

FIRST FRIDAY NIGHT IN RAJAB CALLED 'LAYLAT AL-RAGHĀ'IB (NIGHT OF DESIRES).

This rite is a special prayer to be offered on this night. As is mentioned by Sayyid Ibn Tāwūs in his book of 'Iqbāl al-A`māl' and 'Allāmah al-Majlisiy in 'Ijāzat Banī-Zuhrah,' the reward of him who offers this prayer is that a great number of his sins are forgiven and that on the first night in the grave, Almighty Allah sends him the reward of this prayer in the form of a life form with happy mien and fluency to say to him, "Good tidings, You have escaped all hardships." The offerer of this prayer will then ask him about his character, saying, "Who are you? Indeed, I have never seen such good-looking face, and I have never heard such fluent words, and I have never smelled such nice scent." He will be answered, "I am the reward of the prayer that you offered at so-and-so night in so-and-so month in so-and-so year at the town of so-and-so. I am here now so as to settle your right, to entertain you in your loneliness, and to save you from this cheerless situation. When the Trumpet shall be blown (declaring the Resurrection Day), I will cast a shadow over your head in the Resurrection Court. So, be happy, for you shall never be deprived of goodness."

One should **observe fast** on the first Thursday in Rajab.

Between the Maghrib (sunset) and 'Ishā' (evening) Prayers, one should offer **a twelve Rak'ah prayer** each couple of which is separated by *Taslim* (i.e. the concluding part of a prayer). In each Rak'ah, one should recite the Sūrah of *al-Fātiḥah* **once**, the Sūrah of *al-Qadr* **three times**, and the Sūrah of *al-Tawḥīd* **twelve times**.

After accomplishing the prayer, one should recite the following **invocation seventy times**:

O Allah: (please do) send blessings upon Muḥammad, the Ummi Prophet, and upon his Family.

allāhumma ṣalli `alā
muḥammadin alnnabiyy al-
'ummiyy wa `alā ālihi

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ
وَعَلَى آلِهِ.

Then, one should prostrate himself and recite the following seventy times:

Glorified (is He), Holy (is He), the Lord of the angels and the Spirit.

subbūhun quddūsun rabb
almaalā'ikati wal-rrūḥi

سُبُّوحٌ قُدُّوسٌ رَبُّ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالرُّوحِ.

Then, one should raise the head from the prostration and recite the following **seventy times**:

O my Lord: (please do) forgive (me), have mercy (upon me), and overlook (my wrongdoings) that You know. Surely, You are the Most High, the Greatest.

rabb aghfir wārḥam wa tajāwaz
'ammā ta`lamu, innaka anta
al`aliyyu ala`zamu

رَبِّ اغْفِرْ وَارْحَمْ وَتَجَاوَزْ عَمَّا تَعْلَمُ،
إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَلِيُّ الْأَعْظَمُ.

One should then prostrate himself again and repeat the following invocation **seventy times**:

Glorified (is He), Holy (is He), the Lord of the angels and the Spirit.

subbūhun quddūsun rabbu
almaalā'ikati wal-rrūḥi

سُبُّوحٌ قُدُّوسٌ رَبُّ الْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالرُّوحِ.

Then, one may pray Almighty Allah for settling one's needs, for they will be settled if Allah wills.