

The Blessed Night of Qadr in Irfan

Session 2

I. Qadha and Qadar as Determination

- 1. Qadha as the General and Universal Decree of God
- 2. Qadhi as the Authority who Issue a General Decree
- 3. God Has Only One Decree (See 54:50)
- 4. To Exist is to Have Individuality
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- 7. Creation as a Twofold Process of Descension and Ascension (From God unto God).

II. Night and Day; Light and Darkness

- 1. Night as Time of Blessing, Grace, and Ascension unto God (See 17:79; 73:1-7; 17:1; 7:142)
- 2. Kinds of Light (The Sun and the Moon): 1- the Primary Light (Original Light), 2- the Created Light (Light Born of Darkness) (See 36:37; 6:95-96)
- 3. The Idea of Couplings (Partnership) in the Holy Quran (See 36:36; 51:49; 30:21; 10:67)
- 4. Night and Day as Signs (17:12)
- 5. Parents from Whom the Created Light is Born
- 6. Similitude of God's Light (See 24:35-38)
- 7. Why Did God Analogized His Light to Lamp, and Not to the Sun?
- 8. The Light with Which One Walks (6:122)

III. Statements and Commentaries

1. Hadith of Qurb-e Faraedh and Qurb-e Nawafel (Proximity of God Achieved through the Observance of Obligations and through the Observance of Voluntary Deeds)

God's Messenger (ω) said, "God Almighty Said: He who insults a friend of mine has declared war on me, and my servant cannot achieve proximity to me through anything more beloved to me than observing what I have made obligatory for him; he gets closer to me through voluntary deeds to the degree that I will love him, and when I love him, I will be his hearing with which he hears, his sight with which he sees, his tongue with which speaks, and his hand with which he fights. If he calls me, I will answer him; and when he asks me, I will give him.

2. Dua for Light:

- 3. Tradition of *Ehya* of the Night (Keeping the Night Alive): *Tahajjud* (17:79)
- 4. *Tahajjud* is to sleep and to wake up, and to sleep and wake up, and so till the night is over. Thus there is no particular Name of God which such person manifests.
- 5. Maqame Mahmud (The Praised Status): When وَالْتُفَتِ السَّاقُ بِالسَّاقُ (And one leg will be joined with the other leg) (75:29), the praised status is achieved as a result of *Tahajjud*.
- 6. Even though *Tahajjud* involves all the Names of God, the most appropriate Name for it is Alqyum القيوم, whom neither slumber can seize nor sleep. It is the condition of God's servant during *Tahajjud*.



Verses from the Holy Qur'an:

1. وَهَا أَهْرُنَا إِلَّا وَاحِدَةٌ كَلَمْحٍ بِالْبَصَرِ

(Al-Qamar 54:50) And Our command is but one, as the twinkling of an eye.

2. وَمنَ اللَّيْلِ فَتَهَجَّدْ به نَافلَةً لَّكَ عَسَى أَن يَبْعَثَكَ رَبُّكَ مَقَامًا مَّحْمُودًا

(Bani Israil 17:79) And during a part of the night, pray Tahajjud beyond what is incumbent on you; maybe your Lord will raise you to a position of great glory.

3. يَا أَيُّهَا الْمُزَّمِّلُ (1) قُمِ اللَّيْلَ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا (2) نِصْفَهُ أَوِ انقُصْ مِنْهُ قَلِيلًا (3) أَوْ زِدْ عَلَيْهِ وَرَتِّلِ الْقُرْآنَ تَرْتِيلًا (4) إِنَّا سَنُلْقِي عَلَيْكَ قَوْلًا ثَقِيلًا (5) إِنَّ نَاشِئَةَ اللَّيْلِ هِيَ أَشَدُّ وَطْءًا وَأَقْوَمُ قِيلًا (6) إِنَّ لَكَ فِي اَلنَّهَارِ سَبْحًا طَوِيلًا (7)

(Al-Muzammil 73:1-7) O you who have wrapped up in your garments! Rise to pray in the night except a little, Half of it, or lessen it a little, Or add to it, and recite the Quran as it ought to be recited. Surely We will make to light upon you a weighty Word. Surely the rising by night is the firmest way to tread and the best corrective of speech. Surely you have in the day time a long occupation.

4. سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَى بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلاً مِّنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَى الَّذِي بَارَكْنَا حَوْلَهُ لِنُرِيَهُ مِنْ آيَاتِنَا إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ البَصِيرُ

(Bani Israil 17:1) Glory be to Him Who made His servant to go on a night from the Sacred Mosque to the remote mosque of which We have blessed the precincts, so that We may show to him some of Our signs; surely He is the Hearing, the Seeing.

5. وَوَاعَدْنَا مُوسَى ثَلَاثِينَ لَيْلَةً وَأَتْمَمْنَاهَا بِعَشْرِ فَتَمَّ مِيقَاتُ رَبِّهِ أَرْبَعِينَ لَيْلَةً وَقَالَ مُوسَى لأَخِيهِ هَارُونَ
اخْلُفْنِي فِي قَوْمِي وَأَصْلِحْ وَلاَ تَتَبِعْ سَبِيلَ الْمُفْسِدِينَ

(Al-A'raaf 7:142) And We appointed with Musa a time of thirty nights and completed them with ten (more), so the appointed time of his Lord was complete forty nights, and Musa said to his brother Haroun: Take my place among my people, and act well and do not follow the way of the mischiefmakers.

