

CONTENTS

LAYLATUL QADR NIGHT	1
AN INTRODUCTION TO LAYLATUL QADR	2
SURATUL QADR (97)	5
BENEFITS OF SURATUL QADR	13
PLANNING THE NIGHT OF QADR	17
SUGGESTED THINGS TO DO	18
MAIN ASPECTS OF THE A'MAAL OF LAYLATUL QADR	19
THE A'MAAL FOR LAYLATUL QADR	22
SURATUL 'ANKABUT	27
THE SPIDER'S WEB	28
SURATUR RUM (30)	31
SURATUD DUKHAN (44)	35
AFTER THE A'MAAL DIVIDE THE NIGHT INTO 3 PARTS	36
PROPHET MUSA'S CONVERSATION WITH GOD	37
MEMO FROM GOD	38
ONE NIGHT OF QADR	41
RELATIONSHIPS	42
FORGIVENESS	44
YA RABBIY	45

LAYLATUL QADR NIGHT

"Truth is the Night of Qadr, hidden amid the other nights so the soul may try each one. Not all nights are the Night of Qadr, yet all nights aren't empty of it either"

Jalaluddin Rumi

AN INTRODUCTION TO LAYLATUL QADR

Laylatul Qadr is a celebration to commemorate the arrival of the final guidance for human beings. It is a tribute to the commencement of the message revealed to humankind by the Creator, a message which shows them the way to achieve their full potential.

Just as the arrival of a child is celebrated, on its birth and then every year, as a bringer of joy and fulfilment for the family, Laylatul Qadr is celebrated as a bringer of light and guidance for humankind.

Laylatul Qadr is celebrated with a feast for the spirit, a feast of worship and prayers.

"My Rabb! I worship you not because I am desirous of Janna, nor because I fear Jahannam, I worship You, because You are worthy of worship."- Imam Ali (pbuh)

It is a unique night on which our destiny to a large extent can be changed and much depends on us, how we decide to utilize both the night and the day of Qadr.

The Prophet (pbuh) has explained to us that Allah has planned the systems of the universe in such a way that everyone's destiny will be determined on an yearly basis in the angelic spheres through the agency of Mahdi (pbuh) who is the leader and focus of the whole spiritual world thus giving the human being a unique opportunity to influence his own future (gains, loss/health/sickness, richness/poverty/etc by performing certain acts, e.g. dua salaa, sadaqa, acquiring knowledge, recitation of Qur'an......)

"Allah has favoured Friday over all other days, the month of Ramadhan over all other months, and Laylatul Qadr over all other nights." Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)

"The Holy Qur'an was revealed as a whole during the month of Ramadan at the Ancient House (the Ka'ba), then from there it was

revealed along the span of (more than) twenty years." Imam Sadiq (pbuh)

"The Books of Ibrahim (pbuh) were revealed on the first night of the month of Ramadan; the Torah was revealed on the sixth of the month of Ramadan; the Gospel (Injil) was revealed on the thirteenth of the month of Ramadan; the Psalms (Zabur) were revealed on the eighteenth of the month of Ramadan, and the Holy Qur'an was revealed on the twenty-third of the month of Ramadan." Imam Sadiq (pbuh)

Imam Baqir (pbuh), quoting Rasulullah (pbuh) has said that whoever spends Laylatul-Qadr adoring his Lord will have all his sins forgiven even if they had numbered as many as the stars in the heavens, the weight of the mountains, or the measures of the seas.

Imam Baqir (pbuh) has said, "The 17th night of the month of Ramadan is when the two parties met, and the 19th is when the lists of the pilgrims is written down, and the 21st is when successors to the Prophets passed away and Isa (pbuh) was raised to heaven and Musa (pbuh) passed away, whereas the 23rd is hoped to be Laylatul-Qadr."

Ahmed ibn Muhammad ibn Yahya quotes his father saying, "I was in the company of Imam Sadiq (pbuh) when Abu Baseer asked him, 'Which night is the one when one is to plead to his Lord whatever he wishes to plead?' Imam answered him by saying, 'Either the twenty-first or the twenty-third.' He then asked him: 'What if I have no strength to observe both of them?'

Imam said, 'How easy it is to observe them when compared to your pleas!"'

Imam Sadiq (pbuh) has also said: "The twenty-third night of the month of Ramadan is the one when every weighty matter is decided, when trials, tribulations, deaths, and means of sustenance and other matters are determined, and so will whatever Allah decrees to take place for

the entire next year; so, congratulations to anyone who remains awake during it bowing, prostrating, contemplating upon his sins, weeping on their account, for if you do all of that, God willing, you Will never be disappointed."

Then he added, "Allah will order an angel to call out during each and every day of the month of Ramadan conveying Allah's message to them thus: 'Good news, O My servants for I have forgiven your past sins and permitted some of you to intercede on behalf of the rest on Laylatul-Qadr except those who are intoxicated and those who bear grudges against others'

It is narrated that Allah wards off evil and sins and all types of trials on the 25th night from all His servants who fast and grants them light in their hearing and vision; Janna is decorated during Laylatul-Qadr's day and night.

SURATUL QADR (97)

(I begin) In the name of Allah, the Kind, the Most Merciful.

Indeed We sent it (the Qur'an) down on the night of Qadr.

And what will make you know what the night of Qadr is?

The night of Qadr is better than a thousand months.

The angel and the spirit descend in it with the permission of their Rabb; with all the commands.

Peace! It is until the break of dawn.

