

LAYLATUL QADR (THE NIGHT OF DECREE)

13 MARCH 2026 | 23 RAMADAN 1447H

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَى الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ،
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ
عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.

Let us all increase our devotion towards Allah the Almighty by performing all that He has decreed and abstaining from all that He has prohibited. Hopefully, we will be forgiven in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We have already entered the last ten days of *Ramadan*. It is certainly the wish of every believer at this time to be able to encounter *Laylatul Qadr*. *Laylatul Qadr* is a magnificent and special night in the month of *Ramadan*. It is a night filled with mercy, forgiveness and blessings; a night better than a thousand months. It was on this night that the Quran was revealed as guidance to all mankind. The significance of *Laylatul Qadr* is recorded in the Quran as Allah the Almighty says in Chapter 97 (*Surah Al-Qadr*) Verses (*ayat*) 1 to 5:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ١

إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ ١ وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ ٢ لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ ٣ تَنزِيلُ الْمَلِكِ ٤
وَالرُّوحُ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِّنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ ٥ سَلَّمَ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ ٥

Which means: “*We sent it down on the Night of Decree. What will explain to you what the Night of Decree is? The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months; on that night the angels and the Spirit descend again and again with their Lord’s permission on every task; [there is] peace that night until the break of dawn.*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Prophet’s (peace be upon him [PBUH]) diligence in worshipping during the last ten nights of *Ramadan* has shown us a great example. He did so even though he was a Prophet and Messenger, the beloved of Allah the Almighty, who had been guaranteed a place in Heaven. Surely there is a special advantage in the last ten nights of *Ramadan*. Otherwise, the Prophet (PBUH) would not have concentrated on extra night prayers and other acts of worship, to the point he was willing to give up the pleasure of sleeping at night and set aside other matters for a while. It was mentioned in a *hadith* narrated by Imam Muslim:

كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَجْتَهِدُ فِي الْعَشْرِ الْأَوَاخِرِ ،
مَا لَا يَجْتَهِدُ فِي غَيْرِهِ

Which means: “*Allah’s messenger used to exert himself in devotion during the last ten nights of Ramadan to a greater extent than at any other time.*”

The Prophet (PBUH) wanted to set an example for all of us to focus entirely on worship and gaining the benefit of *Laylatul Qadr*. The Prophet (PBUH) also said in a *hadith* narrated by Imam Al-Bukhari:

مَنْ قَامَ لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ إِيمَانًا وَاحْتِسَابًا غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ

Which means: “...he who spends *Laylatul Qadr* [the Night of Decree] in prayer with faith and seeking his reward from Allah will have his past sins forgiven.”

There are many *hadiths* of the Prophet (PBUH) and opinions from scholars about when *Laylatul Qadr* occurs. Some say it is on the night of the 17th, 21st, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 27th and 29th night. However, the exact date is kept secret by Allah. The main wisdom behind this is that Muslims should earnestly worship throughout the month of *Ramadan*, especially on the last ten nights, and not just do good deeds on one particular night.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Continue to persevere in worshipping earnestly, especially in these final days of *Ramadan*, God willing, we will obtain the advantage of *Laylatul Qadr*. The Prophet (PBUH) said in a *hadith* narrated by Imam Ahmad:

Which means: “Seek *Laylatul Qadr* (the Night of Decree) in the odd nights out of the last ten nights of *Ramadan*.”

Saidatina Aishah (may Allah be pleased with her) once asked the Prophet (PBUH) in a *hadith* narrated by Imam At-Tirmizi:

Which means: “O Prophet, if I knew which night it was, what prayers should I say on *Laylatul Qadr*?”

Then the Prophet (PBUH) said:

قُولِي: اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوفٌ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

Which means: “Say: O Allah, You are forgiving and love forgiveness, so forgive me.”

Let us not be distracted in making preparations to welcome *Eidul Fitr* (the celebration at the end of *Ramadan*) to the point of losing focus on multiplying efforts to find *Laylatul Qadr*. Let us be among the people that enliven mosques, continue reciting the Quran, enliven the night and perform other acts of worship.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Closing the *khutbah* (sermon), several important points can be made:

First, *Laylatul Qadr* is a very special night. The reward of worship on that night is better than the worship of a thousand months or the equivalent of about 83 years.

Second, we must emulate the earnestness of the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) in increasing acts of worship during the last ten nights of the month of *Ramadan*.

Third, Allah the Almighty keeps the exact date of the night of *Laylatul Qadr* a secret so that we continue to focus on doing good deeds throughout

Ramadan. May we be among the chosen to be forgiven and awarded abundantly by Allah the Almighty as He mentions in the Quran in Chapter 3 (*Surah Ali Imran*) Verse (*Ayat*) 133:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَسَارِعُوا إِلَىٰ مَغْفِرَةٍ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا السَّمَاوَاتُ وَالْأَرْضُ
أُعِدَّتْ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ

Which means: “*Hurry towards your Lord’s forgiveness and a Garden as wide as the heavens and earth prepared for the righteous,*” (Ali ‘Imran 3:133)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.