

A guide to maximize your last 10 nights of Ramadan by Alima Sakina Syeda

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# A GUIDE TO MAXIMIZE THE LAST TEN DAYS OF RAMADAN INTRODUCTION

#### SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LAST TEN NIGHTS

Allah (swt) says in the Qur'an al- kareem: "The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months. The angels and the Spirit descend therein by permission of their Lord for every matter. (The night is) Peace until the emergence of dawn." [Qur'an: 97:3-5]

Aisha (ra) has reported that the Prophet (s) said: "Search for the Night of Qadr in the odd nights of the last ten days of Ramadan." [Bukhari]

Aisha (ra) has also reported that with the start of the last ten days of Ramadan, the Prophet (pbuh) used to tighten his waist belt (i.e. work harder) and used to pray the whole night, and used to keep his family awake for the prayers. [Bukhari]

Abu Hurayrah (ra) relates that the Prophet (pbuh) said: "Whoever stands (in the voluntary night prayer of) Ramadan out of faith and in the hope of reward, his previous sins will be forgiven. And whoever spends the night of Lailat Al-Qadr in prayer out of faith and in the hope of reward, his previous sins will be forgiven." [Sunan an-Nasa'i]

#### WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IN THE LAST TEN NIGHTS<sup>1</sup>?

- 1. Pray qada salah
  - a. At the very minimum one full day's worth of missed prayers
- 2. Different types of nafl salah
  - a. entering wudu, entering masjid, prayer of need, prayer of istikhara, prayer for forgiveness sayyid al-istighfar, prayer of tahajjud
  - b. Salat al-Tasbih
- 3. Read Ouran
- 4. Salawat
- 5. Dhikr of Allah (swt)
  - a. dhikr of the tongue, dhikr of the heart (meditate remembering Allah)
- 6. Istighfar
- 7. Make dua to Allah
  - a. Make dua for everything and anything you can think of, yourself first in terms of deen and then duniya, working your way from immediate families, teachers/friends, and lastly the ummah

With each action above, spend a few minutes after concluding to supplicate to Allah swt with salawat on Prophet Muhammad (s) before and after.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Advice on how to spend the last ten nights is from Mufti Kamaluddin Ahmed via Islamic Spirituality. Refer to the talk "Entering the Last Ten Days of Ramadan.

### A NOTE FROM THE COMPILERS OF THIS BOOKLET & HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET?

Dear Sister in Islam,

JazakAllahu khayran for utilizing our booklet. It is our hope is that this booklet will help you create goals, remain focused, and maximize the last ten days of Ramadan. We've curated this booklet to make your ibadah comprehensive yet easy throughout the last ten nights with checklists for keeping a track of gada/nafl salah and Qur'anic recitation. We've also included explanations on how to perform different types of nafl prayers and recite recommended adhkaar, salawat, and istighfar. We recommend that you print this booklet and keep it on hand with you so that you are not distracted by your phone. As you spend your nights in worship, look back to this booklet to check if you've done everything you possibly can during the blessed nights. If it is not possible for you to get through the entire list of 'ibadah, then create goals on what you would like to complete and prioritize on your worship. For women who are not praying or fasting, you can still stay up during these blessed nights to do different types of adhkaar, salawat, and istifghar. You can also spend time supplicating to and thinking about Allah (swt). As a kid, I was always reminded that "no du'a is lost or wasted." Believe in the power and grandeur of Allah because anything IS possible for Allah (swt). We can guarantee you that change and acceptance from Allah begins with an intention and making du'a to Allah (swt).

Please remember the compilers of this booklet in your special du'as during these blessed nights and days.

JazakAllahu khayran, Sincerely, Alima Sakina Syeda & Fariha Rub

P.S. - If you have questions or concerns about any part of the booklet (or in general), feel free to reach out to Alima Sakina Syeda.