There are many meanings of the word "QADR", some of which are:

- Measure
- Decree
- Calculation
- Precision
- Pressure
- Constraint
- Status
- Nobility

Some of the definitions of the Qadr are:

1. POSITION / VALUE

The night of Qadr has the most phenomenal status. If the night of the revelation of the Qur'an is so awesome, it is difficult to comprehend the awesomeness of the Book itself

2. TAQDEER - PREDETRMINATION

Decrees are made for the year during this night

3. THE NIGHT OF MEASURE OR PRECISION

When we have precise measurements in every aspect of our lives, we are balanced. This is the night when these measures are revealed

4. NIGHT OF CONSTRAINT AND PRESSURE

All of the eight doors of Janna are open, the heavens are opened. The totality of the angels descend. The universe is packed with divine entity with there being not much space.

AYA 1

Indeed We sent it (the Qur'an) down on the night of Qadr.

The totality of the spiritual world is involved in the descent of the Qur'an

means sent down all at once نَزَلَ

means sent down over time نَزَّلَ

Here it means that the Qur'an was revealed all at once

Where was it revealed? Its journey begins in Lawhe Mahfudh - 85:21-22

Nay! it is a glorious Quran,

In a guarded tablet

 It then comes down to Baytul Ma'mur (a place in the heavens directly above the Ka'ba) On Laylatul Qadr, it came down to the heart of the Prophet (pbuh)
 26:192

And most surely this is a revelation from the Lord of the worlds.

The Faithful Spirit has descended with it,

Upon your heart that you may be of the warners

In plain Arabic language

The Prophet (pbuh) said: "It was as though it was written on my heart."

When is the night of Qadr?

The night of Qadr is said to be one of the odd nights in the last ten days of the month of Ramadhan. Emphasis is placed on 19th, 21st and 23rd nights with further distinction given to the 23rd night and known as Laylatul Qadr al Kubra.

Hadith ul Juhni

Juhni comes to Rasulullah (pbuh) and said that he lived far from Masjidun Nabi and could not come to the masjid all nights of Ramadhan. He asked which night was the most important. Rasulullah (pbuh) whispered something to him. He returned on the 23rd night and for the rest of his life he always came on the 23rd night. In another hadith, Imam Ali (pbuh) narrates that Rasulullah (pbuh) saw a dream that it was Laylatul Qadr and it was raining. That year it rained on the 23rd night of Ramadhan.

Another view places significance on all three nights:

19TH, 21ST, 23RD

Every Night has a great significance in the decision-making process: Imam Sadiq (pbuh)

The apportioning of the destiny (Taqdeer) ...where we will travel, Hajj or not, Rizq, and one's random requests on **the 19th Night**

Ibram (Consolidation) (as if you have something written on paper but now you want it to be carved on stone on the 21st Night

Imdhaa - Final Signature or Stamping - on the 23rd Night

AYA 2

And what will make you comprehend what the night of Qadr is?

It is difficult to comprehend its awesomeness. If the Qur'an was revealed on a mountain, it would crumble. **Suratul Hashr 59:21**

Had We sent down this Quran on a mountain, you would certainly have seen it falling down, splitting asunder because of the fear of Allah,

Hence the night it was revealed in is so awesome as is the personality to whom it was revealed.

ΑΥΑ 3

The night of Qadr is better than a thousand months.

A 'thousand months' here means 'timeless time'. Normally comparisons are 'qualitative'. Here it is metaphorical. 1000 years equates to approximately 83 years and 4 months, an average productive lifespan.

The night of Qadr is better than a whole lifetime's worth of worship, planning, thinking...

AYA 4

The angel and the spirit descend in it with the permission of their Rabb; with all the commands.

comes from تَتَنَزَّلُ – meaning continuous descent from a higher place to a lower place.

Throughout the night, there is a continuous descent of angels

الرُّحُ – Implied as a different entity. Either the highest of the angels or beyond them.

It could refer to Jibrail who is known as Ruhul Ameen.

It could also refer to the entity, which manages the angels – the highest angelic level.

Many mufassireen however have mentioned that every connection to Divinity is called Ruh

ا بَالْذُنِ مَا بِيْهِمُ – With the permission of their Rabb, and will enter the heart attached to Divinity

WHERE DO THEY DESCEND?

To a heart similar to that of Rasulullah (pbuh) which is able to take this immense divine energy. They can only come down to pledge allegiance to the one who will create the greatest phenomenon since Rasulullah (pbuh) – who is none other than our 12th Imam, Imam Muhammad Al-Mahdi (pbuh).

WHAT DO THEY COME DOWN WITH?

With every single affair.

They come down to implement each individual's annual budget, approved by Divinity.

They also come down with Baraka - 44:3-4

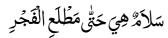
Surely We revealed it on a blessed night surely We are ever warning--

Therein every wise affair is made distinct,

Baraka

- more than what one expects or deserves
- to revive something that is dormant

AYA 5



Peace! It is until the break of dawn.

Overwhelming presence of angelic energy.

- It is the only night when a speck of Divinity meets the earthly.
- Where the seen & unseen are inseparable and indistinguishable
- Where a part of the human being becomes timeless in a time restricted world
- Where there is an inherent built in capacity to be timeless
- An opportunity of immortality
- Potential to change

Recite it as many times as possible on the night of Qadr preferably 1000x.

BENEFITS OF SURATUL QADR

Imam Ali (pbuh) has said:

Everything has a fruit, and the fruit of the Holy Qur'an is Suratul Qadr

Everything has a treasure, and the treasure that removes poverty is Suratul Qadr.

For everything there is a means whereby it can be attained, and the means of the weak is Suratul Qadr."

For every hardship there is ease, and the ease of those suffering from hardship is Suratul Qadr.

There is a shield against every evil, and the shield of the believers is Suratul Oadr.

For everything there is guidance, and the guidance of the righteous is Suratul Qadr.

There is excellence for everything, and the excellence of knowledge is Suratul Oadr.

There is an adornment for everything, and the adornment of the Qur'an is Suratul Qadr.

There is a shelter for everything, and the shelter of the faithful is Suratul Oadr.

There is a glad tiding for everything, and the glad tiding of the innocent is Suratul Qadr.

