

Importance of the first Thursday Night of the Month of Rajab

Translated from Al-Murāqibāt by Saleem Bhimji (www.al-mubin.org)

It is narrated from the Prophet of Islām (blessings of Allāh be upon him and his family) that he said:

“Do not be heedless of the first Thursday night of the month of Rajab since it is this night that the Angels have called “Layatul Raghāib”. It has been called by this name since when one-third of the night has passed by, there is not a single Angel in the Heavens or on the Earth except that he is at the Ka’bah performing the Tawāf in unity with one another. At this time, Allāh, not “paying attention” to what they are doing, glances towards the Ka’bah and says to them, “O’ my Angels! Whatever you wish to ask for, ask it now!” The Angles reply, “Our only request is that you forgive those people who are fasting during the month of Rajab.” Allāh then replies to the Angels, “I have done so.”

The Prophet then continued, “It is recommended that whoever hears this ḥadīth on this night should continuously send greetings upon the Angels and thus, they would be living up to the promise made in the Qur’ān in Sūrah an-Nisā, Verse 86 which states:

وَإِذَا حَيَّيْتُمْ بِتَحِيَّةٍ فَحَيُّوا بِأَحْسَنَ مِنْهَا أَوْ رُدُّوهَا إِنَّ اللَّهَ
كَانَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ حَسِيبًا

When a (courteous) greeting is offered you, meet it with a greeting still more courteous, or (at least) of equal courtesy. Allah takes careful account of all things.

The Prophet then went on to say, “Whoever fasts the first Thursday of the Month of Rajab and then between Ṣalāt al-Maghrib and ‘Isha performs a 12 Rak’at Ṣalāt and in each Rak’at recites:

- Sūrah al-Fātiḥa once
- Sūrah al-Qadr three times
- Sūrah al-Ikhlāṣ twelve times

And then after the Ṣalāt is finished, he send salawat on the Prophet by saying:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ وَعَلَى آلِهِ

he then goes into sajdah and says the following 70 times:

سُبُّوحٌ قُدُّوسٌ رَبُّ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالرُّوحِ

he then lifts his head up and says the following once:

رَبِّ اغْفِرْ وَارْحَمْ وَتَجَاوَزْ عَمَّا تَعْلَمُ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَلِيُّ الْأَعْظَمُ

he then goes into back into sajdah and says the following 70 times:

سُبُّوحٌ قُدُّوسٌ رَبُّ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالرُّوحِ

and then asks Allāh for his legitimate desires, Insha-Allāh, Allāh will fulfill his wishes.

The Prophet then said, “I swear by the one who holds my life in his hands, there is no male or female servant of Allāh that performs this Ṣalāt except that Allāh forgives all of his or her sins even if the amount of sins were so great to equal the size of a river or the weight of a mountain or the number of leaves of all of the trees. On the day of Judgment, 700 people of his family who were worthy of being thrown into the fire will be granted intercession by such a person (who performed this Ṣalāt). In the first night in his grave, Allāh will change this Ṣalāt into the form of the most beautiful appearance and it will be presented to the person smiling and in a pleasant and clear voice (this Ṣalāt) will say, ‘O’ my beloved! I am here to give you a reward that you are saved from all sorts of tribulations.’ The person will ask, ‘Who are you? I have not seen a more beautiful face than yours nor have I smelt a more pleasant aroma than that of you.’ The answer will come, ‘O’ my beloved! I am the reward for that Ṣalāt that you performed on that particular night, in that particular city of that particular month in that particular year. I have come to you tonight so that I can fulfill my rights to you. I will be your sole company tonite and will remove all worries from your heart. On the day when the trumpet shall be blown and when the day of Qiyāmat is taking place, I will act as a shadow above your head and you will never lose any goodness from your Master (Allāh) from this day forward.”

Was Salām ‘Alaikum,
Saleem