

Chapter – 20

Prayers at Night

(تَهَجُّد)

[وَمِنَ اللَّيْلِ فَتَهَجَّدْ بِهِ نَافِلَةً لَّكَ عَسَىٰ أَن يَبْعَثَكَ رَبُّكَ مَقَامًا مَّحْمُودًا، (17:79)]
 [يَا أَيُّهَا الْمُؤْمِنُ - فِيمَ اللَّيْلِ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا - نَصَفَهُ أَوْ انْقُصَ مِنْهُ قَلِيلًا -
 أَوْ زِدْ عَلَيْهِ وَرَتِّلِ الْقُرْآنَ تَرْتِيلًا، (73: 01 to 04)]

No.

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Hadith

When the Noble Prophet got up at night to offer the Tahajjud prayer, he used to say:

اللهم لك الحمد أنت قيم السموات والأرض ومن فيهن، ولك الحمد لك ملك السموات والأرض ومن فيهن، ولك الحمد أنت نور السموات والأرض ومن فيهن، ولك الحمد أنت ملك السموات والأرض، ولك الحمد أنت الحق، ووعدك الحق، ولقاؤك حق، وقولك حق، والجنة حق، والنار حق، والنبون حق، ومحمد صلى الله عليه وسلم حق، والساعة حق، اللهم لك أسلمت وبك آمنت وعليك توكلت وإليك أنبت وبك خاصمت وإليك حاكمت، فاغفر لي ما قدمت وما أخرت وما أسررت وما أعلنت أنت المقدم وأنت المؤخر، لا إله إلا أنت أو لا إله غيرك

{O Allah! All the praises are for you, You are the Holder of the Heavens and the Earth and whatever is in them;

And all the praises are for You, You have the possession of the Heavens and the Earth and whatever is in them;

All the praises are for You, You are the Light of the Heavens and the Earth and whatever is in them;

And all the praises are for You, You are the King of the Heavens and the Earth;

And all the praises are for You, You are Truth and Your Promise is truth, And to meet You is truth, Your Word is truth,

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And Paradise is truth, And Hell is truth;
 And all the Prophets are the truth; And Muhammad is the truth,
 And the Day of Resurrection is the truth;
 O Allah! I surrender to You, I believe in You and depend on You,
 And repent to You, And with Your help I argue, And I take You
 as a judge;

Please forgive me my previous and future sins; And whatever I
 concealed or revealed, And You are the One who make forward
 and backward. There is none to be worshipped but you. }

Few narrators have also added the following words in this pray:

ولا حول ولا قوة إلا بالله

{There is neither might nor power except with Allah. }

Narrated: Ibn Abbas.

- 1054 My father says that; When I was young I often used to sleep in Masjid Nabavi. In those days, once I saw in the dream that two angels caught hold of me and took me to the Hell-Fire. It was built all round like a well; it had two poles in it and the people in it were known to me. I started to seek refuge with Allah from the Hell-Fire. Then I met another angel who told me not to be afraid. ---- Later, my father narrated this dream to Hafsa who told it to Allah's Prophet. The Prophet said, "Abdullah is a good man. I wish he should have prayed Tahajjud." ---- After that 'Abdullah (*my father*) used to sleep but a little at night. *Narrated: Zuhri Salim..*
- 1055 Allah's Prophet used to offer eleven Rakat (8 Rakat Tahajjud and 3 Rakat Witr) for the night prayers. He used to prolong the prostration for a considerable time. He used to pray two Rakat (optional prayer) before the Fajr prayer and then used to lie down on his right side till the Mu'addin came and informed him about the Fajr prayer. *Narrated: 'Aisha.*
- 1056 The Prophet became sick and did not get up (*for Tahajjud prayer*) for a night or two. *Narrated: Jundab.*
- 1057 Gabriel did not come to the Prophet for some time. So one of the women of Quraish uttered wrong words for him. As a result, the following Verses descended:

وَالصُّحُفِ - وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا سَجَى - مَا وَدَّعَكَ رَبُّكَ وَمَا قَلَى

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{By oath of the forenoon! And by oath of the night when it covers! Your Lord has neither deserted you nor disliked you. (93:1 to 3)}

Narrated: Jundab bin 'Abdullah.

