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In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

The Night of Power: Striving to attain the Goal

Who does not dream about being connected with the Source of His life, the true purpose of his very existence? Somewhere in every one of us, we feel the thirst of an Overpowering Hand to guide us out of our miseries every single day of our life. Connection with the Almighty, the Source of Life, the Creator comes with some sacrifices. Not all of us gain the courage and steadfastness to strive till we reach our goal. Many of us fail on the way and let ourselves be attracted by the temporal instead of the eternal. The restrictors of faith, the staunch Satans see to it that we do not reach our goal. But very often it is us who become our own enemies and strive to harm ourselves, physically, morally and spiritually.

In the life of a Muslim, the goal and means are set in the right way through the Holy Qur'an, Sunnah of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and the directives of the spiritual guides so that he may walk forward without any doubts clouding his spirit of determination. If the month of Ramadan comes to set him in that right path through fasting, but it is also true that therein hides such a night whose spiritual treasure can propel him directly to his Goal if only he can shrug away his ego and passions and clear his heart of all vain thoughts. This Night, the Laila-tul-Qadr (Night of Decree) proposes to the sincere believer that if he is impeccably pious and sincere during the holy month of fasting and deprive himself

from the exceptionally forbidden during that specific month, then he can accede to the pleasure of God and get God Himself as his reward.

Almighty God says in the Holy Qur'an:

"In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful. Surely We revealed it on the Night of Majesty; And what will make you understand what the Night of Majesty is? The Night of Majesty is better than a thousand months. The angels and the Spirit descend therein by the permission of their Lord for every matter. Peace it is until the emergence of dawn." (97: 1-6)

This night receives its eminence from the fact that the Holy Qur'an was revealed in it and the reminiscence of the revelation of the Holy Qur'an on this night has been laid down for all times as a night of great blessings and honour, so that every year when that night comes, Almighty God opens the doors of His mercy and blessings for His servants. This is not just a mere reminiscence of the descent of the pure and everlasting revelations of Almighty God years back, for just as the rivers of Almighty God's mercy gushed forth on that sublime night when the first revelation of the Holy Qur'an came, so too, the believer has got the unique opportunity to obtain the same blessings every year on that particular night when Almighty God showers His mercy and blessings on the hearts of all those

who endeavour to seek His grace.

According to divine saying uttered from the lips of the Holy Prophet of Islam (pbuh), the faster's reward is God Himself. If God is for the faster, then God has also establishes the means for His believing servant (one by one) to establish that special connection with Him and get to contemplate Him. Prayer is essential for this purpose and the special night of divine power is the host of hosts in the blessed month of Ramadan to welcome the pious sincere worshippers and fasters who indeed with a true heart seek to obtain God Himself as their reward. Verily without effort, nothing is gained. And in the path of the servants of God there are set many obstacles, many difficulties and thorns so that at the end of the day when they get to touch the sweet Rose, all their pain disappear and instead the divine perfume and beauty capture their whole beings, and for these kinds of people, sufficient is that contemplation to feed their own soul on in eternity. This is the philosophy of Ramadan and its one special night, night of power, change of destiny and saviour for those who seek Almighty God and nothing else. I thus wish for those true seekers to get to their Goal with real enthusiasm, faith and divine love, Insha-Allah (Amine).

Hazrat Imam Muhyi-ud-Din Munir A. Azim

Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam