

Chapter 8 On the Nobility of the Month of Sha'ban

In this chapter, we mention the points about the nobility of the month of Sha'ban and its benefits. It includes several sections.

Section 1 On its Nobility Based on Narrations and the Intellect

The month of Sha'ban is a great month and it includesight on which Al-Mahdi (MGB) was born through whom the Almighty God keeps the lights of Islam lit and protects beliefs from harm of the enemies. This will be explained in its proper place in detail.

This is also a month that has a high rank and people may become prosperous by means of benefiting from it. To show the nobility of this month, it is enough to state that God's Prophet (MGB) has clearly chosen it for himself. He (MGB) has cried to God's Threshold and said the following for those who help him (MGB) by means of fasting during this month. He (MGB) said, "Sha'ban is my month. God's Mercy be on those who assist me in my month." Thus, whoever wishes to go under the shade of the protection of this supplication and mercy should assist the Prophet of God (MGB) in this month and become one of those mentioned by the Prophet (MGB). Based upon this, when you enter this month you should know that you have left the month of Rajab and you are not protected by it and you want to enter the month of Ramadhan after becoming prepared in this month by cleaning up the body organs in private and public. Thus, you should acquire the needed preparation for this month by doing good deeds, good speech and avoiding bad deeds.

الباب الثامن: فيما نذكره من فضل شهر شعبان وفؤاده وكمال موائده وموارده وفيه فصول

فصل (١) فيما نذكره من فضله بالمعقول والمنقول

واعلم ان شهر شعبان شهر عظيم الشأن، فيه ليلة اغاث الله جل جلاله بمولودها ما كاد ان يطفئيه أهل العدوان من أنوار الإسلام والإيمان، وسيأتي شرح موقعها في موضعها . وهو كما كنا ذكرناه منزل من المنازل ومرحلة من المراحل، يسعد أهل التوفيق بالظفر بفوائده والجلوس على موائده والورود على موارده، وكفاه شرفاً ما نذكره من ان رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله اختاره لنفسه الشريفة بصريح مقاله، ودعا لمن أعانه على صيامه بمقدس ابتهاله، فقال عليه السلام : شعبان شهري رحم الله من أعانني على شهري . فمن شاء ان يدخل تحت ظل هذه الدعوة المقبولة والرحمة الموصولة فيساعد رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله على شهره ويكون ممن شرفه لسان محمد صلى الله عليه المعظم بذكره . فإذا دخلت في أول ليلة منه فأنت قد فصلت بين شهر رجب وفارقت ذلك الحمى وخرجت عنه، وتريد ان تلقى شهر رمضان وأنت مستعد له بطهارة الجوارح في السر والإعلان، وكن كما يليق بهذه الحال من الاستعداد بصلاح الأعمال وصواب المقال وصيانة نفسك عن أهوال الأعمال .

Section 2 On the Prophet Honoring the Month of Sha'ban at the Time of Seeing Its Crescent

The following is narrated based on documents on the authority of Safvan ibn Mihran al-Jamal: "Abu Abdullah (MGB) told me to encourage my companions to fast in the month of Sha'ban." I said: "May I be your ransom! Do you consider a special virtue for fasting in it?" He (MGB) said: "Yes. When God's Prophet (MGB) saw the crescent for the month of Sha'ban, he (MGB) ordered the caller in Medina to publically announce the following, 'O' people of Yasrib!¹ I am God's Prophet (MGB) sent to you. Be aware that Sha'ban is my month. Thus, God's

¹ Medina

mercy be upon those who assist me in my month.' ”

Then Imam Sadiq (MGB) added: “The Commander of the Faithful Ali (MGB) said, 'Since I heard the voice of the caller of God's Prophet (MGB) about the month of Sha'ban – if God wills – I will not abandon fasting in the month of Sha'ban during my lifetime.' ” Then Imam Sadiq (MGB) said: “Fasting for two consecutive months is considered to be [accepted] repentance by God.”

فصل (٢) فيما نذكره من تعظيم رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله لشهر شعبان عند رؤية هلاله

روينا ذلك باسنادنا إلى صفوان بن مهران الجمال قال لي أبو عبد الله عليه السلام حث من في ناحيتك على صوم شعبان، فقلت : جعلت فداك ترى فيها شيئا ؟

فقال: نعم ان رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله كان إذا رأى هلال شعبان أمر مناديا ينادي في المدينة : يا أهل يثرب إني رسول الله إليكم، إلا ان شعبان شهري فرحم الله من أعانني على شهري . ثم قال: ان أمير المؤمنين عليه السلام كان يقول : ما فاتني صوم شعبان منذ سمعت منادي رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله ينادي في شعبان، فلن يفوتني أيام حياتي صوم شعبان ان شاء الله، ثم كان عليه السلام يقول : صوم شهرين متتابعين توبة من الله.

In the fifth volume of the book series Al-Muhimat Vat-Tatimat we reported the deeds of the first night of each month. And also in the book related to the deeds of the months, we have reported the supplications to be read at the time of seeing the crescent in each months. Thus, at the time of seeing the crescent of the month of Sha'ban also you should act upon them and if someone does not have that book, he should read the following supplications if God wills.

“O’ my God! This is the crescent of the moon for the month of Sha'ban. You know its goodness better than we do. O’ my God! Please let it be a source of bliss, security, forgiveness and pleasure, and as a means to fend off dangers during it. Please let it be a means of protection from those who disobey and accuse. Please honor us for performing its ceremonies and let us be covered by Your Mercy and Benevolence during it. Please purify us during it such that we can enter the month of Ramadhan and attain the noblest of what any of the

Muslims and believers have attained by Your Mercy! O' the Most Compassionate, Most Merciful.”

The supplications for seeing the crescent of the moon for any month was mentioned amongst the supplications for the month of Ramadhan in the sixth part for seeing the crescent of the moon. Thus, you may use it when seeing the crescent for the month of Sha'ban too.

أقول : وقد قدمنا في الجزء الخامس في عمل كل شهر ما يختص بأول ليلة منه، وذكرنا في كتاب عمل كل شهر ما يدعا به عند رؤية هلال جميع الشهور فيعتمد على تلك الأمور، فان لم يحضره فيقول ان شاء الله : اللهم إن هذا هلال شعبان وقد ورد وأنت أعلم بما فيه من الإحسان، فاجعله اللهم هلال بركات وسعادات كاملة الأمان والغفران والرضوان وماحية الاخطار في الأحيان والأزمان، وحامية من أذى أهل العصيان والبهتان، وشرفنا بامثال مراسمه (وأحياء مواسمه)، وألحقنا بشمول مراقمه ومكارمه، وطهرنا فيه تطهيرا تصلح به للدخول على شهر رمضان، مظفرين بأفضل ما ظفر به احد من أهل الإسلام والإيمان برحمتك يا ارحم الراحمين .

ونذكر في أدعية شهر رمضان من الجزء السادس دعاء عند رؤية هلال كل شهر، فيدعا عند رؤية هلال شعبان بذلك .

Section 3 Prayers for the First Night of Sha'ban

The following is found narrated on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): “Whoever says one-hundred units of prayers on the first night of the month of Sha'ban and in each unit he recites the Opening Chapter once, ‘Say: *He is Allah, the One and Only*’¹once. Once finished praying recite the Opening Chapter of the Qur'an fifty times. I swear by Him who rightfully appointed me to the Prophethood that whoever says this prayer and fasts as a servant, God the Sublime will fend off the evils of the residents of the heavens and the earth, the Evil Ones and kings from him. God would forgive seventy-thousand major sins, and remove the torture of the grave from him. Neither *Munkar* nor *Nakir*² would not frighten him. He would be taken out of the grave with his face shining like the full moon. He would cross the Bridge like lightning and his Record of Deeds would be handed to his right hand.’ ”

¹ The Holy Qur'an: Al-Ikhlās 112:1.

² the two angels who question the dead after being laid in the grave

فصل (٣) : فيما نذكره من صلاة في أول ليلة من شعبان

وجدناه في مواهب السماع ومناقب أهل الفلاح، مرويا عن النبي صلى الله عليه وآله قال: من صلى أول ليلة من شعبان مائة ركعة، يقرأ في كل ركعة فاتحة الكتاب مرة و (قل هو الله احد) مرة، فإذا فرغ من صلاته قرأ فاتحة الكتاب خمسين مرة، والذي بعثني بالحق نبيا انه إذا صلى هذه الصلاة وصام العبد، دفع الله تعالى عنه شر أهل السماء وشر أهل الأرض وشر الشياطين والسلاطين، ويغفر له سبعين ألف كبيرة ويرفع عنه عذاب القبر ولا يروعه منكر ولا نكير ويخرج من قبره ووجهه كالقمر ليلة البدر، ويمر على الصراط كالبرق ويعطي كتابه بيمينه.