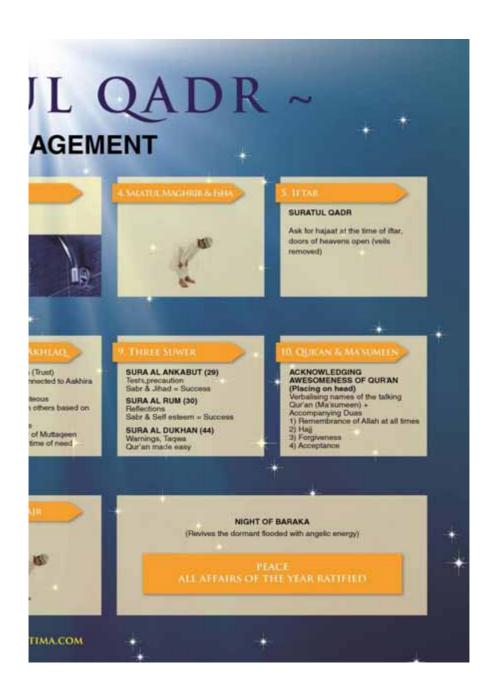
There is a Proof (Hujja) for everything, and the Hujja after the Prophet (pbuh) is Suratul Qadr, therefore, believe in it."
Imam was asked how to believe in it, and he answered:
"That it shall occur in each and every year, and that everything revealed in it is true."

Imam also said: "For anyone who recites Suratul Qadr, Allah writes down a good deed for every particle of dust where he sits while reciting it."

"It is a good companion for anyone who wishes to pay off his debt, strengthen his/her faith, prolong life-span, and improve his/her condition. Anyone who recites it often will meet Allah as a siddeeq and as a martyr."

Sulayman al- Marzawi asked Imam Ali Ar-Ridha (pbuh):
"Could you please tell us why Suratul Qadr was revealed?"
Imam replied: "O Sulayman! Laylatul Qadr is the night when Allah decrees what will take place from one year to another of life or death, good or evil, or regarding sustenance, and whatever He then decrees is sure destiny."





PLANNING THE NIGHT OF QADR

The first step in preparation for Laylatul Qadr is to work out a direction (a goal to focus on)

"And everyone has a direction to which he turns, so hurry to the best of works; wherever you are, Allah will bring you all together; surely Allah has power over all things." **Suratul Baqara 2:148**

By definition, if you are facing the right direction, all you need to do is to keep walking... or running...

Qadr is about thinking about the directions; Physical, Mental, Emotional & Spiritual.

He gives what is asked for ... (14:34)

A word of caution – Divinity does not read in between the lines, has no sense of humour – is very clear cut and straight and does not take kindly to ditherers... So, make sure YOU know where YOU want to go and what YOU want....

Laylatul Qadr is all about formulating a plan of how to leave a legacy for that in essence is the purpose of life

"We have created death and life so that we may test which of you does the best of works..." **Suratul Mulk 67:2**

- 1. Start making a list of your aspirations Physical, mental, emotional and spiritual....
- 2. Decide on what legacy you want to leave. In essence the only thing you can take with you is what you leave behind. The most basic is memories which others can revisit again and again...
- 3. Formulate a mission statement for yourself.

 It must be no more than a single sentence, easily understood and be able to be recited from memory even at gunpoint....

SUGGESTED THINGS TO DO

Physically

- Make sure you are comfortable.
- Don't eat too much for you will feel sleepy.
- Give sadaga
- Do ghusl at the beginning and the end of the night

Mentally

 Concentrate on Allah today by focusing your thoughts on the importance of this night and how it is the unfortunate who are devoid of the blessings of this night. To keep your thoughts focused everytime they stray recite: "Innaa lillahi wa innaa ilayhi raaji'un" "Indeed we are from Allah and towards Him is our return." 2:156

Emotionally

- Make sure you are at peace with your relations especially your parents and blood ties. Ask their forgiveness for any wrong doing or hurt...
- Forgive those who have hurt you. Release yourself from their prison... Remember 'The reward for goodness is only good"...

Spiritually

- Ponder over the translation of the duas so you can 'connect'
- When reciting the names of the Ma'sumeen think about each of them 'connecting' to them.
- Imagine yourself at the day of Judgement cry and beseech
 Him for forgiveness and a fresh start. The Prophet (pbuh) when
 asked what should one ask Allah for during these nights, said:
 "Ask for your safety (here and in the hereafter)".

A HADITH TO THINK ABOUT

"You would not be seeking ME unless you had already found ME"

MAIN ASPECTS OF THE A'MAAL OF LAYLATUL QADR

The main aspects of the A'maal are:

Istighfar & Tawba
 Have the opportunity to start again - 71:10

Then I said, Ask forgiveness of your Lord, surely He is the most Forgiving

2. Ma'sumeen – They are those who lived the Qur'an – use the night to understand them to find your direction. Aspire to meet the Imam of our time. Use them as wasila by reciting Ziyara - **4:64**

And We did not send any messenger but that he should be obeyed by Allah's permission; and had they, when they were unjust to themselves, come to you and asked forgiveness of Allah and the Messenger had (also) asked forgiveness for them, they would have found Allah Oftreturning (to mercy), Merciful

3. Seek help through salaa. Use the night to understand its greatness - 2:45

And seek assistance through patience and prayer, and most surely it is a hard thing except for the humble ones

Recite the Qur'an. It is it's birthday – Celebrate it by giving it the
attention it deserves. Engage with and bespoke your life plan with
its ayaat. Make an intention to understand it.
 5:65 & 66

And if the followers of the Book had believed and guarded (against evil) We would certainly have covered their evil deeds and We would certainly have made them enter gardens of bliss

And if they had kept up the Tawrat and the Injeel and that which was revealed to them from their Lord, they would certainly have eaten from above them and from beneath their feet there is a party of them keeping to the moderate course, and (as for) most of them, evil is that which they do

5. Life Plan – Make resolutions. List micro and macro goals and ask HIM to help execute....

FIND YOUR USP (UNIQUE SELLING POINT)

What you do best for your passion is your power and it is the force which will sustain you. To help you further ask yourself the following questions:

- a. What are you most proud of in your life? (You are about to die and you see your life flash before you what do you see that changed lives?)
- b. Who is doing the work you most wish you could be doing?