وَآيَةٌ لَّهُمْ اللَّيْلُ نَسْلَخُ منْهُ النَّهَارَ فَإِذَا هُم مُّظْلَمُونَ

(Ya-Sin 36:37) And a sign to them is the night: We draw forth from it the day, then lo! they are in the dark;

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(Al-An'aam 6:95-96) Surely Allah causes the grain and the stone to germinate; He brings forth the living from the dead and He is the bringer forth of the dead from the living; that is Allah! how are you then turned away. He causes the dawn to break; and He has made the night for rest, and the sun and the moon for reckoning; this is an arrangement of the Mighty, the Knowing.

(Ya-Sin 36:36) Glory be to Him Who created pairs of all things, of what the earth grows, and of their kind and of what they do not know.

(Adh-Dhaariyat 51:49) And of everything We have created pairs that you may be mindful.

(Ar-Rum 30:21) And one of His signs is that He created mates for you from yourselves that you may find rest in them, and He put between you love and compassion; most surely there are signs in this for a people who reflect.

(Yunus 10:67) He it is Who made for you the night that you might rest in it, and the day giving light; most surely there are signs in it for a people who would hear.

(Bani Israail 17:12) And We have made the night and the day two signs, then We have made the sign of the night to pass away and We have made the sign of the day manifest, so that you may seek grace from your Lord, and that you might know the numbering of years and the reckoning; and We have explained everything with distinctness.

13. اللَّهُ نُورُ السَّمَاوَات وَالْأَرْضِ مَثَلُ نُورِهِ كَمشْكَاة فيهَا مِصْبَاحٌ الْمَصْبَاحُ فِي زُجَاجَة الزُّجَاجَةُ كَأَنَّهَا كُورُهُ اللَّهُ نُورُ السَّمَاوَات وَالْأَرْضِ مَثَلُ نُورِهِ كَمشْكَاة فيهَا مِصْبَاحٌ الْمَصْبَاحُ الْمَصْبَاحُ في زُجَاجَة الزُّجَاجَةُ كَأَنَّهَا كُورُهُ مَن شَجَرَة مُّبَارَكَة زَيْتُونِة لَّا شَرْقِيَّة وَلَا غَرْبِيَّة يَكَادُ زَيْتُهَا يُضِيءً وَلَوْ لَمْ تَمْسَسْهُ نَارٌ نُورٌ عَلَى نُورِ يَهْدِي اللَّهُ لِنُورِهِ مَن يَشَاء ويَضْرِبُ اللَّهُ الْأَمْثَالَ لِلنَّاسِ وَاللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْء عَلِيمٌ اللَّهُ أَن تُونُوعَ وَيُذْكَرَ فِيهَا اسْمُهُ يُسَبِّحُ لَهُ فِيهَا بِالْغُدُو وَالْآصَالِ (36) رِجَالٌ لَا لَا اللَّهُ وَإِيتَاء الزَّكَاةِ يَخَافُونَ يَوْمًا تَتَقَلَّبُ فِيهِ الْقُلُوبُ تُلْهِ وَإِقَامِ الصَّلَاةِ وَإِيتَاء الزَّكَاةِ يَخَافُونَ يَوْمًا تَتَقَلَّبُ فِيهِ الْقُلُوبُ لَلُهُ وَإِقَامِ الصَّلَاةِ وَإِيتَاء الزَّكَاةِ يَخَافُونَ يَوْمًا تَتَقَلَّبُ فِيهِ الْقُلُوبُ

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(An-Nur 24:35-38) Allah is the light of the heavens and the earth; a likeness of His light is as a niche in which is a lamp, the lamp is in a glass, (and) the glass is as it were a brightly shining star, lit from a blessed olive-tree, neither eastern nor western, the oil whereof almost gives light though fire touch it not-- light upon light-- Allah guides to His light whom He pleases, and Allah sets forth parables for men, and Allah is Cognizant of all things. In houses which Allah has permitted to be exalted and that His name may be remembered in them; there glorify Him therein in the mornings and the evenings, Men whom neither merchandise nor selling diverts from the remembrance of Allah and the keeping up of prayer and the giving of poor-rate; they fear a day in which the hearts and eyes shall turn about; That Allah may give them the best reward of what they have done, and give them more out of His grace; and Allah gives sustenance to whom He pleases without measure.

(Al-An'aam 6:122) Is he who was dead then We raised him to life and made for him a light by which he walks among the people, like him whose likeness is that of one in utter darkness whence he cannot come forth? Thus what they did was made fair seeming to the unbelievers.

15. وَالْتَفَّتِ السَّاقُ بِالسَّاقِ

(Al-Qiyaamah 75:29) And affliction is combined with affliction;