

*As-Siddique*

# NEWSLETTER

March 2022 | Issue #107

“Glad tidings for As Sham. We asked, Why is that Oh Messenger of Allah? He replied: Because the angels of Ar Rahman spread their wings over it.” *(Prophet Muhammad SAW - Tirmidhi)*



## Al Aqsa

Al Aqsa also known as Al Haram As Sharif, is the holiest site in Al Quds (Jerusalem). It has been used as a place of worship, residence, and meditation by many prophets and pious individuals. Al Quds is located in the blessed land called Sham. The land of Sham (modern day Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Palestine) has a very rich Islamic history. Many prophets have lived in these areas and are also buried there.

Al Quds extends to an area of 45 square km and within that lies the historic Al Aqsa sanctuary. The Al Aqsa sanctuary stretches to an area of approximately 35 acres. Within this area, at the southern end is a masjid with a black dome that is also called Al Masjid Al Qibli. At the centre of the sanctuary is the golden domed masjid called Qubbat As Sakhra (dome of the rock). Many people wrongly believe that it is only the Masjid Al Qibli or the Dome of the Rock that is sanctified. In reality the entire land of the Al Aqsa sanctuary is a blessed land.

The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) visited Al Aqsa when he was taken on a miraculous journey to the heavens – the Mi'raj. The Prophet (peace be upon him) led all the other prophets in prayer there. Allah (SWT) makes a mention of this journey and the blessed nature of this land in the Quran:

*Glorious is He (Allah) Who took His servant for a journey by night from the Sacred Masjid (in Makkah) to Masjid Al Aqsa (in Jerusalem), whose precincts We have blessed, in order that We might show him some of Our Signs: for He is the One Who hears and sees (all things).* [Quran, Al-Isra 17:1]

The Prophet Muhammad's (peace be upon him) being taken to Al Quds indicates the importance of Al Aqsa to all Muslims. May Allah (SWT) protect Al Aqsa and its people from all forms of evil and calamities.



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DAY	DATE	ISLAMIC	FAJR	SUNRISE	DHUHR	ASR	ISHA	FAJR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
Tue	1	27	4:55	6:46	12:17	3:48	7:12	5:45	4:15	5:43	7:50
Wed	2	28	4:52	6:43	12:17	3:49	7:14	"	"	5:45	"
Thu	3	29	4:50	6:41	12:17	3:51	7:15	"	"	5:47	"
Fri	4	1	4:48	6:39	12:17	3:52	7:17	"	"	5:48	"
<b>Sat</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4:46</b>	<b>6:37</b>	<b>12:16</b>	<b>3:54</b>	<b>7:19</b>	<b>5:30</b>	<b>4:15</b>	<b>5:50</b>	<b>8:00</b>
Sun	6	3	4:44	6:35	12:16	3:55	7:21	"	"	5:52	"
Mon	7	4	4:41	6:32	12:16	3:57	7:22	"	"	5:54	"
Tue	8	5	4:39	6:30	12:16	3:58	7:24	"	"	5:55	"
Wed	9	6	4:37	6:28	12:15	4:00	7:26	"	"	5:57	"
Thu	10	7	4:34	6:26	12:15	4:01	7:28	"	"	5:59	"
Fri	11	8	4:32	6:24	12:15	4:03	7:30	"	"	6:01	"
<b>Sat</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4:29</b>	<b>6:21</b>	<b>12:15</b>	<b>4:04</b>	<b>7:31</b>	<b>5:15</b>	<b>4:45</b>	<b>6:02</b>	<b>8:10</b>
Sun	13	10	4:27	6:19	12:14	4:06	7:33	"	"	6:04	"
Mon	14	11	4:25	6:17	12:14	4:07	7:35	"	"	6:06	"
Tue	15	12	4:22	6:14	12:14	4:09	7:37	"	"	6:08	"
Wed	16	13	4:20	6:12	12:13	4:10	7:39	"	"	6:09	"
Thu	17	14	4:17	6:10	12:13	4:11	7:41	"	"	6:11	"
Fri	18	15	4:15	6:08	12:13	4:13	7:43	"	"	6:13	"
<b>Sat</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>4:12</b>	<b>6:05</b>	<b>12:13</b>	<b>4:14</b>	<b>7:44</b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>5:00</b>	<b>6:14</b>	<b>8:20</b>
Sun	20	17	4:09	6:03	12:12	4:15	7:46	"	"	6:16	"
Mon	21	18	4:07	6:01	12:12	4:17	7:48	"	"	6:18	"
Tue	22	19	4:04	5:59	12:12	4:18	7:50	"	"	6:19	"
Wed	23	20	4:02	5:56	12:11	4:19	7:52	"	"	6:21	"
Thu	24	21	3:59	5:54	12:11	4:21	7:54	"	"	6:23	"
Fri	25	22	3:56	5:52	12:11	4:22	7:56	"	"	6:25	"
Sat	26	23	3:54	5:49	1:10	4:23	7:58	"	"	6:26	"
<b>Sun</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>4:51</b>	<b>6:47</b>	<b>1:10</b>	<b>5:25</b>	<b>9:00</b>	<b>5:45</b>	<b>6:30</b>	<b>7:28</b>	<b>9:30</b>
Mon	28	25	4:48	6:45	1:10	5:26	9:02	"	"	7:30	"
Tue	29	26	4:45	6:42	1:10	5:27	9:04	"	"	7:31	"
Wed	30	27	4:43	6:40	1:09	5:28	9:06	"	"	7:33	"
Thu	31	28	4:40	6:38	1:09	5:30	9:08	"	"	7:35	"

Dhuhr Jama`ah	<b>1:00 / 1:30 from 27th</b>
Jumu`ah 1	<b>12:25</b>
Jumu`ah 2	<b>1:15</b>

*Islamic dates are confirmed after 29<sup>th</sup>  
Jama`ah times may be adjusted*

<b>Characteristics of The Prophet SAW</b> Wednesdays after Isha - By Maulana Atif
<b>Ahadith for Softening the Heart</b> Saturdays after Isha - by Imam Mohammed

## Ramadan of the Prophet ﷺ

The Prophet SAW started fasting in Ramaḍān when it was legislated in Sha'bān 2 AH. As he passed away in Rabī' al-Awwal 11 AH, this means that nine whole Ramaḍāns worth of precious guidance were captured by the Saḥābah RA.