1058 One night the Prophet got up and said, "Subhan Allah! How many afflictions Allah has revealed tonight and how many treasures have been sent down (*disclosed*). Go and wake up the sleeping lady occupants of these dwellings (*for prayers*). Well-dressed women in this world may be naked in the Hereafter." *Narrated: Um Salama.*

1059 One night Allah's Prophet came to me and Fatima. The Prophet asked us, "Won't you pray (*Tahajjud*) at night?" I said, "O Allah's Prophet! Our souls are in the hands of Allah and if He wants us to get up He will make us get up." When I said this sentence, the Prophet left us saying the following Verse of Quran:

وَكَانَ الْإِنْسَانُ أَكْثَرَ شَيْءٍ جَدَلًا

{But man is more quarrelsome than anything." (18.54)}

Narrated: Ali.

1060 Allah's Prophet used to give up a good deed, although he loved to do it, fearing that people might act on it and it might be made compulsory for them. For example, The forenoon prayers. ---- However, I offer it. *Narrated: 'Aisha.*

1061 One night Allah's Prophet offered (*Tahajjud*) prayer in the Mosque and the people followed him. The next night he also offered the prayer and too many people gathered. On the third and the fourth nights more people gathered, but Prophet did not come out. Next morning he said, "I saw what you were doing, but the fear that it might be ordered on you, stopped me from coming to you". *Narrated: 'Aisha.*

1062 The Prophet used to stand in the prayer till both his feet or legs swelled. When he was asked why you offer such an unbearable prayer, he replied, "Should I not be a thankful slave?" *Narrated: ' Mughira.*

1063 Allah's Prophet told me, "The most beloved prayer and the most beloved fasts to Allah is that of (*Prophet*) Daud. He ---

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- used to sleep for half of the night and then pray for one third of the night, and again sleep for its sixth part, and used to fast on alternate days." *Narrated: 'Abdullah bin 'Amr.*
- 1064 The Prophet liked that deed which is done on a regular basis. *Narrated: Ashath.* (See Hadith - 42).
- 1065 The Prophet used to get up for the night prayers, on hearing the crowing of a cock. *Narrated: Ashath.*
- 1066 I saw the Prophet always passed the last hours of the night near me in sleeping. *Narrated: 'Aisha.*
- 1067 The Prophet and Zaid bin Thabit took their Sahar together. When they finished it, the Prophet stood for two Rakat Fajr (*optional*) prayer. The time interval between their finishing the Sahar and the starting of the prayer was equal to the time taken by a person in reciting fifty verses of the Quran." *Narrated: Anas bin Malik.*
- 1068 One night I offered the Tahajjud prayer with the Prophet. He kept on standing till an ill-thought came to me. When he was inquired that, "What was the ill-thought"? He replied that, "It was to sit down and leave the Prophet standing." *Narrated: 'Abdullah.*
- 1069 Whenever the Prophet got up for Tahajjud prayer he used to clean his mouth and teeth with Miswak (*a wooden brush*). *Narrated: 'Abdullah.*
- 1070 The Noble Prophet said that, for the night prayers (*Tahajjud*), offer two Rakat followed by two Rakat and so on, and when you apprehend the approaching of dawn, offer one Rakat which will make your all prayers as Witr (*even numbered*). *Narrated: 'Abdullah Bin 'Umer.*
- 1071 The night prayers of the Prophet used to be of total thirteen Rakats. *Narrated: Ibn Abbas.*
- 1072/1073 The night prayers of Allah's Prophet were consisting of seven (4+3), nine (6+3) or eleven (8+3) Rakats, besides the two Rakat of the Fajr optional prayer. *Narrated: 'Aisha and Masruq.* (See Hadith - 1055 above).
- 1074 (*Other than the month of Ramazan*) Allah's Prophet would not fast that we thought that he would not fast this month, and he sometimes used to fast for so many days that we thought

