaims, ‘Is there anyone seeking forgiveness for his sins, so that I forgive him? Is there anyone asking, so that I grant him?’ Hence, every single one of them will have their wish granted except the woman who commits adultery and the infidel.”<sup>6</sup>

7: فِي لَيْلَةِ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ يُوحَى اللَّهُ إِلَى مَلِكِ الْمَوْتِ بِقَبْضِ كُلِّ نَفْسٍ يُرِيدُ قَبْضَهَا فِي تِلْكَ السَّنَةِ۔

**Hadeeth # 7:** In the middle night of Sha’ban, Allah Almighty sends the revelation to the angel of death for capturing the souls of every living being whomsoever He wishes to cause death throughout that year.<sup>7</sup>

8: وَرَوَى سَعِيدُ بْنُ مَنْصُورٍ، حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو مَعْشَرٍ، عَنْ أَبِي حَازِمٍ وَمُحَمَّدِ بْنِ قَيْسٍ، عَنْ عَطَاءِ بْنِ يَسَارٍ، قَالَ: مَا مِنْ لَيْلَةٍ بَعْدَ لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ أَفْضَلُ مِنْ لَيْلَةِ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ، يَنْزِلُ اللَّهُ تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى إِلَى السَّمَاءِ الدُّنْيَا فَيَغْفِرُ لِعِبَادِهِ كُلِّهِمْ إِلَّا لِمُشْرِكٍ أَوْ مَشْحِنٍ أَوْ قَاطِعٍ رَحِمٍ۔"

**Hadeeth # 8:** Hazrat Sa’eed Ibn Mansoor narrated that Abu Ma’shar reported to him, from Abu Hazim and Muhammad Ibn Qais, from ‘Ataa Ibn Yasaar, he said, “There is no other night greater in excellence than the middle night of Sha’ban after Lalatul Qadr, for in this (night) Allah Almighty comes down onto the sky of the world and then forgives His servants except the polytheist, envious and the one cuts off ties.”<sup>8</sup>

Al-Taaj Al-Jaame’ 93  
Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah, p. 199

<sup>6</sup> Imam Baihaqi Narrated in Shu’ab Al-Iman, 3836  
Lataaif Al-Ma’arif, p. 262  
Kanz Al-‘Ummaal 314, Hadeeth No. 35178

<sup>7</sup> Al-Majaalis, narrated from Raashid Ibn ‘Umar by way of Mursal (broken chain), Kanz Al-‘Ummaal, 314, Hadeeth No. 31576

<sup>8</sup> Lataaif Al-Ma’arif, p. 264  
Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah, p. 201

9: رَوَى عَنْ كَعْبٍ قَالَ، "إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَعَالَى يَبْعَثُ لَيْلَةَ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ جِبْرِيلَ إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ فَيَأْمُرُهَا أَنْ تَتَزَيَّنَ، يَقُولُ، "إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَعَالَى قَدْ أَعْتَقَ فِي لَيْلَتِكَ هَذِهِ عَدَدَ نُجُومِ السَّمَاءِ وَعَدَدَ أَيَّامِ الدُّنْيَا وَلَيَالِيهَا وَعَدَدَ وَرَقِ الشَّجَرِ وَزَنَةَ الْجِبَالِ وَعَدَدَ الرِّمَالِ".

**Hadeeth # 9:** Hazrat Ka'b is reported to have said: Allah Almighty sends Hazrat Jibreel towards the paradise in the middle night of Sha'ban so that he commands it to decorate itself and to tell it that Allah Almighty has freed in this night equivalent to the number of stars in the sky, the number of the days and the nights of the world, the number of the leaves of the trees, and as massive as the mass of the mountains, and as many as the number of sands.<sup>9</sup>

10: عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ. قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ، "إِذَا كَانَ لَيْلَةُ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ يَغْفِرُ اللَّهُ لِعِبَادِهِ إِلَّا لِمُشْرِكٍ أَوْ مَشَاحِنٍ".