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Ramadan Nights	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th
DATES	5/25	5/26	5/27	5/28	5/29	5/30	5/31	6/1	6/2	6/3
	Sat	Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Qada Fajr										
Qada Dhuhr										
Qada Asr										
Qada Maghrib										
Qada Isha										
Salatul-Wudu										
Salatul-Hajah										
Salatul-Istikhara										
Salatul-Taubah										
<sub>plus</sub> Sayyid-Ul-Istaghfar										
Salatul-Tasbih										
Quran										
Dhikr - Salawat/Darud 100x										
Dhikr - Istighfar 100x										
Dhikr - Praise of Allah										
Dhikr - Special Du'as										
Duas										

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	DATES	5/25	5/26	5/27	5/28	5/29	5/30	5/31	6/1	6/2	6/3
		Sat	Sat	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
1	Surah Waqiah										
2	Surah Yasin										
3	Manzil										
4	Aytal-Kursi										
5	Ikhlas 3x										
6	Surah Mulk										
7											
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	Surahs Ive memorized:										
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15											

# SALAT AL-TAHIYYAT AL-WUDU

#### How to Perform Prayer for Greeting Wudu

Tahiyyat al-Wuṇu' should be performed straight after performing Wudu'. It consists of praying 2 rakats and after concluding the prayer, supplicating to Allah with salawat on Prophet Muhammad (s) before and after

#### Significance

The prayer for greeting wudu (Tahiyyat al-Wuḍū') holds great virtue. The Prophet ṣalallahu 'alayhi wasallam said, "Whoever performs Wuḍū' diligently and performs two Rak'ah with sincerity and devotion, Paradise becomes obligatory for him." (Sunan Abū Dāwūd)[1)

Abu Huraira Radhiallahu 'anhu narrated that Allah's Messenger Shalallahu 'alaihi wa Salam said to Bilal Radhiallahu 'anhu "Tell me about the most hopeful act (i.e one which you deem the most rewarding with Allah) you have done since your acceptance of Islam because I heard the sound of the steps of your shoes in front of me in paradise." Bilal said: "I do not consider any act more hopeful than that whenever I make ablution (wudoo) at any time of night or day, I offer salah (prayer) for as long as was destined for me to offer." [Bukhari & Muslim)

### Salat AL-Tasbih

#### **How to Perform Prayer of Forgiveness**

The Prayer of Glorification

صلاة التسبيح

The prayer of glorification (salat al-tasbih) is a recommended prayer that the Prophet encouraged performing as often as one can - if not then at least once in his/her lifetime.

It consists of four rakats and 300 glorifications (tasbih), 75 in each rakat and after concluding the prayer, supplicating to Allah with salawat on Prophet Muhammad (s) before and after

(1) After the opening takbir and opening invocation, recite 15 times:



- (2) After recitation, recite 10 times
- (3) In bowing, recite 10 times
- (4) After bowing, recite 10 times
- (5) In prostration, recite 10 times
- (6) Between prostrations, recite 10 times
- (7) In the second prostration, recite 10 times.

One does likewise in the next three rakats, for a total of 300 glorifications.

This is the description related by Imam Tirmidhi in his Sunan from Abd-Allah ibn al-Mubarak. It is related that the Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) said to his uncle, al-Abbas (Allah be pleased with him), encouraging him to perform this prayer, "... If you perform this, Allah will forgive you your sins—first and last, old and new, accidental and deliberate, minor and major, hidden and manifest... If you can perform this prayer daily, do so. If not, then weekly. If not, then monthly. If not, then each year. If not, then at least once in your lifetime." Related by Tirmidhi and others. Most hadith masters accepted this as a sound hadith—and the jurists considered it a recommended sunna.

#### salat AL-HaJJaH

### How to Perform Prayer of Need

It consists of praying 2 rakats and after concluding the prayer, supplicating to Allah with salawat on Prophet Muhammad (s) before and after the du'a.

