

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

We seek forgiveness from Allah
We stand witness to Allah that there is no God but Him
That Muhammad (SAWW) is his slave and messenger

Shaban

- Sha'ban is the second month of Ibadah after Rajab which we can utilize in order to make preparations for the grand and majestic month of Holy Ramadan.
- The Holy Prophet said: "Sha'ban is my month."
- This is the month of asking for forgiveness of sins, giving alms and charity and fasting.
- The Holy Prophet used to observe fast during the whole month of Sha'ban.
- All the Islamic months have the martyrdom of some *masoom*. However, in the month of Sha'ban there is no such martyrdom date in the honour of Imam Zaman (as).
- Imam Ali (as) once saw some Muslims arguing among themselves on the topic of fate and destiny, on the first day of Sha'ban. He discouraged them from their preoccupation and instead drew their attention to the merits of this month. He said that the Lord had called it Sha'ban because His favours and bounties were scattered (*sha'aba*) all over during it. Allah presents His great bounties in this month which are easy to achieve, and inexpensive, said Imam Ali (as). This could mean that the doing of 'ibadah (acts of worship), performing other good deeds and abstaining from evils will carry manifold benefits.
- The Imam (A) then enumerated some of the good actions which should not be overlooked in this month. These include *salat* (prayer), *zakat* (charity), *amr bil ma'roof* (enjoining of good), *nahyi anil munkar* (forbidding of evil), goodness to parents, Relatives, neighbours, mutual reconciliation and giving charity to the poor and the destitute.
- Imam Zaynul-Aabideen (as) has said, "Whosoever, in love of the Prophet, wishes to seek nearness to Allah and receive His bounties, favours and rewards in this world and in the hereafter, must connect Sha'ban with the month of Ramadhan in the matter of fasting and special prayers".

Classical Tafseer Class - Notes
Friday, 24th July 2009

- It is also reported from the Holy Prophet (saw) that, "Whosoever observes nine fasts in the whole month of Sha'ban should not fear the interrogation of Munkar & Nakeer. Whosoever observes twelve fasts in the month of Sha'ban, 70,000 angels will descend over his/her grave on the first night of his burial, the night of *wahshah* to remove his/her fear & loneliness."

- Therefore, one must observe at least twelve fasts to gain both the favours.

- This being the second month of *Maghfirah* (seeking forgiveness), one should do the following:
 - Recite everyday 70 times ASTAGHFIRULLAHA WA AS-ALUHUT TAWBAH
 - Recite everyday 70 times ASTAGHFIRULLAHAL-LADHEE LAA ILAAHA ILLA HUWAR-RAHMAANUR RAHEEMUL HAYYUL QAYYOOMU WA ATOOBU ILAIHI
 - Give as much Sadaqah (alms) as possible
 - Recite Swalawaat as many times as possible on the Holy prophet (saw)
 - Recite 1000 times the following dhikr within the month i.e. divide it throughout the month of Sha'ban; LAA ILAAHA ILLALLAHU WALAA NA'BUDU ILLA IYYAAHU MUKHLISEENA LAHUD-DEEN WALAU KARIHAL MUSHRIKON

Disclaimer:

In this tafseer class, there might be shortcomings in imparting the knowledge of the tafseer. If there is any information that requires correction, please do not hesitate to let us know via e-mail: jaafari_tafseer_committee@yahoo.com.sg.
Allah knows best.