Another Prayer for the First Night of Sha'ban

The following is found narrated on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): "Whoever says twelve units of prayers on the first night of the month of Sha'ban, and in each unit he recites the Opening Chapter and 'Say: He is Allah, the One and Only'¹ fifteen times, God the Sublime would grant the reward of ten-thousand martyrs, record the reward of twelve years of worshipping for him, and take away his sins as if he isewborn baby. God would also grant him a palace in Paradise for each verse of the Qur'an that he recites.' "

صلاة أخرى في أول ليلة من شعبان :

وجدناه في معادن ذخائر اليوم الآخر، مرويا عن النبي صلى الله عليه وآله انه قال: من صلى أول ليلة من شعبان اثنتي عشر ركعة، يقرأ في كل ركعة فاتحة الكتاب و (قل هو الله احد) خمس عشرة مرة، أعطاه الله تعالى ثواب اثني عشر ألف شهيد وكتب له عبادة اثنتي عشرة سنة وخرج من ذنوبه كيوم ولدته أمه وأعطاه الله بكل آية في القرآن قصرا في الجنة

Another Prayer for the First Night of Sha'ban

The following is found narrated on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): "Whoever says two units of prayers on the first night of the month of Sha'ban and in each unit he recites the Opening Chapter once, 'Say: He is Allah, the One and Only'² three times and says, 'O' my God! This is my covenant with You until the Resurrection Day,' God would protect him from Satan and his troops

¹ The Holy Qur'an: Al-Ikhlās 112:1.

² The Holy Qur'an: Al-Ikhlās 112:1.

and grant him the reward of the truthful ones!’ ”

صلاة أخرى في أول ليلة من شعبان : وجدناها في مناهل الجود وإكرام أهل الوفود، مرويا عن النبي صلى الله عليه وآله انه قال: من صلى أول ليلة من شعبان ركعتين، يقرأ في كل ركعة فاتحة الكتاب مرة وثلاثين مرة (قل هو الله احد)، فإذا سلم قال: اللهم هذا عهدي عندك إلى يوم القيامة، حفظ من إبليس وجنوده وأعطاه الله ثواب الصديقين.

Another Prayer for the First Night of Sha’ban, Its Second and Third Nights with Fasting during the Days

The following is found narrated on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): “Whoever fasts on the first three days of Sha’ban, and wakes up at nights and says two units of prayers and in each unit he recites the Opening Chapter once and ‘Say: He is Allah, the One and Only’¹ eleven times, God the Sublime would fend off the evils of the people of the heavens and the earth, the evils of Satan and his troops, and the evils of all oppressive kings from him. I swear by Him who rightfully appointed me to the Prophethood that God would forgive seventy-thousand major sins that are between him and God the Honorable the Exalted, and would fend off the torture of the grave, the departure of the soul from the body, and its hardships.’ ”

صلاة أخرى في أول ليلة من شعبان واللييلة الثانية والثالثة مع صيام نهارها:

وجدناها في صحف الدلالة على كرم مالك الجلالة عن النبي صلى الله عليه وآله انه قال: من صام ثلاثة أيام من أول شعبان ويقوم لياليها وصلى ركعتين، في كل ركعة بفاتحة الكتاب مرة و (قل هو الله احد) إحدى عشرة مرة رفع الله تعالى عنه شر أهل السماوات وشر أهل الارضين وشر إبليس وجنوده وشر كل سلطان جائر، والذي بعثني بالحق نبيا انه يغفر الله له سبعين ألف ذنب من الكبائر فيما بينه وبين الله عز وجل ويدفع الله عنه عذاب القبر و نزعه وشدائده.

Section 4 On Narrations regarding Fasting the Whole Month of Sha’ban

The following is narrated through a chain of documents to Abu Ja’far ibn Babuyih in his book *Thawab Al-A’maal* that the Prophet (MGB) was asked:

¹ The Holy Qur’an: Al-Ikhlās 112:1.