- c. What do you want more of?
- d. What do you want less of?

Get to know who YOU really are and what YOU really want. Verbalise it and keep on talking to HIM

- 6. Dua Rather than a ritualistic recitation, make it a conversation with Divinity. Indulge in talking to Him, ask for guidance... Ask for the best. Pray for others as your duas are accepted faster. Find a Mujibud Da'wat (Someone who cares for you enough to pray for your hajat). Someone you can confide in.
- 7. Sadaqa Manifestation of closeness to Divinity by serving humanity on this night. **9:120-121**

...surely Allah does not waste the reward of the doers of good;

Nor do they spend anything that may be spent, small or great, nor do they traverse a valley, but it is written down to their credit, that Allah may reward them with the best of what they have done.

THE A'MAAL FOR LAYLATUL QADR

- 1. Ghusl. Allama Majlisi says, "It is better to do ghusl before sunset so that the night prayers may be performed after it".
- 2. To offer two Rakaats of Salaa, in every Rakaa recite Surat-al-Hamd, and Surat-al-Tawheed 7x,

In the salaa, 7x Ikhlas wakes the soul up to the concept of Tawheed (ponder over the 7 stages of Tawheed). It focuses the attention towards divinity – towards wanting to reach perfection (one's full potential)

3. After finishing the salaa 70 x recite:"Astagfirullaah Rabbi Wa atoobu ilayhi""I seek pardon from God and return to Him".

After acknowledging Divinity in salaa, only then do we recite Istighfar 70x (Innallaha yuhibbit tawwabeen – Allah loves those who turn to Him repentant). It is here where we admit of our shortcomings and talk to Him honestly.

4. The Qur'an should be opened and placed in front, then one should recite.

اَللَّهُمَّ اِنِّىُ اَسْتَلْكَ بِكِتَابِكَ الْمُنْزَلِ وَمَا فِيْهِ وَ فِيْهِ اسْمُكَ الْأَكْبَرُ وَ اَسْمَا وُكَ وَ اللّهُمَّ النّابِ اللّهُمَّ النّابِ الْكُسُنى وَمَا يُخَافُ وَيُرْجَى اَنْ تَجْعَلَنِيْ مِنْ عُتَقَا لِئِكَ مِنَ النّابِ (SALAWAT-And ask for Hajaat).

5. Place the Qur'an on your head and say,

اَللّٰهُمَّ بِحَقِّ هٰذَا الْقُرُ أَنِ وَبِحَقِّ مَنْ أَى سَلْتَهٰ وَ بِحَقِّ كُلِّ مُؤْمِنٍ مَلَ حُتَهٰ فِيهِ وَ بِحَقِّكَ عَلَيْهِمْ فَلاَ أَحَدَ أَعْرَفُ بِحَقِّكَ مِنْكَ

Repeat the following 10 times each:

بِجَعْفَرِبُنِ كَمَّلٍ	بِكَ يَا ٱلله
جَمُوْسَى بُنِ جَعُفَرٍ	بِمُحَمَّدٍ
بِعَلِيٍّ بُنِ مُؤسَّى	بِعَلِي
جِمُحَمَّدِ بُنِ عَلِيٍّ	بِفَاطِمَةَ
بِعَلِيِّ بُنِ كُمَّالٍ	بِٱلْحَسَنِ
ڔؚٵڬؖڝؘڹؚڹؘؚۘڠڸؾۣ	بِالْحُسَيْنِ
بِٱلْحُجَّةِ عَلَيْهِ السَّلاَمُ	بِعَلِيِّ بُنِ الْحُسَيْنِ
	جُمُحَمَّدِبُنِ عَلِيِّ

The Amal of the Qur'an is a commitment to lead life according to the book and the ahlulbayt.

6. Short dua after the a'maal of Qur'an

The essence of the dua revolves around:

- a. Invitation to Hajj
- b. Increase in life
- c. Increase in 'rizq' (Physical, mental, emotional and spiritual)
- d. Being able to promote His message so it allows others to reach their full potential
- 7. Recite the Ziyara of Imam Husayn (pbuh).

 Ziyara is a commitment to give all if necessary, for the truth like

 Imam Husayn (pbuh). The Ziyara also is a means of forgiveness of
 sins with the wasila of Husayn (pbuh).
- 8. On 19th and 21st night tasbee of la'n

 La'n is understanding that there are agencies of evil which require
 recognition so we are able to keep away. The Qur'an gives
 examples of all of them from whom mercy is withdrawn.
- 9. Recite 100 (or 10) rakaats salaa if possible, with 10x Suratul Ikhlas after Suratul Fatiha in each rakaat
- 10. Recite: "Astagfirullaah Rabbi Wa atoobu ilayhi" 100 times "I seek pardon from God and ask for penitence from Him"
- 11. Give Sadaqa
- 12. Recite Dua Nudba & Remember Imam Al-Asr (AF) much throughout the night
- 13. Seek forgiveness & Recite Dua Kumail. Dua Makarimul Akhlaq, Dua Tawba & the 15 whispered prayers from Sahifa Sajjadia
- 14. Study some Figh rules
- 15. Recite Suratul Ankabut (29); Suratur Room (30); and Suratul Dukhan (44)
- 16. Recite Jawshan Kabeer
- 17. The Prophet (pbuh) when asked what one should invoke Allah during these nights, said: "Ask for your safety (here and in the hereafter)".