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- that he would not leave fasting through-out this month. Similarly, if you wanted to see him praying at night, you could see him praying and if you wanted to see him sleeping, you could see him sleeping. *Narrated: Anas.*
- 1075 Allah's Prophet said, "Shaytan puts three knots at the back of the head of any of you if he is asleep. On every knot he reads and exhales the following words, 'The night is long, so stay asleep.' But, when one wakes up and remembers Allah, one knot is undone; and when he performs ablution, the second knot is undone, and when he prays the third knot is undone, and one gets up energetic with a good heart in the morning. Otherwise, there is laziness for him all the way." *Narrated: Abu Hurairah.*
- 1076 The Prophet said, "One who learnt the Quran but never acted on it, then his head is crushed with a stone. And for him too, who slept ignoring the Compulsory prayers." *Narrated: Samura bin Jundab.*
- 1077 A person was mentioned before the Prophet and he was told that he had kept on sleeping till morning and had not got up for the prayer. The Prophet said, "Shaytan has urinated in his ears." *Narrated: 'Abdullah.*
- 1078 Allah's Prophet said, "Our Lord, comes every night down on the nearest Heaven to us when the last third of the night remains, saying: "Is there anyone to invoke Me, so that I may respond to invocation? Is there anyone to ask Me, so that I may grant him his request? Is there anyone seeking My forgiveness, so that I may forgive him?" *Narrated: Abu Hurairah.*
- 1079 The Prophet used to sleep early at night, and get up in its last part to pray, and then return to his bed. When the Mu'addin pronounced the Azan (*for Fajr*), he would get up. If he was in need of a bath he would take it; otherwise he would perform ablution and then go out for the (*Fajr*) prayer." *Narrated: 'Aisha.*
- 1080 Allah's Prophet never exceeded than eleven (4+4+3) Rakats in Ramazan or in other months. He used to offer four long Rakats. When we was offering three Rakats (*Witr*) he felt ---

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- sleepy. In this regard when 'Aisha asked the Prophet, "Whether you really sleep?" The Prophet replied, "My eyes sleep but my heart remains wakeful!" *Narrated: Abu Salama bin 'Abdur Rahman.*
- 1081 I did not see the Prophet reciting (*the Quran*) during the night prayers while sitting, except when he became old. When he used to recite while sitting, he would get up for a while and recite some verses and then bow. *Narrated: 'Aisha.* (See Hadith - 1051/1052 above).
- 1082 At the time of the Fajr prayer the Prophet asked Bilal, "Tell me of the best deed you did after embracing Islam, as I heard your footsteps (دَفٌّ نَعْلَيْكَ) in Paradise." Bilal replied, "I did not do anything worth mentioning except that whenever I performed ablution during the day or night, and after that ablution, I prayed as much as written (*by the Almighty God*) for me." *Narrated: Abu Hurairah.*
- 1083 The Noble Prophet said that "You should pray as long as you feel active, and when you get tired, sit down." ---- 'Aisha says that you make only those things compulsory on you whose power you have in you. Allah never feels tired until you yourself feel exhausted. *Narrated: Anas Bin Malik.*
- 1084 Allah's Prophet said to me, "O 'Abdullah! Do not be like so and so who used to pray at night but afterwards stopped them." *Narrated: 'Abdullah bin 'Amr bin Al-'As.*
- 1085 The Noble Prophet questioned me, "I heard that you regularly stand for the night prayers and fast in the day time?" I said, Yes please. He said, "If you continue this practice your health will be affected. Your life and your family have rights on you, therefore you must care all of them." *Narrated: 'Abdullah bin 'Umer.*
- 1086 The Prophet said, "Whoever gets up at night and says:
لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له، له الملك وله الحمد، وهو على كل شيء قدير،
الحمد لله وسبحان الله ولا إله إلا الله والله أكبر، ولا حول ولا قوة إلا بالله
{None has the right to be worshipped but Allah. He is the Only One and has no partners . For Him is the Kingdom and

