



# RAMADAN

## THE LAST TEN DAYS

All Praise is to Allah, Lord of the Universe and May His Praise and Salutations be upon His Final Messenger, Muhammad and his family and companions.

It wasn't long ago when we were talking about the arrival of Ramadan. How the day before the shops were full, as though there would be a food shortage of some sort. Incidentally, I know a few individuals in the Asian supermarket businesses and they say their busiest period is in Ramadan. Strange, since we eat for only 4-6 hours, yet when we eat for 18 hours we eat less. Strange, since we would snatch food from the mouth of our loved ones before Iftaar, but are throwing food in the bin 30 minutes later. Strange, how we plan all day what we are going to eat, but after the first several morsels, nothing is as appetising. Not only are the supermarkets busy but so are the Islamic bookstores and websites. It seems we have an interest in Islam for these few weeks, but the same books will be an awkward reminder throughout the year. Mind you, others may not spend the money as they may feel that they won't read them anyway so what would be the point.

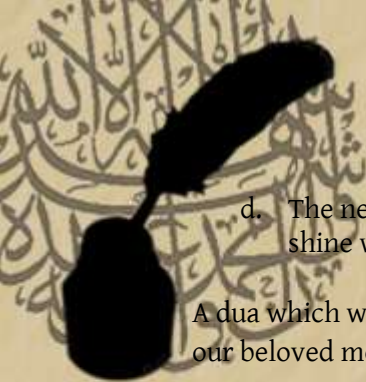
Ramadan is not complete yet. The period which requires more effort will be upon us in several hours. There are three things in particular about the last ten days in which the Prophet partook.

1. Imam Muslim transmits a tradition in which it is reported that he would strive more in terms of worship in the last ten days of Ramadan than in any other time. However, he did not limit that to himself but he would raise his family at night in order to ensure they were engaged in worship. Our houses during these last ten days should be places of study, worship and teaching. We can sit together to chat and spend/waste our time, however these last ten days carry great reward
2. I'tikaf – It was the Sunna of our Prophet to spend the last ten days in the Masjid in I'tikaf. Those who do not have the opportunity should spend as much time as possible in the Masjid. A female can perform I'tikaf in her room.
3. Seeking Layl al-Qadr The Night of Power.

***"Verily! We have sent it [this Holy Qur'an] down in the Layl al-Qadr (Night of Power). And what will make you [Muhammad] know what the Night of Power is? The Night of Power is better than a thousand months! Therein descend the angels and the Spirit [Jibreel] by Allah's permission with all decrees. Peace! [It lasts] until the appearance of dawn" Qur'an: 97***

This night is worth 1000 months which is 83 years and 4 months approximately. One stays awake in worship it will be as if he/she spent their whole life in worship. Taking into consideration the curious ahadith one understands that it is most likely in the last ten days. Furthermore, there is a greater probability that it is in the odd nights i.e. 21<sup>st</sup> (tonight), 23<sup>rd</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. There is a tradition which highlights the 27<sup>th</sup> night. As there is so much to gain and so much to lose I would suggest that you remain awake after Tarawih until Sehri. Those who have very young children should try as long as possible. Men have no excuse. The signs of the Layl al-Qadr are as follows:

- a. This night possesses an extraordinary shine and brightness of its own.
- b. The night temperature will be neither hot nor cold – 12-15 C.
- c. This night will be calm, clear and dry.

- 
- d. The next morning after this night the sun will be bright, brilliant and slightly reddish. Its shine will be tender, not blinding just like the full moon in the clear night.

A dua which was mentioned for this night by the Prophet is below. The Prophet taught this dua to our beloved mother, Sayyidina A'isha.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوفٌ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

These last ten days are also a time to reflect over the month. Please ensure you have paid your Zaka, make preparation for your Sada al-Fitr, make dua for your families, friends and teachers (an boss!), think of your Institute. Learn something about your religion. Read a book about the Life of the Holy Prophet. Bring a Sunna into your life.

May Allah give us the ability to intend good and then to act on good. May we benefit from Ramadan and Layl al-Qadr. Bless Your Beloved Muhammad and his wives, families, companions and followers. Bless all the Prophets, the Truthful, the Scholars and the Mujahid. Amin.

© Copyright 2011 Shaykh Amjad Mohammed  
[www.amjadmohammed.com](http://www.amjadmohammed.com)

AMJADMUHAMMEDI.COM  
SCHOLASTIC SOLUTIONS