29. AL-'ANKABUT ~ THE SPIDER

69 AYAAT (MAKKI)

SECTION BY SECTION

Section 1 (1-13)	JIHADUS SABR No retaliation for that would be an excuse to increase oppression Physical Persecution Eq. Khabbab ibn Arat- tortured with hot steel rods by Umm Ammai (she owned him) foe accepting Islam Emotional Persecution Sa'ad ibn Waqqas mum starved herself. Wouldn't eat unless he gave up Islam 8 Social ersecution Peer pressure and social pressure to give up. "We will bear your sins claim refuted" 12/13
Section 2 (14-40)	TRIALS/PERSECUTIONS OF PAST PROPHETS Nuh - 900 difficult years 50 ease Ibraheem - Idols were economic affluence for his people Lut - Highway Robbery - Abducting men for sexual exploitation Shuayb - Corrupt society/cheating. Did not feel they were accountable Hud & Salih - Pride, boasting of affluence through HOMES Musa - Tyrannical arrogance - Firawn, Hammam, Karun
Section 3 (41-44)	PARABLE OF THE SPIDERS WEB Just as a spider-web's gluey attachment to the objects to which its slik threads cling is frail and weak, the hopes we pin on other people, gods, deities or objects for solving our problems or providing laws for us to live successfully by, would be extremely leeble, even though these deities, like a spider web, might give the impression of being secure, safe "abodes" to the "spiders" sitting in their midst.
Section 4 (45)	PARABLE OF THE SPIDERS WEB Strength acquired from the recitation of the book & salaa (stops shamelessness & evil)
Section 5 (46-52)	INTERACTION WITH AHLUL KITAB Migration (Hijra) to Madina inevitable Introduces instructions on interaction/debate with Ahlul Kitab in Madina. They ask of his miracles. DIVINITY replies THE QUR'AN IS THE MIRACLE. 51
Section 6 (53-55)	DEFIANT DISOBEDIENCE In mockery they ask to hasten the punishment. Divinity replies as to how it will cover them on the day of Qiyama. 55
Section 7 (56-59)	INEVITABILITY OF DEATH SUCCESS DEFINED Every soul will taste death 56 Success defined as belief which is manifested as good deeds through the characteristic of SABR-perseverance with patience 59
Section 8 (60-69)	SUSTENANCE AND SAFETY (PROTECTION) ONLY FROM DIVINITY SUCCESS IN STRIVING HIS WAY Answer to economic constraints & fear Sustenance from Him -62 Protection from Him 65 SUCCESS IN STRIVING 69



SURATUL 'ANKABUT

Benefits of recitation

If recited with Suratur Rum (30) on Laylatul Qadr – Imam Sadiq (pbuh) says that it guarantees definite entry into Janna.

Recited on water it gives joy and happiness.

Increase in eiman.

The name of the sura refers to the flimsy yet intricate structure of materialistic life on which we tend to depend like the spiders web. The only structure that is indestructible is based on the knowledge of Allah and His laws that govern existence.

The parable of those who take guardians besides Allah is as the parable of the spider that makes for itself a house; and most surely the frailest of the houses is the spider's house did they but know.

THE SPIDER'S WEB

The tensile strength of spider fibres is 4 to 5 times higher than that of most steel fibres. in spite of the excellent intrinsic mechanical properties of the spider threads, the spider web—in terms of components and design—is intentionally weak, and, indeed, is the flimsiest of all biological lodgings.

Beside mechanical weakness—for which the wisdom of creation is manifest—the spider's web lacks many other qualities of a "lodging." Being such an open structure, it does not keep away heat, cold, wind, or rain. Nor does it withstand any external mechanical attack or abuse.

Note also that the Qur'an, rather than using the Arabic "ad`af" (weakest) to describe the spider's house, appropriately uses the Arabic word "awhan," which is equivalent to either "flimsiest"; or "frailest" or "feeblest," that is, physically weak, infirm. This conforms, as explained above, with the fact that the flimsiness or weakness is not intrinsic in the fibre material but in the easily collapsible structure.

Also the verb "takes to itself" (itakhathat) in the Arabic text aptly refers to female spiders. It is known from old that it is the female spider that assumes the major role in spinning and building the web. Male spiders participate only before puberty.

30. AL-RUM~ THE ROMANS

60 AYAAT (MAKKI)

KEY CONCEPTS

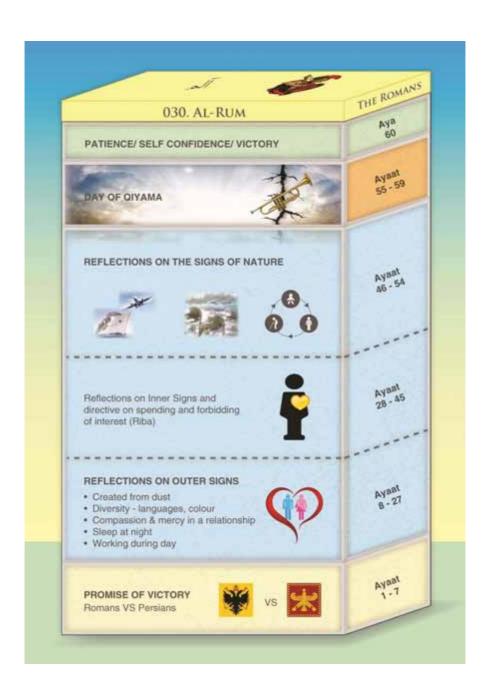
SUPER POWERS
REFLECTIONS
NO EXCUSES ON QIYAMA
SABR AND SELF ESTEEM

SECTION BY SECTION

Section 1 (1-9)	SURA PREDICT VICTORY FOR ROMANS The Makkans gloated at the victory of the Persians with joy. They sided with the Persians as Romans like Muslims believed in a revealed book. The prediction was, even after defeat the Romans would win (3) (The Romans won at the same time as the Badr victory.)
Section 2 (8-54)	REFLECTION ON OUTER SIGNS (8-27), INNER SIGNS (28-45) AND SIGNS ON NATURE (46-54) And if you think that the prediction in section 1 is a miracle, look around you at the signs of Divinity, Reflect on all things. If you don't understand after all this, nothing will bring about a change in you. Still away, still blend to his awesomeness – not able to guide them.
Section 3 (55-59)	DAY OF QIYAMA No excuses accepted, the guilty will say didn't have time. Hearts are sealed.
Section 4 (60)	SABR AND SELF ESTEEM Don't allow those who don't have conviction or undermine or underestimate your strength. Tactic of oppression (to make one feel the underdog), Fasbir – Perseverance with patience. Doing your best and handing over to Divinity.