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all the praises are due for Him. He is All-powerful.
 All the praises are for Allah. All the glories are for Allah.
 And none has the right to be worshipped but Allah,
 And Allah is Great,
 And there is neither Might nor Power except with Allah}
And then says:

اللهم اغفر لي

{O Allah! Forgive me}

Then his ablutions, his prayers, and all his invocations will be accepted." *Narrated: 'Ubada bin Samit.*

1087 Allah's Prophet said in one of his sermon, 'Abdullah bin Rawaha says quite right that "between us there is Allah's Prophet, who recites Allah's Book till dawn. He showed us the guidance when we were blind. And our hearts believe that whatever he says will absolutely come true. The Prophet spends his nights in such a way as his sides do not touch his bed." *Narrated: Maithum Bin Abi Sannan.*

1088 Hafsa narrated one of my dreams to the Prophet and he said, "Abdullah what a good man he is! I wish he would have offered the night prayers (*Tahajjud*)" --- So after that day I slept less and started offering *Tahajjud*. (Also See Hadith - 1054 above). ----- Moreover, other Companions also presented their dreams in front of the Prophet and also inferred that probably the "Laila-tul-Qadr" is on 27th of the month of Ramazan. On this the Prophet said, "Whoever is in search of this night should seek it in the last ten nights of Ramazan." *Narrated: Abdullah Ibn 'Umar*

1089 Allah's Prophet offered four Rakats 'Isha' prayer. (*He then slept for a while then got up at the Tahajjud time*) . He then offered total eight Rakats with two Rakat each. And then offered three Rakats for Witr. Finally, he offered two Rakat between the Azan and Iqama of the Fajr prayer, He never missed offering these two Rakat. *Narrated: 'Aisha.*

1090/1091 The Prophet used to lie down on his right side, after offering two Rakat (*Sunnah*) of the Fajr prayer. (*In Hadith-1091 'Aisha says that*) The Prophet used to talk if I happen to be awake, and he would not lie down. *Narrated: 'Aisha.*

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- 1092 The Prophet used to teach us the way of doing استخاره (to ask Allah to guide for the right decision concerning any deed). The prophet said that if anyone of you thinks of doing any job he should first offer a two Rakat prayer (optional) and then say:

اللهم إني أستخيرك بعلمك، وأستقدرك بقدرتك، وأسألك من فضلك العظيم،

فإنك تقدر ولا أقدر، وتعلم ولا أعلم، وأنت علام الغيوب. اللهم إن كنت تعلم أن هذا الأمر خير لي

في ديني ومعاشي وعاقبة أمري - أو عاجل أمري وآجله - فاقدره لي ويسره لي، ثم بارك لي فيه،

وإن كنت تعلم أن هذا الأمر شر لي في ديني ومعاشي وعاقبة أمري - أو عاجل أمري وآجله -

فاصرفه عني واصرفني عنه، واقدر لي الخير - حيث كان - ثم أرضني

{O Allah! I ask guidance from Your knowledge, and Power from Your Might, and I ask for Your great blessings.

You are capable and I am not. You know and I do not, and You know the unseen. O Allah! If You know that this job is

good for my religion and my subsistence and for my

Hereafter-- and if it is better for my present and later needs,

Then You ordain it for me and make it easy for me to get,

And then bless me in it, and if You know that this job is

harmful to me in my religion and subsistence and in the

Hereafter -- and if it is worse for my present and later needs,

then keep it away from me and let me be away from it.

And ordain for me whatever is good for me,

And make me satisfied with it).

The Prophet added: Then the person should mention his need.

Narrated: Jabir bin 'Abdullah.

- 1093 The Prophet said, "If anyone of you enters a Mosque, he should not sit until he has offered a two-Rakat (تحية المسجد)."

Narrated: Abu Qatada bin Rabi Al-Ansari. (See Hadith - 882/883).