**Hadeeth # 10:** Hazrat Abu Hurairah is reported to have said: The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon Him) said, "When it is the middle night of Sha'ban, Allah Almighty forgives His servants except the polytheist and the envious."<sup>10</sup>

11: عَنْ أَبِي بَكْرٍ يَعْنِي الصِّدِّيقَ، قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ، "إِذَا كَانَتْ لَيْلَةُ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ يَنْزِلُ اللَّهُ تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى إِلَى سَاءِ الدُّنْيَا فَيَغْفِرُ لِعِبَادِهِ إِلَّا مَا كَانَ مِنْ مُشْرِكٍ أَوْ مَشَاحِنٍ لَا خِيَةَ".

**Hadeeth # 11:** Hazrat Abu Bakr Al-Siddeeq is reported to have said: The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon Him) said, "When it is the middle night of Sha'ban, Allah Almighty reveals onto the sky of the world and forgives His servants except the one that is polytheist or the one is envious of his brother."<sup>11</sup>

<sup>9</sup> Lataaif Al-Ma'arif, p. 264  
Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah, p. 203

<sup>10</sup> Imam Bazaar narrated it, Mukhtasar Zawaa'id Musnad Al-Bazaar, 7121  
Kashf Al-Astaar, 432, Hadeeth No. 2046  
Majma' Al-Zawaa'id, 65

<sup>11</sup> Imam Bazaar narrated it, Mukhtasar Zawaa'id Musnad Al-Bazaar, Hadeeth No. 7122  
Imam Abu Bakr Ibn 'Aasim in Kitaab Al-Sunnah, 509  
Imam Baghwi in Sharh Al-Sunnah, 993  
Imam Baihaqi narrated in Shu'ab Al-Iman, 3/380/381 with three different chains of narrators.  
Imam Abu Bakr Ahmad Ibn 'Ali in Musnad Abu Bakr Al-Siddeeq, Hadeeth No. 104  
Majma' Al-Zawaa'id, 65  
This Hadeeth is said to be Sahih in the footnotes of Kitaab Al-Sunnah

12: عَنْ عَوْفِ بْنِ مَالِكٍ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ، "يَطْلُعُ اللَّهُ تَبَارَكَ وَتَعَالَى عَلَى خَلْقِهِ لَيْلَةَ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ يَغْفِرُ اللَّهُ لِعِبَادِهِ إِلَّا لِمُشْرِكٍ أَوْ مَشَاحِنٍ."

**Hadeeth # 12:** Hazrat ‘Auf Ibn Malik is reported to have said: The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon Him) said, “Allah Almighty pays attention towards His creation in the middle night of Sha’ban. Allah forgives all His servants except the polytheist and the envious person.”<sup>12</sup>

13: عَنْ مَكْحُولٍ، عَنْ كَثِيرِ بْنِ مُرَّةَ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ ﷺ قَالَ، "فِي لَيْلَةِ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ يَغْفِرُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ لِأَهْلِ الْأَرْضِ إِلَّا لِمُشْرِكٍ أَوْ مَشَاحِنٍ."

**Hadeeth # 13:** Hazrat Mak’hool narrated from Katheer Ibn Murrah, He narrated from the Prophet (peace be upon Him) that He said, “Allah the All-mighty and All-powerful forgives the inhabitants of the earth in the middle night of Sha’ban except the polytheist and the envious.”<sup>13</sup>

14: عَنْ عَائِشَةَ قَالَتْ: فَقَدْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ﷺ لَيْلَةً فَخَرَجْتُ فَإِذَا هُوَ بِالْبَقِيعِ، فَقَالَ، "أَكُنْتَ تَخَافِينَ أَنْ يَحْجِيفَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْكَ وَرَسُولُهُ؟" قُلْتُ، "يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ! إِنِّي ظَنَنْتُ إِنَّكَ أَتَيْتَ بَعْضَ نِسَائِكَ،" فَقَالَ، "إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ يَنْزِلُ لَيْلَةَ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ إِلَى سَّمَاءِ الدُّنْيَا فَيَغْفِرُ لَكَثَرٍ مِنْ عَدَدِ شَعْرِ غَنَمٍ كُلِّ."

