

Chapter – 13

Nights of Decree

(ليلة القدر)

Quran:

إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ - وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ - لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ -
تَنْزِيلُ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالرُّوحِ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِّنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ - سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ -

{ We have indeed sent down the Quran in the Night of Destiny. And what have you understood, what the Night of Destiny is! The Night of Destiny is better than a thousand months. In it descend the angels and Jabriel, by the command of their Lord, for all the works. It is peace until the rising of dawn. (97:01to05) }

Hadith:

Narrated Anas:

Allah's Prophet said that you should search the 'Night of Decree' (Al-Qadr) in the nights of 25th 27th and 29th of Ramazan. (Sahih Bukhari: 48)

Narrated Abdullah Ibn 'Umar:

Hafsa narrated one of my dreams to the Prophet and the Prophet said, "Abdullah is a good man. Would that he offer the night prayer (Tahajjud)"! --- So after that day he slept less and started offering Tahajjud. --- The companions of the Prophet used to tell him their dreams that perhaps Laila-tul-Qadr was on the 27th of the month of Ramadan. The Prophet said, "Whoever is in search of it should seek it in the last ten nights of Ramadan." (Sahih Bukhari: 1088)

Narrated 'Aisha and Ibn Abbas:

Allah's Prophet said, "Search for the Night of Qadr in the odd nights of the last ten days of Ramadan." (Sahih Bukhari: 1893to1896)

Narrated 'Ubadah bin Samit:

Allah's Prophet said, "Search for the Night of Qadr in the nights of 25th, 27th and 29th of Ramadan. He used to awake himself and awaken others as well." (Sahih Bukhari: 1897)

Narrated Aisha:

With the start of the last ten days of Ramadan, the Prophet used to tighten his waist belt (i.e. work hard) and used to pray all the night, and used to keep his family awake for the prayers. (Sahih Bukhari: 1898)

Important Aspects of Islamic Doctrine

Obligatory (فرض) / Essential (واجب):

(1) Quran mentions about the preference of night worships, yet no order has been given by Allah in this connection. God and His messenger have left on us to enjoy night worships by our own choice.

Sunnah (سنة):

(1) In order to look for Laila-tul-Qadr, special worship in the last 10 nights of Ramazan is Sunnah.

Desirable (مستحب):

(1) In order to look for Laila-tul-Qadr, worships for whole nights are desirable.

Miscellaneous (متفرق)

(1) Laila-tul-Qadr is the name of last 10 nights of Ramazan. Allah (SWT) writes fortunes in these nights for the whole year. God Says:

إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةٍ مُبَارَكَةٍ إِنَّا كُنَّا مُنذِرِينَ- فِيهَا يُفْرَقُ كُلُّ أَمْرٍ حَكِيمٍ

{ We have indeed sent it down in a blessed night, indeed it is We Who warn. During it are distributed all the works of wisdom. (44: 03and04) }

(2) The Noble Prophet said:

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

He who stands in the blessed night with faith and careful thoughts

(Allah SWT) forgives him all of his before and ahead of sins

(Bukhari and Muslim)

(3) Quran says for this night:

لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ

{ The night of destiny is better than a thousand months. (97:03) }

Note: It means that one should take advantage of it and should not waste this opportunity because God Himself says it is better than other thousand nights.

(4) Quran also says for this night:

سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ

{ It is peace until the rising of dawn. (97:05) }

Note: It means that this night God stops all the disasters, and prevents from Shaytan with his activities and opens his all blessing for the humankind.