- 1094 Allah's Prophet led us and offered a two Rakat prayer and then went away. *Narrated: Anas bin Malik.*

- 1095 Allah's prophet offered two Rakat prayers before and after the Zuhr prayer. He also offered two Rakats after Jumua, Maghrib and 'Isha' prayers. ---- Then we also did in the same way. *Narrated: 'Abdullah bin 'Umar.*

- 1096 While delivering a sermon Allah's Prophet said, "If anyone

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- of you comes while the Imam is delivering the sermon even then he should offer a two Rakat (تحية المسجد) prayer." *Narrated: Jabir bin 'Abdullah.* (See Hadith - 882/883).
- 1097 The Noble Prophet offered two Rakat prayer inside the Ka'bah. He then came out of the Ka'bah and offered two Rakat prayer. (See Hadith - 386). ----- (*Abu Hurairah said*) "The Prophet advised me to offer two Rakat of forenoon prayer (چاشت). (See Hadith - 636 and 1039). ---- (*And Itban bin Malik said*) One day when the sun had risen, Allah's Prophet and Abu Bakr, came to my house with me and offered two Rakat prayer in congregation. *Narrated: Ibn 'Umar.* (See Hadith - 410/411 and Hadith 651).
- 1098to1101 Allah's prophet regularly offered two Rakat optional prayer with small Surats earlier than compulsory Fajr prayer. Before these optional prayers he used to offer total 11 (8+3) Rakats (*Tahajjud*) night prayers. *Narrated: 'Aisha.*
- 1102 The Noble Prophet used to offer optional two Rakat before Fajr and Zuhr prayers; and two Rakat after Maghrib and Isha' prayers. Those of the Maghrib and 'Isha' were offered in his house. Similarly, the Prophet used to offer two Rakat after Jumua obligatory prayer. *Narrated: Ibn 'Umar.*
- 1103 Abu Ash-Sha'tha said, I offered with Allah's Prophet eight Rakats (*Zuhr and 'Asr*) together and seven Rakats (*Maghrib and 'Isha' prayers*) together. I said to him, "I think you must have prayed the Zuhr late and the 'Asr early; and similarly the Maghrib late and the 'Isha early. *Narrated: Ibn 'Abbas.*
- 1104 I asked Ibn 'Umar, "Do you offer the forenoon prayer?" He replied in the negative. I further asked, "Did 'Umar used to pray it?" He replied in the negative. I again asked, "Did Abu Bakr used to pray it?" He replied in the negative. I again asked, "Did the Prophet used to pray it?" Ibn 'Umar replied, "I don't think he did offer this prayer." *Narrated: Muwarriq.*
- 1105 Only Um Hani narrated to me that she had seen the Prophet offering the forenoon prayer (چاشت). She said, "On the day of the conquest of Mecca, the Prophet entered my house, took

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- a bath and offered eight Rakat prayers. I had never seen the Prophet offering such a light prayer, but he performed bowing and prostrations perfectly. *Narrated: 'Abdur Rahman bin Abi Laila.* (See Hadith - 1039).
- 1106 I never saw the Prophet offering the forenoon prayer; but I always offered it. *Narrated: 'Aisha.*
- 1107 My beloved (*the Prophet*) advised me to do three things that I shall not leave them till I die. These are: To fast three days every month; To offer the forenoon prayer; And to offer Witr before sleeping. *Narrated: Abu Hurairah.*
- 1108 An Ansari was unable to present himself in the Mosque for all prayers due to his fatness. So he prepared a meal for the Prophet and invited him to his house. When the Prophet reached to his house he put a washed mat at one corner. The Prophet offered two Rakat prayer on it. It was the of time of Chast (*forenoon*). I never saw him praying (*the Chast prayer*) except on that day." *Narrated: Anas bin Malik.*
- 1109 I remember ten (*Sunnah*) prayer from the Prophet. Two Rakat before the Zuhr prayer and two after it; two Rakat after Maghrib prayer in the house; two Rakat after 'Isha' prayer in his house; and two Rakat before the Fajr prayer. Hafsa told me that the Prophet used to offer two Rakat after the Azan of Fajr. *Narrated: Ibn 'Umar.*
- 1110 The Prophet never missed four Rakat before the Zuhr prayer and two Rakat before the Fajr prayer. *Narrated: 'Aisha.*
- 1111 The Prophet said, Pray two Rakat before the Maghrib (*compulsory*) prayer but simultaneously he said that he did not like the people to make it as a tradition. *Narrated: 'Abdullah Al-Muzani.*
- 1112 I went to 'Uqba bin 'Amir and said, "Is it not surprising for you that Abi Tamim offers two Rakat before the Maghrib prayer?" 'Uqba said, "We used to do so in the life-time of Allah's Prophet." I asked him, "What prevents you from offering it now?" He replied, "Our business." *Narrated: 'Abdullah Al-Muzani.*
- 1113 Itban bin Malik was a blind Companion. I heard him saying to Allah's Prophet that, "I have weak eye-sight and the ----