**Hadeeth # 14:** Hazrat ‘Aaishah is reported to have said: I followed the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon Him) one night and I came out. He was by the Baqee’ (A grave-yard). He then said, “Did you have a fear that Allah and His Messenger will oppress you?” I said, “O the Messenger of Allah! I thought that you had gone to one of your wives.” He then said,

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<sup>12</sup> Imam Bazaar narrated it, Mukhtasar Zawaaid, 1722

Kashf Al-Astaar, 436, Hadeeth No. 2048

Jaame’ Al-Masaaneed, 166, Hadeeth No. 5787

Majma’ Al-Zawaaid, 8

Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah, p. 199

<sup>13</sup> Imam Baihaqi narrated in Shu’ab Al-Iman, 3830, 3831 and said, this is a good Mursal Hadeeth.

Al-Targheeb Wal-Tarheeb, 461

Al-Muttajar Al-Raabe, 773

Kanz Al-‘Ummaal, 313, Hadeeth No. 35175

“Indeed, Allah Almighty reveals onto the sky of the world in the middle night of Sha’ban, then He forgives as many as the number of the hair of Kalb’s (A tribe) goats.<sup>14</sup>

The Hadeeth mentioned above is the shorter version of the Hadeeth which detail is narrated by some Hadeeth masters, such as Imam Tabrani and Imam Baihaqi, wherein His Nafl Salah and His special Du’a in Sajdah are mentioned. He recited the following Du’a during the first Sajdah:

سَجَدَ لَكَ سَوَادِي وَخِيَالِي وَأَمِنْ بِكَ فَوَادِي، هَذِهِ يَدِي وَمَا جَنَيْتُ بِهَا عَلَى نَفْسِي، يَا عَظْمَاءُ، يُمِرُّ بِحِيْلِكِ عَظِيمٍ، اِغْفِرِ الذَّنْبَ الْعَظِيمَ، سَجَدَ وَجْهِي لِلَّذِي خَلَقَهُ وَشَقَّ سَبْعَهُ وَبَصَرَهُ ❁

And the following Du’a in the second Sajdah

أَعُوذُ بِرِضَاكَ مِنْ سَخَطِكَ وَأَعُوذُ بِعَفْوِكَ مِنْ عِقَابِكَ وَأَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْكَ، أَنْتَ كَمَا أَثْنَيْتَ عَلَى نَفْسِكَ أَقُولُ كَمَا قَالَ أَخِي دَاوُدُ أَغْفِرْ وَجْهِي فِي التُّرَابِ لِسَيِّدِي وَحَقَّ لِسَيِّدِي أَنْ يُسَجَدَ لَهُ ❁

And the following Du’a when He got up from the Sajdah:

اَللّٰهُمَّ ارْزُقْنِيْ قَلْبًا مِّنَ الشَّرِّ نَقِيًّا لَا كَافِرًا وَلَا شَقِيًّا ❁

## **LESSON LEARNT FROM THE HADEETHS**

1. *Allah Almighty forgives a great number of people; therefore we should seek forgiveness for our sins and truly repent from them. Allah-willing, we shall receive His forgiveness.*
2. *It’s a great means of forgiveness for even those who do not get forgiven. If they sincerely ask for forgiveness in this blessed night, there is a hope for them.*
3. *Ones that are in the state of poverty should seek the increase in their Halaal sustenance.*
4. *There is a hope of recovery for the sick if they make du’a for their Shifa.*

<sup>14</sup> Imam Tirmidhi narrated it, 739

Ibn Majah, 1389

Imam Ahmad in his Musnad, 238

Imam Baihaqi in Shu’ab Al-Iman, 3825

Fadhaail Al-Awqaat, Hadeeth No. 28, he narrated it with three different chains of narrators.

