

LAILA-TUL-QADR (NIGHT OF DESTINY)

SPEECH OF THE KHALIFATULLAH OF THE AGE, HAZRAT MUNIR AZIM (ATBA)

10 August 2012 ~ 21 Ramadan 1433 AH

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

My dear brothers, sisters and children,

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته



Today Friday the 10th August 2012 and 21st Ramadan (1433 After Hijra), after Asr prayers, I wish to address you on certain issues relating to the *Laila-tul-Qadr* in the Holy Month of Ramadan.

Like you all know, many of our Muslims brothers and sisters have gone into retreat for the remaining ten last days

of this Holy month Ramadan to seek the “*Laila-tul-Qadr*” (that is, the Night of Destiny). They have gone into retreat in the Mosque, and would be in another state of mind to concentrate themselves wholly on such acts of worship as the obligatory prayers, the voluntary prayers, the remembrance of Allah, reading of the Holy Quran and even devoting them to the learning of Deen and working for the spread of the message of Allah. In a nutshell, they shall do such acts which shall profit both their soul and Islam, be it in this world and the hereafter.

What is the *Laila-tul-Qadr*? Both the Quran and Sunnah provide us an insight into the meaning of such a night and its impact on the lives of Muslims. In the Holy Quran, Allah says: ***“Surely We have revealed it (that is, the Qur’an) during the Night of Destiny. And what will make you understand what the Night of Destiny is? The Night of Destiny is better than a thousand months. The angels and the Spirit descend therein by the command of***

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their Lord, with the divine order on everything. All is peace until the appearance of dawn.” (Chapter 97, verses 2-6)

Traditions relate that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (*Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam*) was on his way to inform the Muslims of the date of the Night of Destiny, when he encountered two persons who were quarrelling, and thus because of that interruption, he forgot its specific date. He expressed hope that it was good for Muslims. His noble wife, Hazrat Aisha (*Radhi Allahu Anha*) informs us: “*The Messenger of Allah (Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam) used to go in seclusion in the mosque during the last ten days of the month of Ramadan, saying ‘Look for the Night of Destiny in the odd nights of the last ten days of Ramadan.’*” (Bukhari & Muslim). So, the possible nights for this blessed night are the 21st, 23rd, 25th, 27th and 29th.

According to more precise narrations from his companions, the Holy Prophet of Islam Hazrat Muhammad (*Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam*) is reported to have said to look for the Laila-tul-Qadr during the last seven days of Ramadan. This is so because some of his companions each dreamt that that special night is found during the last seven days, and as the dreams confirm one another, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (*Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam*) agreed that such dreams were reliable and true and he himself complied with the instructions found in his companions’ dream. (Bukhari)

However, various authorities have ruled on the issue with discrepancies. Imam Malik (*Rahimullah alayh*) believed that every night of the last ten days of Ramadan are equal candidates, none of them being more likely than others. According to Imam Shafi (*Rahimullah alayh*) the most likely contender would be the 21st. According to Bilal (*Radhi Allahu Anhu*), the Messenger of Allah (*Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam*) said on one occasion - “*this is the 24th night.*” For Abu Dharr it is the 25th. Ibn ‘Abbas and Ubayy ibn Ka’b (*Radhi Allahu Anhum*) said: “*This is the 27th night*”, and Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal (*Rahimullah alayh*) agreed with them. In fact some fifty views on this subject can be identified.

For Muslims there is no better way to obey the order of Allah’s Messenger (*Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam*) that is ‘*Look for the Night of Destiny during*

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the last ten days of Ramadan' except to follow his example. The Prophet of Allah (Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam) said: "Anyone who spends the Night of Destiny by worshiping Allah, with sincere faith in Allah and an unshakeable belief in the divine reward, God will forgive his previous sins." (Bukhari & Muslim)

Lady Aisha (Radhi Allahu Anha) reported that when the last ten days of Ramadan came, the Messenger of Allah (Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam) used to tighten his waistcloth, that is, spent most of the night (in worship) and he used to wake his family up (for *Ibaadat* also)." (Bukhari & Muslim). Moreover, the Messenger of Allah (Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam) used to excel or to redouble his efforts during the last ten days of Ramadan to do righteous acts all the more, more than he did during the other days of fasting. (Muslim).