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valley between me and my people flows during the rainy season and it becomes difficult for me to cross it and lead the prayers in the mosque. I wish you would come to my house and pray at a place so that I could take that place as a praying place. Allah's Prophet had accepted my request. And one day the Noble Prophet and Abu Bakr came to my house. When people heard about coming of prophet, they gathered in my house. I pointed to the place where I wanted him to pray. So Allah's Prophet stood up for the prayer and offered two Rakat prayer. ---- After prayer, one of them said, 'So and so is a hypocrite. For that Allah's Prophet said, Don't say this. Anyone who said:

لا اله الا الله

{None has the right to be worshipped but Allah}

Then Allah will save him from Hell-fire.

Narrated: Mahmud bin Rabi' Ansari.

(See Hadith - 410/411 and Hadith 633).

- 1114 Allah's Prophet said, "Offer some of your prayers (*Sunnah and Nawafil*) in your houses and do not make them graves." *Narrated: Ibn 'Umar.*
- 1115 The Noble Prophet said that, Do not set out on a journey except for three Mosques: (1) Masjid-AI-Haram, (2) Masjid-e-Nabavi and (3) Masjid Al-Aqsa. *Narrated: Abu Hurairah.*
- 1116 Allah's Prophet said, "One prayer in my Mosque is better than one thousand prayers in any other mosque excepting AI-Masjid-AI-Haram. *Narrated: Abu Hurairah.*
- 1117 Ibn 'Umar never offered the forenoon prayer except, on two occasions:
- (1) Whenever he reached Mecca it was the forenoon. He would perform Tawaf round the Ka'bah and then offer two Rakat at the rear of Maqam-e-Ibrahim.
 - (2) Whenever he visited Quba, and he used to visit it every Saturday, and when he entered the mosque, he liked to offer two Rakat prayer.
- Ibn 'Umar said that prayers can be offered anytime except at the time of sunrise and the sunset. *Narrated: Nafi'.*

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- 1118/1119 The Noble Prophet used to go to the Mosque of Quba every Saturday, sometimes walking and sometimes riding. On reaching the mosque, he used to offer two Rakat prayers.
Narrated: Ibn 'Umar.
- 1120 Allah's Prophet said, "Between my house and the pulpit of the mosque, there is a garden of the "Gardens of Paradise", i.e. (رياض الجنة). *Narrated: 'Abdullah bin Zaid Al-Mazzini.*
- 1121 The Prophet said, "Between my house and my pulpit there is a garden of the "Gardens of Paradise", and my pulpit is on my fountain tank (*Al-Kauthar*)."
Narrated: Abu Hurairah.
- 1122 Abu Said Al-Khudri narrated that the Noble Prophet has advised following four things: .
- (1) A woman should not go on a two day journey (*or more*), except with a Mahram or husband.
 - (2) No fasting is permissible on two days, i.e. Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Azha.
 - (3) At the time when sun rises and at the time when the sun sets, no prayers should be offered.
 - (4) Do not prepare yourself for a journey of any mosque, except to three Mosques, i.e. Al-Masjid-Al-Haram (*Makah*), the Mosque of Aqsa (*Jerusalem*) and my Mosque (*Madinah*).
Narrated: Qaza'a and Ziyad.