



ALI 712: Inspiration from the 'Ibādat performed by the Ahlul Bayt عليهم السلام

*Weekdays in the first two
weeks of Ramadan 1447. Dates:
Feb 19, 20, 23 to 27, and March
2 to 4, 2026.*

Session 1: Thursday 19 Feb 2026

'Ibādat in the Holy Quran

Quranic verses on 'Ibadah (worship) for reviewing: 1:5, 2:21, 5:117, 6:56, 13:36, 15:99, 20:14, 39:64, 51:56

The word 'ibādah comes from the verb عَبَدَ = to worship, serve, adore, venerate. It occurs 275 times in Quran 48 different forms; 222 in Makki verses and 53 in Madani verses. **Q for R:** Why it appears more in Makki verses?

Worshiping Allah was a universal prophetic instruction: Q 7:59, 65, 73, 85, 11:50, 61, 84, 23:23, 29:16

Read Q 51:56 - وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ - *I did not create the jinn and the humans except that they may worship Me.*

'Ibādat of Prophet Muhammad (s): InshāAllah we will discuss verses Q 20:132 and 73:20

In the Quran Worship includes prayer, charity, fasting, pilgrimage, and righteous behavior

Sources: *The Holy Quran, Sahifa Sajjādiyyah, The Image of the Holy Prophet's Household in the Qur'an and Hadith.*

Please note: In every session, *InshāAllah* we will have a few Questions for Reflection (**Q for R**). Please try to find answers to these and share with the class in the next session.

Brief discussion on Q 51:56

وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ

I did not create the jinn and the humans except that they may worship Me.

'Allāmah Tabātabāī: *except that they may worship Me* is an exception of a

negation which makes clear beyond all doubt that the act of creation has a purpose and that purpose is worship. This means that **the goal of creation is for them to be worshippers**, not for God to be worshipped, as God said: *except that they may worship Me*. He did not say: "except that I might be worshipped by them:" This is because any goal, whatever it may be, is something that necessarily completes its possessor and addresses some need he has. However, God is without deficiency or need such that something else could complete Him or address this need.

(*Al-Mīzān*, v 36, p. 206) **Q for R**: How can we worship all the time?

Do not undermine your 'ibādat

In Du'ā No. 44, For welcoming the month of Ramadan in the *Sahifa* we read the following in passage No. 12:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ بِحَقِّ هَذَا الشَّهْرِ، وَبِحَقِّ مَنْ تَعَبَّدَ لَكَ فِيهِ مِنْ ابْتِدَائِهِ إِلَى وَقْتِ فَنَائِهِ مِنْ
مَلِكٍ قَرَّبْتَهُ، أَوْ نَبِيٍّ أَرْسَلْتَهُ، أَوْ عَبْدٍ صَالِحٍ اخْتَصَصْتَهُ

O God, I ask You by the sake of this month
and **by the sake of him who worships You within it**
from its beginning to the time of its passing,
whether angel You have brought close to You,
a prophet You have sent,
or righteous servant You have singled out.

Therefore, our worship in this holy month is invaluable
through which the Imam is asking his du'ā.

Know that we can't do what the Ahlul Bayt عليهم السلام did
The holy household of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وآله, i.e.
Sayyidah Fātimah عليها السلام and the Twelve Imams عليهم السلام were
the best worshippers of Allah عز وجل and had reached the
highest degree of 'ibādat. They did this by being
detached from the worldliness and took the minimum
from this world. In the *Mafātīh* we read: the *sunnah*
during Ramadan is to complete the Qur'an in three days,
and it is good to do a complete reading every day . . .
The Imams used to do forty or more readings of the
Quran during the month of Ramadan (v. 1, p. 473)