

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## The Blessedness of Sha‘ban

In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Allah, the glorified and exalted, says in His mighty book: “Ha Mim! I swear by the Book that makes manifest (the truth). Surely We revealed it on a blessed night – surely We are ever warning – therein every wise affair is made distinct, a command from Us; surely We are the senders (of messengers)” Surat al-Dukhan: 1-5.

Surely upon this great nation (ummah) Allah has bestowed every goodness in all of its affairs and times. Among its favored and blessed times is the night of mid-Sha‘ban. Its virtue has been mentioned in many hadith which have multiple chains of transmission. However, the chains of transmission of these hadith are missing the Companion of the Prophet from whom they were taken (hadith mursal). The scholars say that the night of mid-Sha‘ban is blessed and that whatever is done in it has great merit. The scholars are of a consensus concerning its merit and agree that it should be enlivened with du‘a and the reading of Surah Yasin. Among the supplications is the following:

O Allah, O Bestower of Favor without need of favor, O Owner of Majesty and Honor, O Owner of Might and Giving, there is no god but You, the support of those who seek support, the refuge of those who seek refuge, the shelter of the fearful. O Allah, if you have written our names in the Umma al-Kitab as those who will meet with difficulties, or as those who will be deprived, or as those who will be rejected, or as those who will receive meager provision, O Allah, I hope You will erase, by Your overflowing generosity, our hardships, our deprivations, our being kept from Your mercy, and our insufficiency in provision, and place us firmly with You in the Ummu al-Kitab, happy, well-provided, and successful in good actions. For surely what You say in Your book that has been revealed on the tongue of Your messenger is the truth: “Allah will erase whatever He wishes and establish whatever He wishes, and with Him is the Ummu al-Kitab.” O my God, by Your great manifestation in the night that marks the middle of the noble month of Sha‘ban—the night in which every ruling is settled and confirmed—we ask You, O Allah, O Most Merciful of the Merciful (three times) that You avert from us and all of the believers the trial that we know of and the trial that we don’t know of but of which You know. Surely You, You are the Most Mighty and Noble. And Blessings and peace be upon our Liege-Lord Muhammad, the Unlettered Prophet, and upon his family and his companions.

Part of this du‘a is narrated by Ibn Abi Shayba in his book *al-Musannaf* and Ibn Abi Dunya in the du‘a taken from ‘Abd Allah ibn Mas‘ud. Another part of it is narrated by ‘Abd Abi Hamid and Ibn Jarir and Ibn Mundhir from Amir al-Muminin ‘Umar (may Allah be pleased with him). Ibn Mas‘ud said: “No slave ever made this du‘a but that Allah expanded his provision. When you finish it read Surah Yasin.”

**What you should do on the night of mid-Sha‘ban:**

If you want to enliven this night (i.e. the night preceding the day of the 15th of Sha‘ban) with ‘ibadah, pray six raka‘ats after salat al-maghrib. After every two raka‘ats read Surah Yasin while sitting. When you have finished the six raka‘ats and the three Yasins recite the above du‘a and any additional du‘a you like. We ask Allah to accept our supplications and those of the believers. Praise belongs to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds. May Allah bless our Liege-Lord Muhammad and his family and companions and grant him peace.