

# AT THE APPROACH OF RAJAB & SHA'BAN

Adopt A Sunnah no.24

Rajab 1433 | May 2012

With the sighting of the crescent of Rajab, Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) would anticipate and begin preparations for the month of Ramadhan. i.e, two months in advance. Sayyiduna Anas Ibn Maalik ؓ reports that Rasulullah ﷺ would recite the following supplication when the Month of Rajab would commence:

*Allahumma baarik lanaa fee Rajaba wa Sha'bana wa balligh-naa Ramadhan*

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَنَا فِي رَجَبٍ وَشَعْبَانَ وَبَلِّغْنَا رَمَضَانَ

**Translation:** Oh Allah! Grant us Barakah (Blessing) during (the months of) Rajab and Sha'ban, and allow us to reach Ramadhan.

*(Shu'abul-Imaan #3534, Ibnu Sunni #660, Mukhtasar Zawaid Bazzar #662, also see Al-Azhkaar #549)*

Rajab is the second of the four "Sacred months" in the Islamic Calendar which are referred to as: "Al-Ash-hurul hurum" (*Surah Tawbah, verse: 36*)

The others are: *Zhul-Qa'dah, Zhul-Hijjah and Al-Muharram.*

Explaining their significance the 'Ulamaa mention that during these months, good deeds are more virtuous and evil deeds are more detestable to Almighty Allah.

*(Lataaiful-Ma'arif, pg.163)*

As for Sha'ban, there are authentic Ahadith that describe special significance for the 15<sup>th</sup> night.

Rasulullah ﷺ is reported to have said: "Certainly Almighty Allah forgives everyone on this night besides those who ascribe partners to Him and those who harbor enmity for others".

*(Sahih Ibn Hibban #5665, Al-Targheeb, vol.3 pg.459, Majma'uz-zawaaid, vol.8 pg.65 & Lataaiful-Ma'arif, pg.194)*

Imaam 'Ataa Ibn Yasaar ؓ - a distinguished Tabi'ee-said: " After Laylatul Qadr, there is no other night more virtuous than **the middle (15th) night of Sha'ban . "**

*(Ibid, pg. 197)*

Imaam Shafi'e ؓ has stated: "I have heard that du'as are accepted by Almighty Allah on five nights:

- 1) The night of Jumu'ah,
- 2 ; 3) The nights of the two 'Eids,

- 4) The first night of Rajab,
- 5) The middle (15th) night of Sha'ban,

*(Lataaiful Ma'arif, pg. 196)*

**Note:** There are no specific types of Salaah etc. that are prescribed for the Month of Rajab or the 15th night of Sha'ban. One may engage in whatever form of 'ibadah one is comfortable with.

*(Lataaiful Ma'arif, pg.168, Islamic Months, pgs.63 & 79)*

Opportunities like these only come once a year. Fortunate are those who maximise their benefit there from.

Sayyiduna 'Ubadah ibn Samit ؓ said that Rasulullah ﷺ would recite the following Du'a when Ramadhan drew near:

اللَّهُمَّ سَلِّمْنِي لِرَمَضَانَ وَسَلِّمْ رَمَضَانَ لِي وَسَلِّمْ لِي مُتَقَبِّلًا

رواه الطبراني في الدعاء والديلمي ، وسنده حسن - كنز العمال 8 / 584

*Allahumma Sallimni li Ramadhan. wa sallim  
Ramadhana li wa sallimhu li mutaqabbala*

*(Kitabu Du'a-Tabrani 912-913, HayatuSahabah vol.3 pg.182)*

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