Imam Baghwi in Sharh Al-Sunnah 162, Hadeeth No. 992

Imam Tabrani in Kitaab Al-Du’a, Hadeeth No. 606

Imam Baghwi in his Masabeeh Al-Sunnah, 449 has included it in Hasan Ahaadeeth.

Lataaif Al-Ma’arif, p. 261

Al-Muttar Al-Raabeh, 772

Kanz Al-‘Ummaal, 314, Hadeeth No. 35180

Al-Taaj Al-Jaame’, 93

Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah, p. 201, 202



5. *One who is undergoing a hardship will attain success by making a sincere Du'a.*
6. *Make Du'a for your worthy future plans and also for the entire Muslim Ummah.*
7. *We should engage ourselves in performing Nawaafil, Quran recitation and Zikr of Allah in the 15<sup>th</sup> night of Sha'ban.*
8. *We should keep fast of the 15<sup>th</sup> date of Sha'ban.*
9. *We should go, visit the graves and make Du'a for their forgiveness.*
10. *Men should try to at least perform the 'Isha and Fajr Salah in congregation.*

**In Short, this night is a gift of the following verse of Quran:**

قُلْ يُعْبَادِي الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَىٰ أَنْفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِن رَّحْمَةِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا إِنَّهُ هُوَ  
الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ ﴿٥٣﴾

*Say you, 'O My bondmen who have committed excesses against their own souls 'despair not of the mercy of Allah' Undoubtedly, Allah forgives all sins, Verily He is the Forgiving, the Merciful.*

*(Al- Zumar, Verse 53)*

### **The Merit of Nawaafil in Lalatul Bara't**

There are different narrations regarding the Nawaafil of Lailatul Bara't.

It has been mentioned in a narration that one should perform 100 Rakats of Nafil Salah; recite Surah Ikhlās 10 times after Surah Fatiha in each Rakat. This Salah is called Salat Al-Khair. Allah Almighty will cast his merciful glance at him 70 times, and he will fulfil his 70 needs at each glance.<sup>15</sup>

It's mentioned in another narration that the Prophet (peace be upon Him) stated: Whichever person among my nation performs 10 Rakats of Nafil Salah in a manner that he recites Surah Ikhlās 11 times after Surah Fatiha in each Rakat, his sins will be forgiven and he will receive blessing in his age.<sup>16</sup>

### **Special Historical Events Regarding This Auspicious Night**

#### **Hazrat 'Isa 'Alaihis Salam**

It's mentioned in Rawdh Al-Afkaar that Hazrat Sayyiduna 'Isa (peace be upon Him) went onto a mountain. He saw a white stone there. He took a great liking to that stone. Allah Almighty sent to Him a revelation at that time: "O 'Isa! Should I not show you something more extraordinary

<sup>15</sup> Ghunyat Al-Taalibeen Vol. 1, p. 192

<sup>16</sup> Nuzhat Al-Majaalis, Vol. 1, p. 192



than this stone?” Hazrat ‘Isa (peace be upon Him) said, “Indeed.” The stone then burst and there was an elderly man inside with a green stick in his hand. There was also a grape tree from which he used to eat.

He asked the elderly man, “How long have you spent here in worship?” He replied, “I have been worshipping here for the duration of four hundred years.”

Hazrat ‘Isa (peace be upon Him) then said, “O Allah! You have not created more of an excellent creation than this in my opinion.”

Allah Almighty replied, “O ‘Isa! Whoever from amongst the nation of my beloved Muhammad Mustafa (peace be upon Him) performs only two Rakats of Nafil Salah at the 15<sup>th</sup> night of Sha’ban, the reward of that Salah will be greater than the entire worship of this person for four hundred years.”

Hearing this statement of Allah Almighty, Hazrat ‘Isa (peace be upon Him) said, “I wish that I was also a follower of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon Him).”<sup>17</sup>

### **The Repentance of a Great Saint In Lalatul Bara’t**

Once, when someone asked Hazrat Malik Ibn Deenaar (may Allah shower mercy upon Him) about the cause of his repentance. He said, “I was in a habit of drinking wine. I had a small daughter who used to empty my wine bottles. She passed away when she was two years old which caused my heart a great sorrow.

