

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ وُلُودِ آدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصْلَى عَلَيْهِ

In The Name Of Allah The Most Compassionate Very Merciful
All Praise Due To Allah And Peace And Blessings Be Upon His Beloved Messenger

Safar – The 2nd Month of Islamic Calendar

The second month of Islam is called Safar. It is extracted from the root word “Sifar”. The meaning of this is “empty”. As we have already explained, since this comes after Muharram and Muharram was a month when it was not permissible to fight in, the Arabs used to leave their homes to fight battles in Safar, hence they used to leave their homes “empty”.

Many wrong notions about this month

There are many people who believe that this is a “bad-luck” month. They also do not have marriages in this month and if someone has been married in this month, they do not allow the girl to leave the house. They also refrain from a lot of other acts which have no basis in Islam. Some also consider the first thirteen days as “bad-luck days”. They even consider these thirteen days as very sharp in ill omen. All of this is certainly based on ignorance. At the same time, there are some people who go out of their way to celebrate the last Wednesday of this month. They close their shops and go out for picnics and for other celebrations. Some of them have special bath and display immense happiness on this occasion. They also say that it was on this day that the Holy Prophet peace be upon him also had a special bath after recovering from his illness and that he also went out of Madina shareef (as an act of celebration). All of this is completely without basis.

As a matter of fact, it was on this day when the illness of the Holy Prophet peace be upon him became more severe!

Some people also have this belief that on this day, all types of ill omen and bad luck descends and they claim many other things which have no foundation at all. Some of these acts are also refuted in the following Hadith shareef:

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Hurayrah May Allah have mercy on him narrates that the Holy Prophet peace be upon him has stated:

لَا عَدُوٌّ وَلَا حَامَةٌ وَلَا نَوْعٌ وَلَا صَفَرٌ

“There is no such thing as contagious disease, nor is there Haama, nor is there a special position for Moon or Safar.”

(Mishkaat p. 391)

Imam Muslim May Allah have mercy on him has used the word Anwaa to describe the plural of the word Nau'. This signifies the position of the stars. It has eighteen stages in total and the Arabs had this belief that when the moon reaches certain stages or degrees of these stars, there will be rain. However, the Holy Prophet peace be upon him refuted this notion and made it clear that rain is something which is destined by the Almighty azza wa jall.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Hurayrah May Allah have mercy on him narrates that the Holy Prophet peace be upon him has stated:

لَا عَدُوٌّ وَلَا حَامَةٌ وَلَا صَفَرٌ فَقَالَ أَخْرَى يَارَسُولَ اللَّهِ فَيَا بَالِ تَكُونُ فِي الرَّمَلِ
لَكَانَهَا أَنْطَبَا فَيُخَالِطُهَا الْبَعِيرُ الْأَجَرَبُ فَيُجْرِيْهَا فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَيَنْ أَعْدَى
الْأُولَى

“Illness is not spread from one to another and neither is there Haama nor safar.” A Bedouin then asked, “O Prophet of Allah peace be upon him! What is the reason that a camel in the wild is clean like a gazelle, however, when a camel with skin rash joins this camel, then even (this clean camel) also develops a rash?” The Holy Prophet peace be upon him replied, “Who had made this

first camel develop the rash? It is wrong to believe that this illness would spread to another.”

(Bukhari, Mishkaat)

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Hurayrah May Allah have mercy on him narrates that the Holy Prophet peace be upon him has stated that:

لَا عَدُوٌّ وَلَا طِيرٌ وَلَا حَامَةٌ وَلَا صَفَرٌ وَلَا فَرَّ مِنَ الْمُسْجَدِ وَمِنْ كَمَا تَفَرَّ مِنَ الْأَسَدِ

“There is (no such thing as) ‘Adwa, in other words, disease cannot spread and neither is there anything such as “bad omen” and nor Haamah or Safar but run away from a person with plague as fast as you would run away from a lion.”

The reason for this is that when a person is with this person who has the plague, and he also gets this, he would think that it is because it has passed on the other person. Therefore, to remove this misconception, it is considered better to stay away from the affected person.

An explanation of these Ahadith

La ‘Adwa means that one’s disease cannot pass to another person. In the days of ignorance, if someone saw another person with any disease or illness, they used to shun that person and never used to mix with this person or even eat or drink with this affected person. The same is being said in the present times by certain individuals.

However, the greatest doctor of all, meaning the Holy Prophet peace be upon him has clearly informed us that this is merely an ignorant thinking and that disease or illness can pass from one to another. This proves that as the Almighty azza wa jall has bestowed illness on one person, in like manner, He can also bestow the same illness on another person, and not because the person was sitting with someone who was ill.