“What is the noblest time to fast?” He (MGB) replied, “Fasting in Sha'ban in exaltation of the month of Ramadhan.”

We read the following in another narration on the authority of Umma Salma – may God be pleased with her – in *Thawab Al-A'maal* : “The Prophet (MGB) did not fast any whole month except for the whole month of Sha'ban and continued it with the month of Ramadhan.”

The following is narrated through a chain of documents by Abu Ja'far Muhammad ibn Babuyih in his book *Man La Yahzaruh Al-Faqih* on the authority of Abu Ja'far (MGB): “Fasting all the month of Sha'ban will cause purity from all slippages, *vasme* and *badere*.” Abu Hamzih asked, “What is meant by *vasme*?” He (MGB) replied, “Swearing and betting to commit sins.” Abu Hamzih asked, “What is meant by *badere*?” He (MGB) replied, “Swearing at times of anger and repentance from it results in remorse.”

The following is reported by Abu Ja'far ibn Babuyih in one of his books on the authority of Abu Ja'far (MGB): “The Prophet (MGB) fasted during the months of Sha'ban and Ramadhan. He connected the fasting of the two months together but forbade the people from doing that. They are months of God. They are expiation for all your past and future sins.

What is meant by ‘They are months of God’? There are narrations indicating that Sha'ban is the Prophet's month. This is because what belongs to the Prophet (MGB) belongs to the Almighty God. Perhaps when it is said, ‘He connected the fasting of the two months together but forbade the people from doing that’ is for the people not to fast two consecutive months without any breaks and what is meant is to set one or two days of breaking the fast between the two consecutive months. The following narration acknowledges this. It is narrated through a chain of documents to Al-Mufaz'zal ibn Umar, on the authority of Abi Abdullah As-Sadiq (MGB): “My father used to take a one day break between Sha'ban and Ramadhan.”

The following is narrated through a chain of documents to Al-Halabi on the authority of Abi Abdullah (MGB): “It is good to fast in the month of Sha'ban. However, it is better to take a one of two day break in between Sha'ban and Ramadhan.”

If you wish to attain the perfect prosperity obtained by fasting all the month of Sha'ban, you should try to do so before you die. If there is any obstacle which we mentioned for you in doing so, then fast as much of it as you can.

فصل (٤) فيما نذكره من أحاديث في صوم شهر شعبان كله

فمن ذلك ما رويناه باسنادنا إلى أبي جعفر ابن بابويه من كتاب ثواب الأعمال فقال: سئل رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله: أي الصيام أفضل؟ قال: شعبان تعظيما لشهر رمضان.

وفي حديث آخر من كتاب ثواب الأعمال عن أم سلمة رضي الله عنها: ان النبي صلى الله عليه وآله لم يكن يصوم من السنة شهرا تاما إلا شعبان يصل به شهر رمضان.

ومن ذلك ما رويناه عن عدة طرق بها من كتاب من لا يحضره الفقيه عن أبي جعفر عليه السلام قال: من صام شعبان كان له طهرا من كل زلة ووصمة وبادرة، قال أبو حمزة: فقلت لأبي جعفر عليه السلام: ما الوصمة؟ قال: اليمين في المعصية والنذر في المعصية، قلت: فما البادرة؟ قال: اليمين عند الغضب والتوبة، بها الندم عليها.

ومن ذلك باسنادنا إلى أبي جعفر ابن بابويه من الكتاب فيما رواه عن أبي جعفر عليه السلام قال: كان رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله يصوم شعبان وشهر رمضان يصلهما وينهى الناس ان يصلوهما، وكان يقول: هما شهر الله وهما كفارة لما قبلهما وما بعدهما من الذنوب.

أقول: هما شهر الله، وفي الأحاديث: شعبان شهره عليه السلام، لأنه كلما كان له فهو لله جل جلاله، وقوله صلوات الله عليه: وينهى الناس ان يصلوهما، لعل المراد بذلك التخفيف عن الناس من موالات شهرين متتابعين، فيراد منهم ان يفصلوا بينهما بيوم أو يومين. وينبه على ذلك ما رويناه باسنادنا إلى المفضل بن عمر عن أبي عبد الله عليه السلام قال: كان أبي يفصل بين شعبان وشهر رمضان بيوم.