Hazrat Ummul Mumineen Aisha (Radhi Allahu Anha) once asked the Prophet of Allah (Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam): "O Messenger of Allah! What should I say when I find the Night of Destiny?" He replied: "Say: O Allah! You are the Forgiver, You like to forgive, so forgive me." (Tirmidhi)



Therefore the yearly occurrence of the Laila-tul-Qadr in the month of Ramadan for every believer is an exceptional occasion for him or her to devote himself completely to Allah (*Tabaarak Wa Ta'ala*), with the hope of acceding to His pleasure and earning His love and nearness.

We then think about what a blessing it was when our beloved Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam) forgot the specified day revealed to him by Allah. If today Muslim brothers and sisters would have known the exact date, therefore, they would have prayed with devotion only during that night with the hope of witnessing the *Laila-tul-Qadr*. But Allah does not want that His servants for only one night. He wants them to pray Him again and

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again, seeking His pleasure. When we see the state of Muslims nowadays, how they shun the obligatory acts of worship and only seek blessed nights like for the *Miraj* in Rajab and *Shaabé Baraat* in the month of *Shabaan*, therefore we come to see the wisdom behind not knowing the exact date of the *Laila-tul-Qadr* of Ramadan.

They would have the excuse to say: *“We did good deeds for one night which is better than a thousand months; so, technically God has forgiven us, and in His eyes we deserve now to be raised spiritually and have access to Paradise.”* Therefore they could then abandon any effort to engage in charitable works and rest on their laurels, enjoying a deserved rest after the success. Victims of their little optimism justified, they would be doomed to destruction.

The hour of death is also a secret that Allah does not disclose, because if He did, someone might have given vent to his lustful desires, enjoy all the illicit pleasures that the world can offer, and then at the approach of his death, to repent, to devote himself entirely to the worship of God and say that he will meet death in repentance and as a practicing believer.

In fact, these secrets are a spur that is constantly pushing the servant of God to practice piety, to repent constantly and deploy continuous efforts to improve his conduct.

Thus, fixing the Night of Destiny determined in a single night is a mistake. Recall that the Messenger of Allah (*Swalla Allahu alaihi wa sallam*) invited his companions to seek the Night of Destiny (Lailat al-Qadr) during the last ten days of Ramadan, and he himself gave the example of the practical and concrete search of that blessed night by withdrawing completely to the mosque during the last ten days of Ramadan. Does Allah (*Subhana Wa Ta’ala*) not say in the Holy Qur’an (chapter 33 verse 22):

“You have indeed in the Messenger of Allah a beautiful model (to follow) for him who hopes in Allah and the Last Day and remembers Allah much.”?

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The Muslim believer is therefore encouraged to do plenty of acts of worship which shall earn him the pleasure of Allah. When he fulfils the obligatory and seeks the voluntary, and then live his life throughout in a *Halal* (licit) way, therefore his prayers are accepted and he become close to Allah, and when he accede to the pleasure of Allah, Allah opens for him the doors of His mercy and protects him in his everyday life from the accursed Satan who toil night and day to deviate the servants of Allah from the right path. Thus, when that pious believer has reformed his life in the correct manner which Allah loves, therefore it is for him that with the coming of the month of Ramadan, all Satans are chained and he lives his life in complete obedience to Allah. And whenever he faults (for humans are weak in nature), he seeks the forgiveness of his *Rab*, and acts upon His commandments.

May Allah bless the Muslims and Humanity as a whole. May the blessings of the month of Ramadan touch the souls of each and every servant of God who toil night and day to make the world a better place to live in and who encourage nations towards brotherly peace and the strengthening of brotherhood, for we all come from God and to Him shall be our return. (*Ameen*)

We humans need to live in Peace. Peace is also an attribute of Allah encouraging us forward to be peaceful in our own body and soul and with our brothers in this temporal world. But as it is to be expected, whenever a Khalifatullah or Messenger of Allah comes, whenever Allah sends him for His Divine Mission to bring people back to the fold of "*Laa Ilaaha Illallah*", therefore people oppose him severely; not only him, but also his devoted disciples. The disciples are also made to go through the fires of trials till they (that is, their faith) become strong and unbreakable. Recently, persecutions of all kinds are increasing, with the Ahmadi Mullahs menacing my humble disciples. Threats of all kinds are issued. Instead of peace and love, and thirst to accept the Divine Message, there is the display of hatred and a boiling mission to finish the Divine Manifestation. This has not only touched Mauritius, but also India, and other places of the world where the members of the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam are accepting the Khalifatullah of the age.