The early Arabs also used to perform a certain act before they undertook any journey. One of their ignorant acts was that before they undertook any journey, they used to release a bird and if it flew in the direction of right, they used to consider this as a good omen. Thereafter only, they undertook a certain task or journey. If the bird flew in the left direction, then they considered this a bad

omen and used to refrain from any journey or undertaking any certain task. However, with the coming of Islam, the Holy Prophet peace be upon him banned all of these types of ignorant behaviors and made it clear that there was no place for these things in Islam.

Hammah - The meaning of Haamah is head. It is also the name of a certain bird. The early Arabs before Islam had this belief that from the head of a murdered person, there appears a certain type of bird. The name of this bird was Haamah. This bird always cries for water until the person responsible is killed.

Some even believed that the soul of the murdered person became a bird and also cries out so that it can capture that person who was guilty of the murder. When it captures this person, then it flies away. Some believed that if Hamma

h considered someone as a bad person or evil person and when this person enters the house of anyone, the house becomes empty or someone dies etc.

In the present time as well, there are certain ignorant people who still hold this belief. However, the Holy Prophet peace be upon him refuted all of these ignorant beliefs.

La Safar - There are many opinions in this regard. Some have said that it implies this specific month and people used to have this belief that it was a month of bad luck and ill omen. Hence, when the word "La Safar" is used, it means that there is nothing as such thing in Islam. Some used to believe that Safar was the name of a snake which appeared in the stomach and it was the belief of early Arabs that this snake bit a person when he was hungry and also caused harm to him. They used to also believe that the pain felt by a person when he was hungry was also because of the biting of this snake. It is also able to pass from one person to the next.

However, the Holy Prophet peace be upon him completely refuted all of these erroneous beliefs.

(Ash'atul Lam'aat. 3/62).

Good omen:

To be able to deduce a good omen is also something which has been recommended in Islam. However, there are different ways in which this was performed in Islam. The Holy Prophet peace be upon him used to deduce this with people's names and the names of their locality.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abullah ibn Masud May Allah have mercy on him narrates that the Holy Prophet peace be upon him has stated:

الْطِبِيرِيُّ شَرِيكٌ قَالَ لَهُ شَكَّاً وَمَا مِنَّا إِلَّا وَلِكَنَّ اللَّهَ يُنْهِي هُبَّةً بِالْتَّوْكِلِ

“Fortune telling is Shirk in Islam. He mentioned this thrice. We receive what we get from Allah azza wa jall and it is Him we trust.”

(Abu Dawood, Tirmidhi, Mishkaat shareef. 392).

In other words, fortune telling and trying to predict what is to happen in future, all of these are causes of shirk. And if one has this certainty that this fortune telling is something which will definitely happen, then it is kufr.

Nafil on the first night of Safar

In the first night of Safar, after the Esha Salah, every Muslim should perform four rakah of Nafil Salah. In the first rakah, after Surah Fatiha, he should read Surah Kafirun fifteen times. In the second rakah, he should read Surah Ikhlas fifteen times after Surah Fatiha. In the third rakah, after the Surah Fatiha, he should read Surah Falaq fifteen times. In the fourth rakah, after the Surah Fatiha, he should read Surah Naas fifteen times.

After this Salah, he should read “Iyya ka nabbudu wa iyya kanas ta’een” a few times. Thereafter, he should read Durood shareef seventy times. The Almighty azza wa jall will bestow immense reward on him and protect him from various calamites.

(Rahatal Qulub)

Nafil on the last Wednesday of Safar.

On this day, one should perform proper Ghusal and then during the time of Chaasht, he should read two rakah of Nafil Salah. After Surah Fatiha, he should read Surah Ikhlas eleven times and after reading Salam, he should recite the following Durood Shareef seventy times.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ وَعَلَى أَهْلِ أَهْلِهِ وَاصْحَّابِهِ وَسَلِّمْ

And then make the following Du'a:

اللَّهُمَّ أَصْرِفْ عَنِّي سُوءَ هَذَا الْيَوْمِ وَأَعْصِنِي مِنْ شُوْمِهِ وَجَنِّبْنِي عَيْخَافُ فِيهِ مِنْ
نُحُوسَاتِهِ وَكَرَامَاتِهِ بِفَضْلِكَ يَا رَافِعَ الشُّرُورِ يَا مُلِكَ النُّشُورِ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ وَصَلَّى
اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ وَالْهَادِيِّ وَصَحْبِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

(Rahatul Qulub, Jawaahire Ghaibi)

One is also encouraged to read two rakah of Nafil Salah. After Surah Fatiha, in the first rakah recite Surah Ikhlas three times after Surah Fatiha. After the Nafil Salah, read the following eighty times each:

Surah Al Nashrah

Surah Wat teen

Surah Nasr

Surah Ikhlas.

The Almighty azza wa jall will bestow barakah in his life and will also make his heart rich and independent.

(Jawaahir Ghaybi)