

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ وَلَدِ آدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصَلَّى عَلَيْهِ

Allah Almighty, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah Almighty, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon
His Beloved Messenger – *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* – his family & his
companions – *may Allah be pleased with them all*

The Virtues of a Masjid

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Hurayrah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that there was once a black male or female who used to serve the Masjid. However, he or she passed away and no one informed Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - about it. One day, Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - mentioned that he did not see this person any more.

The blessed Ashaab replied, “O Prophet of Allah! He has passed away.”

Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - stated, “Why did you not inform me about this?”

The blessed Ashaab mentioned that they did not want to disturb Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. However, Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - asked them to show him where the grave of

the person was and when he reached at the grave, he re-performed the Janaza of this person. (Sahih Bukhari Shareef, Sahih Muslim Shareef)

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Hurayrah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - has stated that, "Salaah with congregation is twenty five times more excellent than Salaah in one's house or in the bazaar. Therefore, when a person makes proper Wudu and leaves to go to the Masjid, for every step he takes, Allah Almighty raises his status one level higher. One sin of his is also deleted. When he reaches the Masjid, as long as he is in the Masjid, he continues to receive Thawaab (as if he is performing Salaah). As long as he is at that place where he reads his Salaah, the Angels make Du'a for him which is, 'O Allah! Pardon him. O Allah have Mercy on him.' This continues until that moment when his Wudu becomes invalid." (Sahih Bukhari Shareef)

There was an Ansari whose house was the furthest from the Masjid. However, there was no Salaah which he had not performed with Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. Hadrat Sayyiduna Ubay bin Ka'ab - *may Allah be pleased with him* - felt sorry for him and said to him, "If only you could purchase a donkey and travel to the Masjid on this donkey. On hot days and in the dark, it would protect you from insects."

The Ansari replied, "I do not wish that my house be right next to the blessed house of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. In fact, I wish that when I come and go from the Masjid, every step (is recorded)."

Obviously Hadrat Sayyiduna Ubay bin Ka'ab - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was surprised at the behaviour of this Ansari and he went to Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - and mentioned to him what had happened. Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - replied, "Everything for you has been kept in the Divine Court of Allah Almighty. The reward for which you are hopeful of, you will receive that reward." (Muslim Shareef)

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Hurayrah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - has stated that, "When you pass by the orchards of Jannah, then you should also pick some fruits." He was asked, "O Prophet of Allah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*! What

is the orchard of Jannah and its fruits?” He replied, “The Masjid is the orchard of Jannah and its fruit is, “*Subhaanallah, Wal Hamdulillah, Wa Laa Ilaaha Illal Laahu Wallaahu Akbar.*” (Tirmidi Shareef)

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Hurayrah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - has stated that, “He who has a bath on Jum’uah and is the first to enter the Masjid, he has sacrificed a camel. If he is the second person, it is as if he has sacrificed a cow. If he is the third person, then he has sacrificed a goat with horns. If he is the fourth person to enter, he has sacrificed a fowl. If he is the fifth person to enter, it is like he had given an egg in the path of Allah Almighty. When the Imam appears to read the Khutbah, then the Angels also busy themselves listening (to the Khutbah). (Sahih Bukhari Shareef and Sahih Muslim Shareef)

In one report Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - has stated that, “He who males Ghusl on Friday and if he has fragrance, he applies this fragrance and wears nice clothing and goes to the Masjid peacefully; then if he has the opportunity, he reads few rak’ah and does not trouble anyone. When the Imaan appears, he remains silent until the Salaah is complete, then this action (of his) is a Kaffarah for him until the next Jum’uah.” (Ibn Khuzaymah, Majma’uz Zawaa’id).

Sayyidah Safeeyah - *may Allah be pleased with her* - narrates that it was the last ten days of Ramadaan and Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - was in I’tikaaf. She went to meet him. She spoke a little and then decided to leave.

Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - also accompanied her to leave her in her house. When she reached the door of Sayyidah Umme Salmah - *may Allah be pleased with her* - near the Masjid, she passed by some men from the Ansaar. Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - then greeted them and said, “There is nothing in this, this is my wife Safeeyah binte Hayy.”

They then said, “Glory be to Allah Almighty. It is strange of O Prophet of Allah!”

In other words, they displayed surprise that they would even think anything evil in the actions of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. However, Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - replied, "Satan runs in the body like how blood runs and I feared that perchance, he does not instill evil thoughts in your hearts." (Sahih Bukhari Shareef, Sahih Muslim Shareef and Ibn Maja Shareef)

Sayyidah Ayesha - *may Allah be pleased with her* - narrates that there was a black female slave in one of the tribes. They had freed her but she continued to live with them. This same female narrates, "One of the girls in this tribe also had a red belt tied around the waist and she had it removed or it fell on its own. A hawk flew past and thinking that it was piece of meat swooped and grabbed this belt. The tribe continued to search for this belt but could not find it. They then accused me of stealing this item. They continued to search every part of my body and while I was standing in this embarrassment, the same hawk flew past and threw the belt on the ground. This belt fell in between all of them. I then said to them that they had accused me without reason and now that the belt had appeared, they should look after it."

Sayyidah Ayesha - *may Allah be pleased with her* - narrates that this female then approached Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - and accepted Islam. Her place of residence was in the inner part of the Masjid. Sayyidah Ayesha - *may Allah be pleased with her* - mentions that this female used to come and talk to her. (Sahih Bukhari Shareef)

Hadrat Sayyiduna Sahl bin Sa'ad - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that once Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - did not find Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali - *may Allah be pleased with him* - at his house. He asked his beloved daughter about his whereabouts. She replied, "There was an argument between us and he became angry and went outside. He also did not sleep here."

Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - then asked someone to see where he was. This person searched and came and informed Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - that he was sleeping in the Masjid. When Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - heard this, he entered the Masjid and went to the place where Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali -

may Allah be pleased with him - was sleeping. The side on which he was sleeping had also become dusty and sandy. Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - then dusted the sand from him and said, "O Aba Taraab! Awake." (This means father of sand.) (Sahih Bukhari Shareef)

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Sa'eed Khudri - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that once Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - delivered a Khutbah and he stated, "Without doubt, Allah Almighty has given a certain slave a choice to either stay in the world or to choose that which is with Allah Almighty. That person had chosen that which is with Allah Almighty". When Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Bakr - *may Allah be pleased with him* - heard this, he began to weep. When I saw this, I thought to myself; what must be the reason that he is weeping? The words seems very simple. The Allah Almighty had given a certain slave to either choose the world or the Hereafter and this person had chosen the Hereafter. What, therefore, is the purpose for weeping? However, later on, the secret was revealed that this slave was none other than Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - and Hadrat Sayyiduna abu Bakr - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was the most learned among us."

Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - then said to him, "O Abu Bakr! Do not weep. The wealth and company of no one had helped me as much as the wealth and company of Abu Bakr. If I wanted to choose anyone in my Ummah as my Khaleel (or best friend), I would choose Abu Bakr as my Khaleel, however, in Islam brotherhood and friendship is most necessary. In the Masjid, all doors should be closed except the door of Abu Bakr." (Sahih Bukhari Shareef)

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Hurayrah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - has stated that, "There will be seven people whom the Allah Almighty will bless with the Shade of the Divine Throne on the Day of Judgement. (This would be that day) in which there will no shade besides this shade. They are: A just ruler, that young person who spent his youth in Ibadah. That person whose heart is attached to the Masjid. Those two people who have friendship for the sake of Allah and they meet on this basis and they depart (from each other) on this basis. And that person who was invited by a female whose family and lineage and beauty (is par excellence) to commit adultery (with her) and he replied that he fears His Lord. And that person who gives charity is such a private

manner that his left hand is unaware of what his right hand had given and that person who remembers the Allah Almighty secretly and his eyes also become tearful.” (Sahih Bukhari Shareef)