"Whoever has a need with Allah, or with any human being, then let them perform ritual ablutions well and then pray two rakats. After that, let them praise Allah and send blessings on the Prophet. After this, let them say,

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَا اللهَ الْحَلِيمُ الْكَرِيمُ سُبْحَانَ اللهِ رَبِّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ الْحَمْدُ لِللهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِين

أَسْأَلُكَ مُوجِبَاتِ رَحْمَتِكَ وَعَزَ ائِمَ مَغْفِرَ تِكَ وَ الْغَنِيمَةَ مِنْ كُلِّ بِرِّ وَالسَّلامَةَ مِنْ كُلِّ بِرِ

لا تَدَعْ لِي ذَنْبًا إِلا غَفَرْتَهُ وَلا هَمًّا إِلا فَرَّجْتَهُ وَلا حَاجَةً هِيَ لَكَ رِضًا إِلا قَرَّجْتَهُ وَلا حَاجَةً هِيَ لَكَ رِضًا إِلا قَصَيْتَهَا يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ

There there no god but Allah the Clement and Wise.

There is no god but Allah the High and Mighty.

Glory be to Allah, Lord of the Tremendous Throne.

All praise is to Allah, Lord of the worlds.

I ask you Oh Allah everything that leads to your mercy, and your tremendous forgiveness, enrichment in all good, and freedom from all sin.

Do not leave a sin of mine Oh Allah,, except that you forgive it, nor any concern except that you create for it an opening, nor any need in which there is your good pleasure except that you fulfill it, Oh Most Merciful!

# Salat AL-ISTIKHARA How to Perform Prayer of Seeking Guidance

It consists of praying 2 rakats and after concluding the prayer, supplicating to Allah with salawat on Prophet Muhammad (s) before and after the du'a.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْتَخِيرُكَ بِعِلْمِكَ وَ أَسْتَقْدِرُكَ بِقُدْرَتِكَ وَ أَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ فَصْلِكَ الْعَظِيمِ فَإِنَّكَ تَقْدِرُ وَلَا أَعْلَمُ وَلَا أَعْلَمُ وَأَنْتَ عَلَّمُ الْغُيُوبِ اللَّهُمَّ إِنْ كُنْتَ تَعْلَمُ أَنَّ هَذَا الْأَمْرَ () خَيْرٌ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةٍ أَمْرِي فَاقْدُرْهُ لِي وَيَسِّرْهُ لِي ثُمَّ الْأَمْرَ () شَرُّ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةٍ بَارِكُ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةٍ بَارِكُ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةٍ بَارِكُ لِي فِي دِينِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةٍ أَمْرِي فَاصْرِفْهُ عَنِي وَمَعَاشِي وَعَاقِبَةٍ أَمْرِي فَاصْرِفْهُ عَنِي وَاصْرِفْنِي عَنْهُ وَاقْدُرْ لِي الْخَيْرَ حَيْثُ كَانَ ثُمَّ أَرْضِنِي أَمْرِي فَاصْرِفْهُ عَنِي وَاصْرِفْنِي عَنْهُ وَاقْدُرْ لِي الْخَيْرَ حَيْثُ كَانَ ثُمَّ أَرْضِنِي

Oh Allah, verily I seek the better [of either choice) from You, by Your knowledge, and I seek ability from You, by Your power, and I ask You from Your immense bounty. For indeed You have power, and I am powerless; You have knowledge and I know not; You are the Knower of the unseen realms. O Allah, if You know that this matter is good for me with regard to my religion, my livelihood and the end of my affair then decree it for me, facilitate it for me, and grant me blessing in it. And if You know that this matter is not good for me with regard to my religion, my livelihood and the end of my affair then turn it away from me and me from it; and decree for me better than it, wherever it may be, and make me content with it.

## Salat Al-TAWBAH How to Perform Prayer of Repentance

It consists of praying 2 rakats and after concluding the prayer supplicating to Allah with salawat on Prophet Muhammad (s) before and after the du'a<sup>1</sup>.