When it was the 15<sup>th</sup> night of Sha’ban, I had a dream that it was the day of resurrection and a big anaconda, began to follow me with it’s mouth open. I started to run. When I saw an elderly person, I told him, “Save me from this snake; Allah will protect you.”

He was crying and replied, “I cannot save you since I am very weak, but you should go ahead; perhaps Allah may create a means of salvation for you.”

I ran and went by a fire. A voice echoed, “Go back!” When I turned back the snake continued to follow me. I passed by that elderly person again and asked for refuge. He said, “I am weak; I cannot help you, but you should go to that mountain. It has the trusts of the Muslims. If you have any share there, it will assist you.”

When I was near that mountain, an angel said, “Open the door; perhaps there might have been a trust of his by you that could provide him refuge from the enemy.” When the door opened, I saw my baby girl all of a sudden. She grabbed me with her right hand and repelled the anaconda with her left hand. When the snake ran away, the girl spoke,

“My dear father!

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<sup>17</sup> Nuzhat Al-Majaalis vol. 1, p. 132

أَلَمْ يَأْنِ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْ تَخْشَعَ قُلُوبُهُمْ لِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ

*Has not the time arrived for the believers that their hearts should lean for the remembrance of Allah?*

*(Al-Hadeed 57, Verse 16)*

I asked her, “Do you have the knowledge of Quran?” She said, “Yes.” I asked her about the snake, she said, “It was your bad deed and that elderly man was your good deed.”

Hazrat Malik says: “I woke up in a shock and made the complete repentance.”<sup>18</sup>

### **The Practice of the People of Makkah Mukaramah**

From the ancient days up till now the people of Makkah Mukarramah both men and women used to go and perform Nafl Salah in the Sacred Masjid (Masjid Al-Haram) and make Tawaaf, and kept this practice alive. People used to recite the Holy Quran inside the Sacred Masjid and there were also people who performed 100 Rakats of Nafl Salah therein, with Surah Ikhlas 10 times after Surah Fatiha in each Rakat. They used to take the Zam-Zam water in that night; drank it and had bath with it, and they also preserved it by themselves for curing the sick. They used to receive blessings through this practice of that night.<sup>19</sup>

### **Hazrat Mujaddid Alf Thaani And Lailatul Bara't**

The wife of Hazrat Mujaddid Alf Thaani (The Reviver of Islam of the 2<sup>nd</sup> thousandth year A.H.) Shaikh Ahmad Sirhindi mentioned that one night he was spending some time in an isolated room. When some part of the night had elapsed, he suddenly came inside the house while I was engaged in Tasbeeh on Musalla. I asked him, “Did you perform the Tahajjud Salah?” He replied, “Not yet, since I find weakness within myself. I am thinking of performing the Tahajjud Salah after relaxing for a while.” He woke up after a short nap, asked for water and made Wudhu. I said, “Who knows that whose name is erased from amongst the living ones and whose name got inscripted. . .!”

He said, “You are saying this in a state of confusion and doubt, imagine the state of one who knows and sees his name is being erased.”

The indication was towards himself.

*(Wisaale Ahmadi)*

<sup>18</sup> Nuzhat Al-Majaalis vol. 1, p. 133

<sup>19</sup> Akhbaar Makkah by Imam Abu Abdullah Muhammad Ibn Is'haaq (amongst the scholars of 3<sup>rd</sup> century A.H.)