DID YOU KNOW?

Revealed in 615CE (5th year after Be'that). Romans were completely overpowered by the Persians. Constant struggle between Romans and Persians for Turkey, Syria, Palestine, Eventually won by Persians who took over Constantinople and Jerusalem.



SURATUR RUM (30)

Benefits of recitation

If recited with Suratul 'Ankabut (29) on Laylatul Qadr, then guaranteed entry into Janna and Imam Sadiq (pbuh) says that he does not fear Allah will record a sin against him for giving these 2 suras such a status. The sura derives it's name from the prophecy of the victory of the Romans over the Persians. The prophecy was made at a time when there were no signs or hope of any victory for the Romans. The prophecy of the victory of the Romans was accompanied by the prophecy of the victory of the Muslims over the Quraysh of Makka. The sura deals with the rise and fall of temporal power. The human being is invited to reflect upon the fate of those who belied and ridiculed the Messengers sent by Allah and those who disobeyed His laws.

الم

Alif Lam Mim.

The Romans are vanquished,

In a near land, and they, after being vanquished, shall overcome,

Within a few years.....

Notes

44. AL-DUKHAAN ~ SMOKE

KEY CONCEPT

RED TEXTURED SMOKE THAT WILL EMBRACE THE SKYLINE FROM EAST TO WEST

SECTION BY SECTION	
Section 1 (1-8)	DESCENT OF QUR'AN Qur'an sent down on LAYLATIN MUBARAKATIN BARAKA – More goodness than expected/ Revives what is dormant. ALL DEC(SIONS ARE MADE. Tanzeel (Over time) Inzal (Immediate) Nazzala (In portions)
Section 2 (8-54)	34-39 DEFIANCE IN DENYING ACCOUNTABILITY MOCKERY OF THE PROPHET (pbuh) Abu Jahi asked the Prophet to give life to his forefather Qussy so he could ask him about belief in the Prophet (pbuh) ALLAH COMPARES TO TUBBA (Kings of Yemen). When they came to conquer Madina and heard that last Prophet would core here they left with Shamun to give to him. (21st generation Abu ayyub Ansari) Canewa sat outside. Gave letter to Prophet (Belief without seeing) 17-33 ARROGANCE AND EXTRAVAGANCE OF FIRAWN Leaving gardens, confilieriat, awestome homes and blessings that they enjoyed, Firawn and his people were drowned because of his arrogance, exploitation of the Bant Israil and his wastefulness. 9-16 DOUBTS – DISBELIEF Doubt makes them less serious about accountability. When punishment comes – pray for removal – but then back to evil ways and mockery.
Section 3 (40-42)	DAY OF QIYAMA YAWMAL FASt. Distinction between truth and falsehood. FINAL DECSION MAKING. No protective friend will help! No helpers.
Section 4 (43-50)	JAHANNAM ZAQQUM – Undesirable food compared to Janna MUHL – Boiling water that sizzles in the belly.
Section 5 (51-57)	JANNA Secure gardens, desirable clothing, chilling with like minded souls FADHL – Grace of God, ULTIMATE SUCCESS
Section 6 (58)	OUR'AN The greatest book from Divinity – yet easy on the tongue so Transchitheir full potential. Cross ref with Suratul Qamar 54:17, 22, 32, 40
Section 7 (59)	"FARTAQIB" WAIT IN ANTICIPATION! Wait! The Prophet (pbuh) was waiting for them to believe in guidance they are waiting for his defeat (and possibly death)

DID YOU KNOW?

(HAWAMEEM) 40-46 (7 Suwer)
Revealed in sequence (arranged in same order) TANZEELUL QUR'AN
Thave been given the Hawameem as a gift Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). All have
Musa (pbuh) and Firawn
CROWN OF QUR'AN, EMBELLISHMENT OF QUR'AN, DECORATIVE SUWER
OF QUR'AN



SURATUD DUKHAN (44)

Benefits of Recitation

- No nightmares if kept under pillow
- If recited on water it is a cure for stomach ailments
- Forgiveness and houses in Janna
- Easy accounting
- Protection from Shaytan
- Prosperity in business

Dukhan means smoke. Rasulullah (pbuh) was asked what Dukhan signified. He replied that the dawn of the day of Qiyama would be masked by a smoke that would fill the atmosphere from East to West. When the Quraysh became hard hearted and started persecuting the Muslims, there was a drought for approx 7 years. They had to resort to eating animal corpses. The famine had reduced people to bones and this had also affected their eyesight. When they looked up they saw a smoky haze. Relief was only granted when they implored Rasulullah (pbuh) to pray for them.

In the 2nd to 4th aya Allah speaks of Laylatul Qadr

I swear by the Book that makes manifest (the truth).

Surely We revealed it on a blessed night surely We are ever warning—

Therein every wise affair is made distinct,

AFTER THE A'MAAL DIVIDE THE NIGHT INTO 3 PARTS

1. The first part to gain knowledge. Listen to some lectures or read making notes. Maybe the understanding of the suwer* of 'Ankabut and Room for Imam Ja'fer As-Sadiq (pbuh) has told Abu Baseer that whoever recites** these suwer on the 23rd night of the month of Ramadhan will certainly be among the residents of Janna without any exception, adding, "... and I do not fear that Allah will record a sin against me for giving such a status for these two suwer."

