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WHAT TO DO ON AUSPICIOUS NIGHTS

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Preface

Our Beloved Nabi (sallallahu'alayhi wasallam) has mentioned:

*"Indeed your Lord has reserved certain special moments in time
(in which he emits abundant/special mercy)
Be sure to avail yourselves for these opportunities."¹*

We are usually aware of the significant occasions that present themselves each year. The crucial thing is how do we "avail ourselves" and maximise our benefit from these blessed nights? Hereunder is a suggested format for "What to do on Blessed nights?"

¹ Majma'uz Zawaid

1. Offer 'Esha & Fajr Salah in congregation.

Rasulullah (sallallahu'alayhi wasallam) said:

*"One who performs 'Esha in congregation gets the reward of spending half the night in worship. And he who follows that up with the Fajr salah in congregation, will be as if he has stayed up all night in 'ibadah."*²

2. Sleep in the state of wudu

Hafiz Ibn Hajar (rahimahullah) has mentioned³ a reliable narration that states:

"The soul of one who sleeps with wudu makes sajdah (prostrates) at the 'Arsh of Allah"

Imagine our souls making sajdah at the throne of our Creator on a night like LaylatulQadr or the 15th of Sha'ban!

3. Abstain from sin

On blessed nights, the least one could do is to sleep early and abstain from sin.

It's not logical to fill the bucket when it has a hole...

4. Clear your heart from ill-feelings towards fellow Muslims.

One should specifically free the heart of any ill-feelings or malice towards fellow muslims. (See [here](#) for "how to clean the heart" of such ailments)

² Sahih Muslim & Sunan Abi Dawud

³ Fathul Bari

The 'Ulama state that those who harbour ill-feelings are deprived of Allah's mercy and forgiveness on occasions like these.

A Hadith in Sahih Ibn Hibban, there is mention of four people that will be deprived on this night:

- a) An Alcoholic.
- b) One who disobeys his parents.
- c) One who severe family ties
- d) One who harbours ill-feelings in his heart for others.

5. Salatut Tasbih

This is very strongly recommended due to its huge reward. See [here](#) for a detailed article on it's authenticity, and [here](#) for the format of Salatut Tasbih.

6. Tawbah

Since the purpose of the turning to Allah on these nights is precisely to attain forgiveness from Allah, this act is pivotal on such occasions.

The procedure for Tawbah is:

- a. Perform two rak'ats of Salah. (Optional)
- b. Stop the sin that one is repenting from.
- c. Regret the sin from the bottom of your heart.
- d. Make a determined pledge with Allah never to repeat that sin.

Besides the two rak'ats of Salah, the remainder are all fundamental.

Furthermore, if the sin involved usurping the right of the next person, one needs to ask him/her for forgiveness too. Without this we are not guaranteed forgiveness.

If that person has passed away, we could make du'a for him and repay the debt (if any) to his heirs.

7. Dhikr

There are many forms of Dhikrullah. I would suggest the following:

1. A hundred times "La ilah illallah"
2. A hundred times repeating the name of "Allah"
3. And a hundred times:
"Subhanallahi wabihamdihi subhanallahil 'Azim"

The reason for the third one is the following:
Rasulullah (sallallahu'alayhi wasallam) said:

1. "He who recites this one hundred times will have all his sins forgiven even if it be equal to the foam of the ocean" ⁴
2. "These words are beloved to Allah Ta'ala, easy on the tongue and weighty on the scales (of deeds on Qiyamah)" ⁵

Furthermore, this is the form of Dhikr that the entire creation is engaged in. ⁶

⁴ Sahih Bukhari

⁵ Sahih Bukhari

⁶ Al-Quran, Surah:17 ayah:44

8. Salawat on Rasulullah (sallallahu'alayhi wasallam)

If it was not for our beloved Nabi (sallallahu'alayhi wasallam) we would not have these blessed occasions. Therefore we cannot afford moments like these to pass without remembering him. In fact by doing so we ourselves benefit.

One Hadith states:

"He who sends salutations upon me once, Allah Ta'ala sends ten salutations upon him."

9. Tilawah (Recital) of Quran

This is considered the best form of Dhikr. One could recite even a quarter juz or just the masnun Surahs that are to be recited every night. Like Surahs Waqi'ah, Mulk, Sajdah, Yasin etc.

10. Du'a

"Du'a is the essence of Worship" and hence cannot be omitted when we engage in worship.

More so on occasions when Almighty Allah accepts du'as such as on the night of Qadr. One should spend a lengthy duration in begging from Allah, as we are all in need of His mercy.

In light of the current world crisis, do remember our oppressed brethren around the globe.

On the night of Qadr the following Du'a should also be repeated as taught by Rasulullah (sallallahu'alayhi wasallam) to his beloved wife Sayyidah 'Aishah (radiyallahu 'anha):

اللهم إِنَّكَ عَفُوفٌ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

"Allahumma innaka 'afuwwun tuhibbul 'afwa fa'fu 'Anni"

O Allah! You are indeed Most Forgiving, so forgive me.

Conclusion

Note 1: The above can all be achieved in about 1 hour.

Salatut Tasbih: 20 mins

Tawbah: can be incorporated in the du'a

Zikr: 10 mins

Salawat 'alan Nabi: 5 mins

Tilawat: 15 mins

Du'a & Tawbah: 10 mins

However if one is short on time for whatever reason, my suggestion would be to at least do the first four and the last one.

That would be:

- a) 'Esha & Fajr with Jamat
- b) Sleep with Wudu
- c) Abstain from sin
- d) clean the heart
- e) Du'a

Note 2: The night commences at Maghrib, **not** after Esha or after Tarawih or at Sehri time. Therefore one can and should commence 'ibadah from Maghrib, although it is indeed best to do so at the last part of the night.

Note 3: These are mere suggestions intended to make it easy for people. One may engage in whatever form of 'ibadah one is comfortable with.

May Allah Ta'ala grant us all complete forgiveness and steadfastness on guidance. Amin.

Please do remember the writer in your supplication as well.

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