## **The Spiritual And Mystical Concept of Lailatul Bara't (The Night Of Salvation)**

Although the sins are committed by the human but it's very heart-rending to express the unfaithfulness after having pledged the allegiance on faithfulness. Sometimes it happens that when an item is sold, and if the seller were to still have the audacity say that this item is in my possession, I have the right over it and I have the control over it, then it is definitely tyranny and injustice to the buyer. No one in a well-cultured society will tolerate such a type of tyrannical attitude, but is it not the core of surprise that we have established this attitude of injustice with that supreme personality who is the creator and the absolute owner and Master of the entire universe?! Allah Almighty states in the Glorious Quran:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ اشْتَرَى مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَنْفُسَهُمْ وَأَمْوَالَهُمْ بِأَنْ لَهُمُ الْجَنَّةُ

*No doubt. Allah has purchased from the muslims their lives and their belongings against this return that for them is Paradise.*

*(Al-Taubah, Verse 111)*

As it is such that when we have already made the deal, then this life and belongings of ours remain no longer to be ours. We have no so-called right and control over it. We are no longer the controller of our sleeping, sitting, standing, eating and drinking, give and take patterns. All these aspects are now under the divine supervision of that Supreme Lord. We have no more control over anything, but even then if we continue to lead our lives as we please, and our fancies are in lead against His pleasure in every aspect of our lives, then it could only mean two things; either we haven't yet made the deal with our Lord, or we are operating in His kingdom against His permission and will. There could never be a greater example of injustice under the sun than this.

For instance, there is someone who purchased the land, cement, bricks and steel etc. in order to build a house. He hired the architect, and then it took him years of hard work and wealth to make the structure stand, and when it is finally built and it's the time to occupy the premises, then all of a sudden someone comes and claims the possession of the house and says, "I will spend my life therein as I please. I will not let you occupy it." Is it not injustice? Will anyone of us stand for this kind of tyranny? Then how can we apply something, which we cannot tolerate, to the one who is the creator of this entire universe.

Allah Almighty had firstly arranged the sperm to be placed into the womb of the mother for the sake of our birth. He allowed it go through all the developing processes stage by stage for nine months. He clothed that dirty drop with the clean attire of flesh and bones. He created the feeling and movement in the lifeless fetus. He inspired our brains with the faculty to think and our hearts the warmth of love. He provided us with the loyalty of a father and the sacrifice of a mother in her lap. He continued our development in this manner, and built our humanly embodiment till this structure reached its age of maturity. When we finally became enabled that we could now let His rules and regulations rule within this structure of His and let His pleasure be its resident; we

instead, allowed no space for His commands and rulings, and made the fancies of our baser-self its residents.

إِنَّهُ كَانَ ظَلُومًا جَهُولًا ﴿٧٢﴾

*Undoubtedly, he is the bearer of hardship, ignorant.*

*(Al-Ahzaab 33, Verse 72)*

But, our Lord, the most merciful the kindest recalls the ones who forgot Him and led their lives in transgression. He reminds us of the promise of love and submission:

أَلَمْ يَأْنِ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْ تَخْشَعَ قُلُوبُهُمْ لِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ

*Has not the time arrived for the believers that their hearts should lean for the remembrance of Allah?*

*(Al-Hadeed 57, Verse 16)*

My dear, He is not happy to punish us for our sins, which is why He says:

مَا يَفْعَلُ اللَّهُ بِعَذَابِكُمْ إِنْ شَكَرْتُمْ وَآمَنْتُمْ ط

*And what will Allah do by tormenting you? If you accept the just and accept faith.*

*(Al-Nisa 4, Verse 147)*

If we happened to transgress by sinning, then it's not the kind of stain that could not be removed, and not only one or two, but even if we have an ocean full of sins in our account, He the all-Forgiving will still forgive us. A black spot in our heart stands no chance against His ultimate grace. Bring the darkness of the entire universe and it will be washed away. Just come forward at last. Look at how restless the embrace of mercy is to wrap you:

وَسَارِعُوا إِلَى مَغْفِرَةٍ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا السَّمَوَاتُ وَالْأَرْضُ ۖ

*And run towards the forgiveness of your Lord, and to such a paradise whose width covers all heavens and earth.*

*(Aale Imraan 3, Verse 133)*

And again, He says:

وَالَّذِينَ إِذَا فَعَلُوا فَحِشَةً أَوْ ظَلَمُوا أَنْفُسَهُمْ ذَكَرُوا اللَّهَ فَاسْتَغْفَرُوا لِذُنُوبِهِمْ وَمَن يَغْفِرِ الذُّنُوبَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ ۖ

وَلَمْ يُصِرُّوا عَلَىٰ مَا فَعَلُوا وَهُمْ يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٣٥﴾

*And those who, when they have committed indecency or wronged their own souls, beg forgiveness for their sins remembering Allah, and who forgives sins save Allah? And do not*

*persist knowingly in what they have done.*

أُولَئِكَ جَزَاءُهم مَغْفِرَةٌ مِّن رَّبِّهم وَجَنَّتْ تَجْرِي مِن تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا وَنِعْمَ أَجْرُ

الْعَمَلِينَ ﴿١٣٦﴾ ط

*For such the recompense is their 'Lords forgiveness and Gardens with rivers flowing underneath, they shall remain for ever therein, and what an excellent reward is for workers.*

*(Aale Imraan 3, Verse 135, 136)*

We ought to turn to our Lord to seek His forgiveness and beg for His forgives and grace. We ought to turn to Him! We cannot go to Sidrat Al-Muntaha nor can we reach His 'Arsh. Therefore our Merciful Allah has blessed us that no problem if you cannot come, I can definitely come. In the last part of night when the world is in deep sleep, Allah Almighty creates awareness and proclaims from the first sky, "Is there anyone asking, so that I fulfil his wish."

وَبِالْأَسْحَارِ هُمْ يَسْتَغْفِرُونَ ﴿١٨﴾

*And in the last part of the night they used to seek forgiveness.*

*(Al-Dhaariyaat 51, Verse 18)*

But the ones in need are fast asleep and cosy and the bestower continues to proclaim.

Generally, the thirsty goes to the water, but sometimes, when the water happens to reveal its graceful attribute, it itself goes to the thirsty. The grace and mercy of that absolutely Merciful one reveals the shower of His ultimate mercy, forgiveness and blessing itself upon the one that are thirsty for it. He reveals it in the pin drop silence when the night spreads its black locks. Allah Almighty does not want to hurt his personality in the broad day light. It is for this reason that He chose the night to forgive and clean us, so that when the darkness of sins is being washed from the mirror of the heart, it does not become apparent due to the night, and that no third person may interact within the submissiveness of the slave towards the Master, and the slave could go as lower as possible in the mighty court of his Lord to please his Master.

He continued to come in the last part of the night to forgive the sinners while they remained asleep. He proclaimed every night and they could not get up even for one night, but His care did not turn to be fruitless. There were many that worship Him in the night:

وَالَّذِينَ يَبِيتُونَ لِرَبِّهم

*And those who pass the night for their Lord*

*(Al-Furqaan 25, Verse 64)*

They remained awake every night, pleaded whenever He proclaimed in the night and attained success by getting their wishes fulfilled. They filled their account with mercy and blessings. They

do it every night without letting any night pass in vain. For them, every night is Lailatul Bara't (The Night Of Salvation).

When Allah Almighty observes that His Prophets, friends etc. have succeeded but the sinners did not get a share from those blessings. He continued to call out to distribute His mercy and they remained lost in their sleep. Although, they were not ready to make an attempt to get up in the last part of the night, but He, on the other hand, is not eager to leave them without having them blessed with His ultimate mercy. The laziness overcame them but His mercy is strong. It was then decided that there should be a night in which there should not be a time restriction of the last part of the night, then Lailatul bara't came into existence, which remains the whole night from the sunset till the rise of dawn. Refer to the valuable sayings of the beloved Prophet (peace be upon Him) in the beginning of the book to find out the excellence of this auspicious night. Let us beg for the mercy of our Lord almighty in this night and may Allah ta'ala grant us steadfastness on worshipping in the entire 15<sup>th</sup> night of Sha'ban Al-Mu'azzam and also in the later part of the nights. Ameen!