



HAZRAT MUHYI-UD-DIN AL-KHALIFATULLAH

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(Summary of Sermon)

After greeting all his disciples (and all Muslims) worldwide with the greeting of peace Hadhrat Khalifatullah (atba) read the Tashahhud, Ta'uz, Surah Al Fatiha, and then he delivered his sermon on the subject of "The Night of Destiny: Meaning and Conditions":

THE NIGHT OF DESTINY: MEANING AND CONDITIONS

The Lailat-ul-Qadr (The Night of Destiny) is mentioned in Chapter 97 of the Holy Quran. Allah (swt) mentions therein how the Quran was revealed during such a night.

إِنَّا أَنزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ ۞

'INNAAA 'ANZALNAAHU FII LAY-LATIL-QADR.
"We have sent down (the Quran) during the Night of Destiny."

(Al-Qadr 97: 2).

As I told you last Friday, that night, according to the Holy Quran is worth more than a thousand months of blessings. It is a night among the last ten odd nights of Ramadan where angels and the Angel of Revelation descend to spread peace and salvation from Allah, until dawn. This divine blessing is spread in the stance of a night on the sincere worshipers of God, and those who are penitent for their past mistakes and sins. The question is why NIGHT and not DAY. Allah (swt) clearly states that His favours and even the angels descend during such a NIGHT.

Night in general is a source of peace for the believer who is attached to prayer. It is a source of mystery and surprise. There is even a *Hadith Qudsi* (Divine revelation related through the mouth of the Messenger of Allah) that in the latter part of the night, God descends to the lowest heaven and seeks those of His sincere worshipers who are praying so as to grant them forgiveness.

The Night of Destiny is kept as a secret from Allah for the one who is desperate to receive the constant blessings of a thousand months. This night is special and intended to benefit all believers who have sincere faith in the Unique God, who willingly forsake their beds to bow in prayer. The Night of Qadr, a night of determination was revealed but then was caused to be obliterated from the mind of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

Knowing the exact date of such night is tantamount to failure for those who (usually) neglect the remembrance of God. If they knew the exact date of *Lailat-ul-Qadr*, they would gladly stay awake in prayers for just that night, neglecting God's remembrance for the rest of the year.

It is a fact that the *Lailat-ul-Qadr* is different for every Muslim individual (those who are submissive to Allah). Everyone receives a type of *Lailat-ul-Qadr* in the way that God wants to bless him and grant him favours and blessings of this night.

The sincere believer is committed to stay in retreat for the last ten days of Ramadan so that he can witness such a night of glory and bliss. Whoever succeeds in finding such a night is joyful because the Night of Destiny represents promises of forgiveness for all his sins and weaknesses of the past year. It also means for the sincere believer that the Mercy of Allah is granted to him throughout his life, provided he does not slip from his obligations to Allah (swt) and that he remains faithful and true to Him.

It would be too much (an exaggeration) to say and to affirm that the Muslim who goes into retreat in the mosque or in a corner of the house and who performs prayers in great amount in order to receive the promised blessings of a thousand months, that he shall certainly have this reward as easily. They may say that, but the fact remains that Allah (swt) has placed certain conditions on it as I mentioned previously. Whoever neglects prayer and good deeds throughout the year and remains awake only that night thinking he will be forgiven, then this is very far from what Allah has commanded and promised. If he did that for just one night, and after the Eid celebrations falls back into his spiritual decadence, then this night in prayer is no promise of forgiveness and (has no) foundation of forgiveness for him because he has not honoured this bond of belonging with Allah (swt) that only true believers have with their Creator.

The Night of Qadr holds within it the significance of spiritual beauty for the one who knows how to benefit/ enjoy such a night and is ready to sacrifice his life for his Creator. It is this type

of person upon whom the angels descend to illuminate him with the spiritual insight from his Lord. Revelations in the form of visions and dreams which emanate from Him who is infinitely Gracious are accorded to sincere believers. Their sacrifice for the cause of God for either the entire year or during the fasting month is accepted by God. Allah (swt) has affirmed to His worshipers:

"Certainly the promise of Allah is true." (Yunus 10: 56)

Therefore, if it pleases God, each of us must seize this holy occasion granted to us by Allah (swt) to receive Allah (swt) Himself as reward, because there is no reward which is more beautiful than our Lord Allah (swt), Possessor of Majesty and Glory.

May Allah have mercy upon us and enrich us with His blessings and forgive us our excesses. *Ameen.*