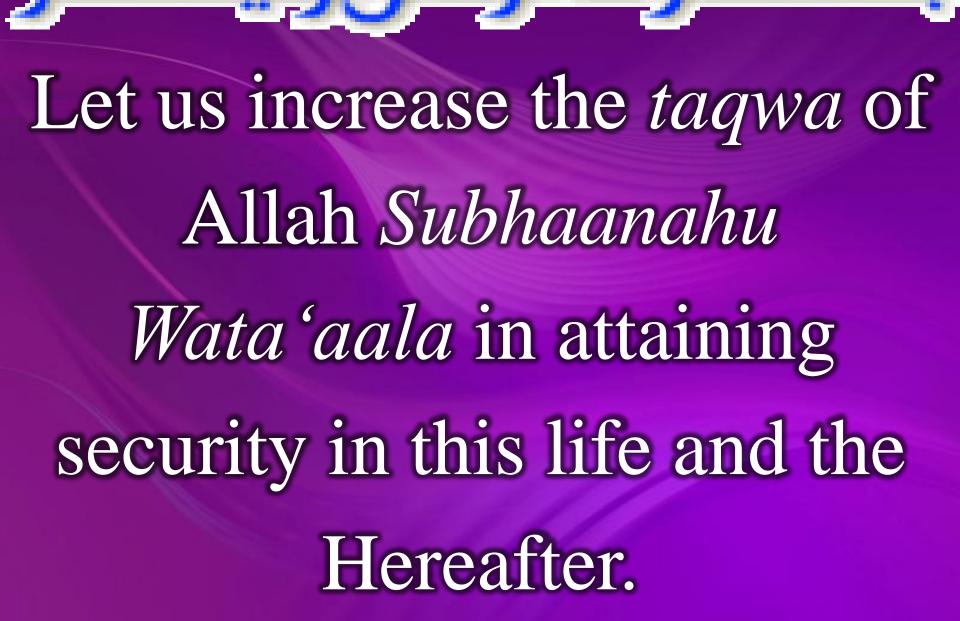




SHA'BAAN: **MONTH FOR** ACCUMULATING **GOOD DEEDS**



Today, we are in the noble month of Sha 'baan. And insha Allah next month, we will be fasting for a whole month, to fulfill the Command of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala, sincerely hoping to attain His Forgiveness and Pleasure.

In this month of Sha baan, the scholars of Ahlus Sunnah Wal Jamaa 'ah would encourage and increase their du'a for their own benefit and also the entire Muslim ummah,

yearning for steadfastness in imaan and Islam, abundant provision, long life, and achieving husn al-khaatimah (good ending).

The month was named Sha 'baan for it offers multitude of rewards to be reaped. Hence, in attaining nobility and prominence, one must increase their good deeds so that the heart

becomes humble, modest, and easily penetrated by the noor of hidaayah from Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. It is in this month that our book of deeds will be elevated to the heavens by the angels.

When the period of accountability arrives, these records will be manifested as proofs and evidence against each individual. According to history, among the major events that took place in Sha 'baan is the command from

Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala to Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam for the changing of qiblah, from Masjid al-Aqsa in Bayt al-Maqdis to Masjid al-Haram in Makkah al-Mukarramah.

Al-Qur'an has clearly expounded that the accounting of the deeds will be done by Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala in various ways, namely:

1- The Deeds Will Be **Accounted For Through** Questioning. Every individual will be questioned about their actions in this world, whether apparent or hidden, minor or major.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "So by your Lord, We will surely question them all. About what they used to do." (al-Hijr 15:92-93)

2- Accountability Through **The Reading Of The** Records. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has assigned several angels for each person to record all of their deeds, whether good or bad,

while conscious or absentminded, joking or serious, even to the very breathe taken, and lamenting of the heart are recorded. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"And indeed, [appointed] over you are keepers. Noble and recording."

(al-Infitaar 82:10-11)

3- The Accounting Of Deeds Through Audio Playback Of Recordings. These are the recordings of every action and words uttered throughout the entire life.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "This, Our record, speaks about you in truth. Indeed, We were having transcribed whatever you used to do." (al-Jaathiyah 45:29)

4- The Accounting Of Deeds **By The Screening Of All** Deeds. Everyone will be shown everything that they had committed during their lives through this screening.

They will all be exposed though committed in secret whether in the dark or open, major or minor, as Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala has mentioned in al-Qur'an:

"That Day, the people will depart separated [into categories] to be shown [the result of] their deeds." (al-Zalzalah 99:6)

According to a narration, when Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had conveyed this wahy to mankind, many of the **Companions** started sobbing and crying,

feeling guilty of all the sins and wrongdoing that they had committed. Among them was 'Umar bin al-Khattaab radiyAllaahu 'anh,

feeling humiliated knowing that Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala will display his wicked acts to all creations.

5-Accountability Of Deeds By Weight Measurement. All of mankind's deeds performed in their entire lives will be weighed and measured on a large scale.

Such is the explanation on matters pertaining to accountability. Hopefully with this explanation, it will increase our remorse and penitence, and increase our

good deeds in having greater taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala, and seeking atonement for our sins. Among the deeds that the scholars would commit to in this month are:

1- Fasting. 'A'ishah radiyAllaahu 'anha narrated: The Messenger (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) used to fast until we thought he would never break his fast, and not fast until we

thought he would never fast. I never saw the Messenger of Allah fasting for an entire month except in Ramadaan, and I never saw him fast more than he did in Sha'baan. (al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

Usaamah bin Zayd radiyAllaahu 'anhuma narrated: "I said, 'O Messenger of Allah, I do not see you fasting in any other month like you fast in Sha'baan.'

He said, 'That is a month to which people do not pay attention, between Rajab and Ramadaan, and it is a month in which deeds

are lifted up to the Lord of the Worlds. I like for my deeds to be lifted up when I am fasting." (Ahmad, an-Nasaa'ie, al-Bayhaqi, ibn Abi Shaybah: saheeh)

2- Be in constant instighfaar, salawaat, and dhikr. Since it is a noble month for Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala and His Messenger,

hence we should increase our 'ibaadah such as making istighfaar, sending salawaat upon the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam, making dhikr, and tasbeeh.

3- Increase our recitation of al-Qur'an and giving charity. Anas bin Malik radiyAllaahu 'anh narrates that the Companions radiyAllaahu 'anhum ajma 'een were diligent in reciting al-Qur'an

after they have sighted the new moon of Sha 'baan. Some Companions mentioned that Sha'baan is the month of the reciters (of al-Qur'an).

In addition, Muslims are encouraged to be more charitable in spending for the poor and needy so that the disadvantaged can better prepare for the coming of Ramadaan.

With the beautiful opportunity in this month, let us make muhaasabah upon our ownselves and evaluate the deeds that we constantly perform, even though it may not contradict the Sharee 'ah.

For example, the feast done in Sha 'baan, providing food to the guests, but the most preferred is to provide iftaar to those fasting especially in Ramadaan. Therefore, do not make the feast of

Sha 'baan as something that is waajib, for it can lead to being wasteful whenever several households are hosting guests on the same day.

The same goes out to visiting the grave, which is not something that is waajib. It is a sunnah that can be performed at any time. Therefore, we must hasten to make tawbah by

stop committing acts of disobedience, while imploring for His Forgiveness. Let us fulfill all of the waajibaat, and the responsibility of promoting good and preventing evil.

May all of us become among those having utmost taqwa, ameen. "And hasten to forgiveness from your Lord and a garden as wide as the heavens and earth, prepared for the righteous." (Aali-'Imraan 3:133)

Conclusion: 1- Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam used to fast more during Sha 'baan.

2- Some acts/practices that were practices during Sha'ban may not contradict with the Sharee'ah but it cannot be considered as waajib or must be done only on the month of Sha'ban.



O Allah, You are the Almighty Lord, we are grateful unto You for having bestowed upon us **Mercy and Blessings, nourishing** us to strive to continue in strengthening the Muslim nation especially the state of Selangor, as an advanced, progressive, peaceful, and benevolent state.

We beseech and beg You, Ya Allah, to strengthen our imaan, increase our good deeds, strengthen our unity, increase our provision, enrich us with beneficial knowledge, nourish our soul with beautiful akhlaaq, guide us to the Path that is **Pleasing to You,**

protect us from Your severe tribulations such as the long drought, severe flooding, disease outbreak, violence and instability, poverty, and others, so that our land will become more peaceful and blessed.

Oh Allah, we ask You to open up the hearts of the Muslim ummah especially in Selangor, to fulfill their zakaat obligation as You had decreed in al-Qur'an. Bless the lives of those who have fulfilled their zakaat obligation, loving and caring for the poor and needy.

Purify their wealth and soul so that they will live according to that which pleases You. Protect the poor and needy from disbelief and everlasting poverty. Allaahummaa ameen