(*Suwer is the plural of sura)

(** Recitation is not mere reading but reading, memorising, understanding, implementing and teaching)

- 2. The 2nd part to be allocated for meditation. Ask yourself questions - Who am I? What do I wish to be? Where do I wish to go? How will I get there? Find time to talk to your Rabb and tell Him your insecurities, fears, aspirations...Ask the help of the Ma'sumeen to intercede (tawassul) and help...Recite the duas/munajat from Saheefa Sajjadiyya to help focus.
- 3. The 3rd part to be allocated for Salatul Layl to connect with Salatul Fair.

PROPHET MUSA'S CONVERSATION WITH GOD

Prophet Musa (pbuh) once addressed Allah saying: "Lord! I desire to be near to You."

Allah said: "Whoever desires nearness to Me is one who remains awake during Laylatul Qadr (doing ibada)."

Prophet Musa (pbuh) said:

"Lord! I wish to earn Your mercy."

Allah replied: "My mercy is granted to anyone who is merciful to the underprivileged during Laylatul Qadr."

Prophet Musa (pbuh) said:

"Lord! I wish to pass on the right path."

Allah replied: "This is granted to anyone who gives sadaqa during Laylatul Qadr."

Prophet Musa (pbuh) said:

"Lord! I wish to enjoy the trees and fruits of Janna!"

Allah replied: "This is granted to anyone who praises Me during Laylatul Qadr."

Prophet Musa (pbuh) said:

"Lord! I wish to achieve salvation from the fire!"

Allah replied: "This is granted to anyone who seeks forgiveness during Lavlatul Qadr."

Prophet Musa (pbuh) said:

"Lord! I wish to achieve Your pleasure!"

Allah replied: "I shall be pleased with anyone who prays two (mustahab) rak'ats salaa during Laylatul Qadr."

MEMO FROM GOD

Effective immediately, please be aware that there are changes YOU need to make in YOUR life. These changes need to be completed in order that I may fulfill My promises to you to grant you peace, joy and happiness in this life. I apologize for any inconvenience, but after all that I am doing, this seems very little to ask of you. Please, follow these 10 guidelines

1. QUIT WORRYING:

Life has dealt you a blow and all you do is sit and worry. Have you forgotten that I am here to take all your burdens and carry them for you?

Or do you just enjoy fretting over every little thing that comes your way?

2. PUT IT ON THE LIST:

Something needs done or taken care of. Put it on the list. No, not YOUR list. Put it on MY to-do-list. Let ME be the one to take care of the problem. I can't help you until you turn it over to Me. And although My to-do-list is long, I am after all... God. I can take care of anything you put into My hands. In fact, if the truth were ever really known, I take care of a lot of things for you that you never even realize.

3. TRUST ME:

Once you've given your burdens to Me, quit trying to take them back. Trust in Me. Have the faith that I will take care of all your needs, your problems and your trials.

Problems with the kids? Put them on My list.

Problem with finances? Put it on My list. Problems with your emotional roller coaster? For My sake, put it on My list. I want to help you. All you have to do is ask.

4. LEAVE IT ALONE:

Don't wake up one morning and say, "Well, I'm feeling much stronger now, I think I can handle it from here." Why do you think you are feeling stronger now? It's simple. You gave Me your burdens and I'm taking care of them. I also renew your strength and cover you in my peace. Don't you know that if I give you these problems back, you will be right back where you started? Leave them with Me and forget about them. Just let Me do my job.

5. TALK TO ME:

I want you to forget a lot of things. Forget what was making you crazy. Forget the worry and the fretting because you know I'm in control. But there's one thing I pray you never forget. Please, don't forget to talk to Me - OFTEN! I love YOU! I want to hear your voice. I want you to include Me in on the things going on in your life. I want to hear you talk about your friends and family. Prayer is simply you having a conversation with Me. I want to be your friend.

6. HAVE FAITH:

I see a lot of things from up here that you can't see from where you are. Have faith in Me that I know what I'm doing. Trust Me; you wouldn't want the view from My eyes. I will continue to care for you, watch over you, and meet your needs. You only have to trust Me. Although I have a much bigger task than you, it seems as if you have so much trouble just doing your simple part. How hard can trust be?

7. SHARE:

You were taught to share when you were only two years old. When did you forget? That rule still applies. Share with those who are less fortunate than you. Share your joy with those who need encouragement. Share your laughter with those who haven't heard any in such a long time. Share your tears with those who have forgotten how to cry. Share your faith with those who have none.

8. BE PATIENT:

I managed to fix it so in just one lifetime you could have so many diverse experiences. You grow from a child to an adult, have children, change jobs many times, learn many trades, travel to so many places, meet thousands of people, and experience so much. How can you be so impatient then when it takes Me a little longer than you expect to handle something on My to-do-list? Trust in My timing, for My timing is perfect. Just because I created the entire universe in only six days, everyone thinks I should always rush, rush, rush.

9. BE KIND:

Be kind to others, for I love them just as much as I love you. They may not dress like you, or talk like you, or live the same way you do, but I still love you all. Please try to get along, for My sake. I created each of you different in some way. It would be too boring if you were all identical. Please, know I love each of your differences.

10. LOVE YOURSELF:

As much as I love you, how can you not love yourself? You were created by me for one reason only -- to be loved, and to love in return. I am an Allah of Love. Love Me. Love your neighbours. But also love yourself. It makes My heart ache when I see you so angry with yourself when things go wrong. You are very precious to me. Don't ever forget......

ONE NIGHT OF QADR......

