

Significance of The First 10 days

Allāh Ta'ālā mentions in Surah Al-Fajr: *"I swear by the Dawn, and by Ten Nights..."*
According to the majority of the commentators of the Glorious Qur'an, the nights which Allāh Ta'ālā has taken oath of, are those of the first 10 days of Dhul-Hijjah.

Abdullāh Ibn Abbās radiyallāhu 'anhuma reports that the Prophet sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam said: *"There are no days during which good deeds are more pleasing to Allāh Ta'ālā than these days (i.e. the first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah)." (Al-Bukhārī)*

Abū Hurayrah radiyallāhu 'anhu related that the Prophet sallallāhu alayhi wasallam said: *"On no days is the worship of Allāh Ta'ālā desired more than in the first 10 days of Dhul-Hijjah. The fast of each of these days is equal to the fast of a whole year, and the worship of each of these nights is equal to the worship of Laylatul Qadr." (At-Tirmidhī, Ibn Mājah)*

Abdullāh Ibn Umar radiyallāhu 'anhuma related that the Prophet sallallāhu alayhi wasallam said: *"No days are as weighty with Allāh Ta'ālā and so liked by Him for good deeds than the first 10 days of Dhul-Hijjah. So on these days increasingly read Subhānallah, Lā ilāha illallāh, Alhamdulillah and Allāhu Akbar." (Musnad Ahmad)*

Virtues of The Day of 'Arafah

'Ā'ishah radiyallāhu anhā reports that the Prophet sallallāhu alayhi wasallam said: *"There is no day in which Allāh Ta'ālā sets free more souls from the fire of hell than on the day of 'Arafah. And on that day Allāh Ta'ālā draws near to the Earth and by way of showing His Pride remarks to the angels, 'What is the desire of these (servants of mine)?" (Muslim)*

Talhah radiyallāhu 'anhu reports that the Prophet sallallāhu alayhi wasallam said: *"Apart from the day of the Battle of Badr, there is no day on which the Shaytān is seen to be more humiliated, more rejected, more depressed and more infuriated than on the day of Arafah, and indeed all this is only because of seeing the abundance of descending mercy (on the day) and Allāh's forgiveness of the great sins of the servants." (Mishkāt)*

Fasting on the Day of 'Arafah

It is Mustahab (desirable) to fast on the day of 'Arafah.

Abū Qatādah Al-Ansārī radiyallāhu 'anhu narrated that the Prophet sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam was asked about the fast on the day of 'Arafah. He said: *"It compensates for the (minor) sins of the past and the coming year." (Muslim, At-Tirmidhī, Ibn Mājah)*

Virtues of the Night of Eedul-Adhā

The nights of both Eedul-Fitr and Eedul-Adhā are very blessed. They are amongst the great and sacred nights of the Islamic calendar. Therefore, one should endeavour to remain awake and perform Ibādah in these nights.

Mu'ādh Ibn Jabal radiyallāhu 'anhu relates that the Prophet sallallāhu alayhi wasallam said: *"Jannah is wājib (incumbent) for those who stay awake with the intention of making 'ibādah on the following nights: 8th, 9th and 10th of Dhul-Hijjah, the night of Eed-ul-Fitr and the night of the 15th of Sha'bān." (At-Targhīb)*

'Ā'ishah radiyallāhu anhā reports that the Prophet sallallāhu alayhi wasallam said: *"Whosoever stays awake and performs 'ibādah (worship) on the nights of the two Eed, with hope for abundant reward (from Allāh Ta'ālā), his heart will not die on the day when all hearts will be dead. (i.e. Qiyāmah)" (At-Targhīb)*

May Allāh Ta'ālā enable us to value these virtuous days and grant us all its blessings. Āmīn

Virtues of Qurbāni

The Prophet sallallāhu alayhi wasallam said:

"There is nothing dearer to Allāh Ta'ālā during the days of Qurbānī than the sacrificing of animals. The sacrificed animal shall come on the Day of Judgement with its horns, hair and hooves (to be weighed). The sacrifice is accepted by Allāh Ta'ālā before the blood reaches the ground. Therefore sacrifice with an open and happy heart." (At-Tirmidhī, Ibn Mājah)

Once, the Sahābah radhiyallāhu 'anhum asked the

Prophet sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam regarding the benefits of Qurbāni. He answered:

"A reward for every hair." They asked: "And wool, O Prophet of Allāh sallallāhu 'alayhi wasallam?" He said: "A reward for every fibre of the wool." (Ahmad, Ibn Mājah)

Upon whom is Qurbāni Wājib?

Qurbani is wājib upon every adult Muslim who owns enough wealth equivalent to the amount of nisāb during the specified days (i.e. 10th, 11th and 12th of Dhul-Hijjah).

Mas'alah:

In many households, the father performs Qurbāni on behalf of all his family members without their knowledge or without their having requested him. We should understand that this approach only counts as a Nafl Qurbāni. In the case of a father arranging the Qurbāni for his dependants, they need to make him their wakīl (agent) in order for these sacrifices to be considered valid.

Mas'alah:

The obligation of Qurbāni is not shared between the entire household. If a man possesses the nisāb of zakāh, one Qurbāni is wājib upon him. If his wife also possesses the nisāb, she will have to perform a separate Qurbāni. Similarly, if any of the children (provided they are bāligh) possess the amount of nisāb, Qurbāni will be compulsory on each one of them as well.

Mas'alah:

It is Mustahab (preferable) for those offering Qurbani to refrain from removing their hair and clipping their nails from the time the crescent of Dhul-Hijjah is sighted until one's Qurbani animal is slaughtered.

Takbīrāt of Tashrīq

It is wājib for every adult Muslim to recite the Takbīrāt of Tashrīq audibly once after every Fardh salāh which is performed with jamā'at (congregation) from the Fajr of 9th Dhul-Hijjah to the 'Asr of 13th Dhul-Hijjah (i.e. total of 23 salāh). The Takbīrāt of Tashrīq should be recited immediately after concluding the Fardh salāh.

Note: Women should recite the Takbīrāt of Tashrīq softly.

The Takbīrāt of Tashrīq are:

**Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar,
Lā ilāha illallāhu wallāhu Akbar,
Allāhu Akbar, Walil-lāhil-hamd**

*Translation: "Allāh is the Greatest, Allāh is the Greatest.
There is no deity besides Allāh and Allāh is the Greatest.
Allāh is the Greatest and all praises are for Allāh only."*

May Allāh Ta'ālā enable us to value these virtuous days and grant us all its blessings. Āmīn