Oh Allah! You are my Lord. There is no god but you. You have created me, and I am your servant—and I am upon Your covenant and promise as best I can. I seek refuge in You from the worst of what I have done. I fully admit to You Your blessings upon me, and I fully admit to You all my sins. So forgive me, for there is none to forgive sins but You.

#### Significance

Abu Bakr (Allah be pleased with him) related from the Messenger of Allah (Allah bless him and give him peace) that he said, "There is no one who commits a sin, goes and performs ritual ablutions, and then prays two rakats after which they seek Allah's forgiveness except that He forgives them." After this, he (peace and blessings be upon him) recited Allah Most High's words, "And those who, when they commit an immorality or wrong themselves [by transgression), remember Allah and seek forgiveness for their sins - and who can forgive sins except Allah? - and [who) do not persist in what they have done while they know." [Qur'an, 3135)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This du'a is known as sayyidul-istighfar. While one can read any du'a for seeking forgiveness, coupling this particular du'a with salatul-tawbah seems most appropriate. It has been narrated that the Prophet (s) said "If somebody recites it during the day with firm faith in it and dies on the same day before the evening, **he will be from the people of Paradise** and if somebody recites it at night with firm faith in it and dies before the morning **he will be from the people of Paradise**."

# Highlighted DUAS

Sayyidul-Istighfar

اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ رَبِّي لا إِلَهَ إِلا أَنْتَ خَلَقْتنِي وَأَنَا عَبْدُكَ وَأَنَا عَلَى عَهْدِكَ وَوَعْدِكَ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُ أَبُوءُ لَكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا صَنَعْتُ أَبُوءُ لَكَ بِذَنْبِي فَاغْفِرْ لِي فَإِنَّهُ لا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ إِلا أَنْتَ

Oh Allah! You are my Lord. There is no god but you. You have created me, and I am your servant—and I am upon Your covenant and promise as best I can. I seek refuge in You from the worst of what I have done. I fully admit to You Your blessings upon me, and I fully admit to You all my sins. So forgive me, for there is none to forgive sins but You.

Salawat, 100X

Oh Allah! Send blessings and peace upon Muhammad and the Family of Muhammad.

# Istighfar 100X

I seek forgiveness from Allah for all my sins and turn to Him.

## Dhikr of Allah

Glory be to Allah, all praise belongs to Allah, Allah is the Greatest.

Exalted is Allah and praised is He; Exalted is Allah, the Supreme

There is no Might not Power except by Allah

Oh You the Everlasting and All-Sustainer, I fervently call upon Your Mercy

I am pleased with Allah as the Lord, with Islam as the religion, and with Muhammad as the Messenger

Verily to Allah we belong and to Him we will return

There is no God worthy of worship except You, exalted are You, verily I am among the wrongdoers

## Special du'as to read during the last ten days

Oh Allah! You are Pardoning and love to pardon, so pardon me

O Allah! avert from us the torment of hell verily its torment is ever an inseparable punishment. Indeed it is an evil abode and an evil place to rest.

اللَّهُمَّ أَجِرْنِي مِنَ النَّارِ

O Allah! save me from the hell-fire

#### **DU'A COMPILER**

Use this space to write down a list of du'as you would like to make during the last ten nights of Ramadan. There is no limit to what you should ask for. It is recommended that you make du'a for everything and anything you can think of for yourself first-- in terms of deen and then duniya, working your way from immediate families, teachers/friends, to lastly the ummah.

### وَإِذَا سَأَلَكَ عِبَادِي عَنِّي فَإِنِّي قَرِيبُ لُهُ أُجِيبُ دَعْوَةَ الدَّاعِ إِذَا دَعَامِ لَ فَلْيَسْتَجِيبُوا لِي وَلْيُؤْمِنُوا بِي لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْشُدُونَ 2:186

"And when My servants question thee concerning Me, then surely I am nigh. I answer the prayer of the suppliant when he crieth unto Me. So let them hear My call and let them trust in Me, in order that they may be led aright" [2:186]