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Mullahs, Ahmadi and others are issuing warnings, and doing blackmail, but let me tell you my dear brothers and sisters, whenever we do good and especially by spreading the Mission vouchsafed by Allah and His Khalifatullah to the people, the more the persecutions, and the more you bear it all for the sake and pleasure of Allah, the more you shall become the beloved of Allah. I am not saying that whenever you see a persecutor, you have to attack him, no! But if they try to harm you, then seek refuge in Allah against their evils. And if ever they attack you physically and if this is a serious matter where life is in question, then one must defend oneself. Allah has given us the permission in the laws of Moses (*Alayhis Salam*) as well as forgiveness as in the times of Jesus (*Alayhis Salam*), but bear in mind that the Middle Way is the best and Islam preaches the middle way.

By the immense grace of Allah, the more the persecutions are mounting, the more the favours of Allah are mounting also, and exceeding the harm of the unbelievers. By the grace of Allah, more and more people are integrating the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam under the leadership of this humble self the Khalifatullah of this age, especially so in this blessed month of Ramadhan. There is such a joy which manifest in their heart (that is, the new Sahih al Islam members) that they want to keep contact with this humble self, through emails and phone calls. There is a great enthusiasm in them to make Dawa to their own family members, friends and other people. They want to give this good news to everybody they know. Today itself before Jumma prayer, I have received a phone call from one brother from Kerala who has related to me how the Ahmadi Mullahs are doing their best to dissuade him from the Divine Manifestation but when this brother stood firm with the Divine Manifestation in his Dawa, the Ahmadi Mullah could not reply back and returned back angry. Like this there are many anecdotes of the braveness which my disciples, by the grace of Allah, which have displayed all for the sake of their faith. *Alhamdulillah*.

And along with their entry into the Jamaat of Allah, these entrances are of a special quality whereby they also receive divine revelations, true dreams and visions. By the grace of Allah, such dreams are seen by my humble disciples, be them in Mauritius, India, Kerala, Japan, United Arab Emirates (Dubai, Abu Dhabi) and elsewhere in the world.

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Among all the revelations, dreams and visions received especially so in the Holy Month of Ramadhan, our brother the Soufi Sahib, from Kerala, India has seen this humble self in his dream/vision giving him instructions to give the good news of the Divine Manifestation to 7 people close to him. These people, men, women and children, and also more than the specified 7 all

received this good news with love and tears in their eyes. May Allah bless them and give them *Hidaayah* which shall see to their firmness in the Divine Manifestation of this age under this humble self's guidance. *Insha-Allah, Ameen.*

May Allah help this humble self and the *Muslemeen* (those who submit to Allah wholly), the sincere members of the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam, those who are sincere in their quest for Allah and expecting divine mercy and a high spiritual station due to their allegiance to the Khalifatullah of their age. And they want none other than the love and satisfaction of Allah and His Messenger so that their life may be filled wholly with inner satisfaction and the divine satisfaction.

May Allah bless all members of the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam for their willingness to bear all for the sake of Allah. After you have witnessed the Divine signs, you have remained firm. May Allah make you firmer and more determined than you already are, and may He transform all your worries and difficulties into peace, tranquillity and security which shall see to your ascension to the pleasure of Allah, *Insha-Allah. Ameen.*

May Allah guide humanity to realise the truth and may these last days of Ramadhan may bring such a night (*Laila-tul-Qadr*) for each one of you to make you taste the sweetness of the pleasure of Allah upon you. *Insha-Allah, Ameen.*

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***Hazrat Khalifatullah Munir A. Azim (atba) with members of the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam
after collective duaahs ~ Iftaar in Bait-ul-Zikr***

(10 August 2012 ~ 21 Ramadan 1433 Hijri)