One day I dug a little hole and put my hurt inside,
Thinking I could forget it, I put it there to hide.
But then the hurt began to grow and I had to cover it up each day,
I couldn't let it show so that was the price I had to pay.
My joy was gone, my heart was sad, pain was I all I knew,
Wounded pride surrounded me and living was hard to do.

One night of Qadr, I stood besides the hole and cried to my Rabb, I need your help, Ya Rabb, I cannot cope anymore, My Rabb I asked in the name of Husayn (pbuh)

In a flash Al-Muhayminu was there – His embrace so warm and safe Tears flowed from my hurting heart as He helped to dig the hurt out I dug down deep, brushing all the dirt away and gave it in His hands I told Him all about it – every single word – every single part. As-Sameeu listened to every distasteful detail as I promised to do my best to change,

He took the blackness from my nafs and let me free from my prison of sins

Then something began to grow where the hurt used to be, Out of all the tears and pain I see His love, His care, His Rububiyya.......

RELATIONSHIPS

Each person who enters our life has a unique lesson to teach us. And it is only through these lessons that we learn about life, people, relationships and God.

When someone lies to you it teaches you that things are not always as they seem. The truth is often far beneath the surface. Look beyond the masks people wear if you want to know their heart. And remove your own masks to let people know yours.

When someone steals from you it teaches you that nothing is forever. Always appreciate what you have, for you never know when you might lose it. And never, ever take your friends and family for granted because today is the only guarantee you have.

When someone inflicts an injury upon you it teaches you that the human state is a fragile one. Protect and take care of your body as best as you can, it's the only thing you are sure to have here on earth.

When someone mocks you it teaches you that no two people are alike. When you encounter people who are different from you, don't judge them by how they look or act; instead base your opinion on the contents of their heart.

When someone breaks your heart it teaches you that loving someone does not always mean that person will love you back. But don't turn your back on love because when you find the right person, the joy that one person brings will make up for all the past hurts put together.

When someone holds a grudge against you it teaches you that everyone makes mistakes. When you are wronged, the most virtuous thing you can do is forgive the offender without pretence. Forgiving those who have hurt us is the most difficult and courageous thing a human being can do.

When a loved one is unfaithful to you it teaches you that resisting temptation is the human being's greatest challenge. Be vigilant in your resistance against all temptation. By doing so you will be rewarded with an enduring sense of satisfaction far greater than the temporary pleasure by which you were tempted.

When someone cheats you, it teaches you that greed is the root of all evil. Aspire to make your dreams come true, no matter how lofty they may be. Do not feel guilty about your success, but never let an obsession with achieving your goals lead you to engage in malevolent activities.

When someone ridicules you it teaches you that nobody is perfect. Accept people for their merits and be tolerant of their flaws. Do not ever reject someone for imperfections over which they have no control.

When you enter someone's life, whether by plan, chance or coincidence, consider what your lesson will be. Will you teach love or a harsh lesson of reality? When you die will your life have resulted in more loving or hurting? More comfort or pain? More joy or sadness? Each one of us has power over the balance of love in the world. Use it wisely. Don't miss an opportunity to nudge the world's scale in the right direction.

FORGIVENESS

We all make mistakes. Everyone has grumpy days. Most people say things they don't mean now and then. We all need to forgive and to be forgiven. No relationship can be sustained over a long period of time without forgiveness. Even though some people may find it find it difficult to apologize, forgiveness is crucial in marriage.

People who hold on to old hurts, disappointments, petty annoyances, betrayals, insensitivity, and anger are wasting both time and energy. Lack of forgiveness can wear a person down. Additionally, it is not good for both physical and mental well being. Nursing a perceived hurt can eventually make it in to something more - hate and extreme bitterness.

How to Forgive or Ask for Forgiveness:

- Be open.
- To forgive takes a decision.
- Don't throw an error back in someone's face at a later date. Don't use it as ammunition in an argument.
- Don't seek revenge or retribution. It will only extend the pain.
- Try and understand the reason for the transgression.
- Remember that forgiveness doesn't mean you condone the hurtful behaviour.
- Show true remorse for the pain that you've caused.
- Be willing to make a commitment to not hurt your spouse in the same way again.
- Accept the consequences of the action that created the hurt.
- Be open to making amends.
- Be patient. Being able to forgive often takes time.

YA RABBIY.....

My Lord, once again You heard me, And indeed Your arrival is very timely At a time when my heart was restless from the flimsiness of my faith, and my focus was lost, as I was dazed with this entertaining world

Often, I would not remember You as I should have had I had forgotten the reality of Sujood once again Busy with the thoughts of this world and its occupations, Even my prayers were polluted with thoughts of other than You Patience, and goodly behaviours were all snatched away from me, Sleeping as a child at the times of Fajr You would still visit me Qur'an wasn't my sweet companion anymore, It had neglected me, as I neglected it, and so it would not give me the glad tidings of meeting You My prayers and Duas were short, and without any effect Nor were the tears of joy of talking to You embracing my face In short, my faith was flimsy and without soul and I was restless and sad as a child who had lost the mother I knew I had a disease and a pain. but I had no idea of its cause. I was unaware that it was the disease of being out of touch with You, my Lord And no one knew of my pain and suffering Nor did I know means of communicating it to anyone, or with You

Though, You Beloved, You knew it all You knew the suffering of a soul without Your friendship One dawn, I went to His door, knocking with hope of it opening so that I shall make a promise with Him, and make Him make a promise to me

I pleaded:

My Lord, I ask You one thing from all the comforts and gifts that You bestow upon humanity; I ask for faith

I asked Him: Please bind my feet with the chains of Your Love, Give a new life to this dead heart with the Light of Your Love, If You choose to burn me in Jahannam for my sins, Please don't burn me in the fire of Your separation And if You choose to grant me a glance of Janna,

HE WHISPERED:

"You remembered Me, I shall remember you, Indeed I am the most Faithful Friend, and the best of the promise keepers"