The Prophet SAW would look forward to this blessed month and offer glad tidings: "This month has come to you, and in it, there is a night that is better than a thousand months. Whoever is deprived of it is deprived of all goodness, and no one is deprived of its goodness except one who is truly deprived." [Ibn Mājah]

In preparation for Ramaḍān, the Prophet SAW would fast virtually the whole of Sha'bān. 'Āishah RA says: "I never saw Allah's Apostle fasting for a whole month, except the month of Ramaḍān, and didn't see him fasting in any month more than in the month of Sha'bān." [Bukhārī]

The Prophet SAW further emphasised the virtue of Sha'bān when he was questioned about his continuous fasting therein, by saying: "...That is a month (Sha'bān) which people neglect between Rajab and Ramaḍān. In that month, the people's deeds are being raised to the Lord of Mankind, so I love that my deeds are being raised while I'm fasting."

"Ibn Abbas RA reported: The Messenger of Allāh SAW was the most generous of people and he was even more generous in Ramaḍān when Gabriel would meet him. He would meet him every night of Ramaḍān to study the Qur'ān. Thus, the Prophet would be more generous than a swift wind." [Bukhārī]

The Prophet SAW was, throughout the year, the best of people in his worship and character, but in Ramaḍān he would excel further due to his company with Jibrīl AS and their mutual study of the Qur'ān. What a remarkable sight that must have been – the best of mankind and the best of angels studying the best of revelation.

The Qur'ān is supposed to transform us. In the blessed month of Ramaḍān, we spend the days fasting in order to prepare ourselves, both physically and spiritually, to hear the words of Allāh SWT in the evening. The Tarāwīh prayer is the culmination of the fast when we stand in awe to admire and be transformed by the words of Allāh SWT.

The generosity of the Prophet SAW was swift without hesitation and his generosity benefitted all people, in the same way that a beneficial wind encompasses all the people it touches without differentiating between the good and the bad.

This narration also teaches us the importance of seeking out the best company in Ramaḍān to improve your character and increase your aspirations for worship. The Prophet SAW was already the best of mankind, so he was blessed with the company of the best of angels – Jibrīl AS.

It would be a gross mistake to relegate Ramaḍān to a month of excessive sleeping to ward off the pangs of hunger.

A brief glance at the Sīrah of the Prophet SAW reveals a number of armies dispatched by the Prophet SAW in Ramaḍān, including the armies of Hamza RA to Sayf al-Bahr in 1 AH, and the armies of Zayd b.n Ḥārith RA to Bani Fuzarah in 6 AH and the armies of Sa'd b.

Zayd al-Ashhali RA to Mina in 8 AH. Some of the most momentous victories in the Sīrah took place in Ramaḍān, including the first decisive battle, the Battle of Badr on the 17th Ramadan in 2 AH and, of course, the conquest of Makkah in Ramaḍān of 8 AH. The Saḥābah RA marched for Makkah on the 10th Ramaḍān whilst fasting and reached on the 19th, with the Prophet SAW instructing them to break their fasts on the outskirts of Makkah in preparation for battle. Khālid b. al-Walīd was despatched to destroy the idol al-Uzza, in the al-Naklah region, with five days left of Ramaḍān remaining in the same year.

When the rewards are great the endeavour must also be great. There is nothing in life which is of value and worth that can be achieved without some form of striving. The blessed month of Ramaḍān is a gold mine whose stores can never be depleted. Allāh SWT has promised in Ḥadīth Qudsī that "fasting is for me, and I will reward it". [Bukhārī, Muslim] The wider context of this ḥadīth is the promise to multiply the reward for good deeds from ten up to seven hundred times except for the reward of fasting, which is beyond that. By attributing the reward of fasting to Himself, Allāh SWT has emphasised its limitless virtue.

As we stand on the eve of Ramaḍān, it really is time for Muslims of high aspirations to return in totality to the guidance of the Prophet SAW. (Extracted from www.islam21c.com)

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By Imam Mohammed

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## Dates - A Miracle Food

Many fruits and fruit-bearing plants have been mentioned in the Qur'an, but it is the date palm that finds maximum references. Under the Quranic names of *Nakhl* and *Nakhil*, it has been mentioned in 20 verses of the Quran.

In Surat Al-Nahl, Allah Says: "With it He produces for you corn, olives, date palms, grapes, and every kind of fruit: Verily in this is a Sign for those who give thought" (Al-Quran 16:11).

The Qur'an also narrates the incident when Maryam RA, was provided with fresh ripe dates when she was feeling pain during childbirth (Al-Quran 19:23). It is this verse that is supposed to be the reason for considering dates to be beneficial to pregnant women while experiencing contractions.

In Ahādīth, many useful properties have been attributed to dates. Prophet Muhammad SAW advised to break fast with dates during Ramadan. (Ahmad & Abu Dawud)

According to another hadīth, taking 7 Ajwa dates in the morning helps in preventing witchcraft and poisoning. (Bukhari)



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