ومن ذلك ما روينا باسنادنا إلى الحلبي عن أبي عبد الله عليه السلام قال: صوم شعبان حسن ولكن افضل بينهما بيوم، وفي حديث آخر: بيوم أو اثنين.

أقول: فان كنت تريد كمال السعادات بصوم شعبان كله والظفر بما فيه من العنايات، فأنت المستظهر لنفسه قبل الممات، وان كان لك مانع مما أشرنا إليه فنحن ذاكرون فضائل أيام من شعبان فانظر ما تقدر على صومه منها، فاعتمد عليها.

Section 5 On the Nobility of the Month of Sha'ban and the Nobility of Fasting on its First Day

The following is narrated based on documents on the authority of Abu Ja'far ibn Babuyih – may God be pleased with him – in his books *Thawab Al-A'maal* and *Al-Amali* with a chain of documents on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): “Once when the Prophet’s companions were describing the nobilities of the month of Sha’ban, the Prophet (MGB) said, ‘That isoble month. It is my month. The angels who carry the Throne honor it and recognize its nobility. That is the month in which the sustenance for the fasting month of Ramadhan is increased for the believers. That is the month of doing deeds and in it God rewards good deeds seventy-fold, with evil deeds eliminated, sins forgiven and good deeds accepted. God *the Compeller* takes pride in it near His Servants and looks upon his fasting and staying up at night and takes pride in them in front of the carriers of the Throne. Then Ali ibn Abi Talib (MGB) stood up and said, ‘O’ Prophet of God! May my parents be your ransom! Please explain the rewards of fasting during this month so that our will to fast during it is reinforced and we attend to more worshipping of the Honorable the Exalted Mighty God.’ Then the Prophet (MGB) said: ‘God the Honorable the Exalted would record the reward of seventy good deeds equal to the worshipping of one whole year for whoever fasts on the first day of Sha’ban.’ ”

فصل (٥) فيما نذكره من فضل شهر شعبان بالمنقول، وفضل صوم أول يوم منه

بالرواية عن الرسول صلى الله عليه وآله روينا ذلك بإسنادنا إلى أبي جعفر ابن بابويه رضوان الله عليه من كتاب أماليه وكتاب ثواب الأعمال بإسناده إلى النبي صلى الله عليه وآله بصريح المقال، فقال: قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله وقد تذاكر أصحابه عنده فضائل شعبان، فقال: شهر شريف وهو شهري وحملة العرش تعظمه وتعرف حقه، وهو شهر زاد فيه أرزاق العباد لشهر رمضان وتزين فيه الجنان، وإنما سمي شعبان لأنه يتشعب فيه أرزاق المؤمنين، وهو شهر العمل فيه يضاعف الحسننة بسبعين، والسيئة محطوبة والذنب مغفور والحسنة مقبولة، والجبار جل جلاله يباهي به لعباده وينظر إلى صوامه وقوامه، فيباهي بهم حملة العرش. فقام علي بن أبي طالب عليه السلام فقال: بأبي أنت وأمي يا رسول الله صف لنا شيئاً من فضائله لنزداد رغبة في صيامه وقيامه ولنجتهد للجليل عز وجل فيه، فقال صلى الله عليه وآله: من صام أول يوم من شعبان كتب الله له عز وجل سبعين حسنة الحسننة تعدل عبادة سنة.

Section 6 On the Nobility of Fasting onon-Specified Day of Sha'ban

The following is narrated based on documents on the authority of Ibn Babuyih in his books *Thawab al-A'amal* and *Al-Amali* through a chain of documents on the authority of Abdullah ibn al-Fazl al-Hashemi, on the authority of Ja'far As-Sadiq (MGB): "The fasting in Sha'ban would get stored up for one for the Resurrection Day. Whoever fasts a lot in Sha'ban, God would undoubtedly improve his living conditions and suffice him against the enemies. God would make Paradise a certainty for whoever fasts one day in Sha'ban."

فصل (٦) فيما نذكره من فضل صوم يوم من شعبان من غير تعيين لأوله، وذكر فضله

روينا ذلك بإسنادنا إلى ابن بابويه من كتاب اماليه بإسناده إلى عبد الله بن الفضل الهاشمي، عن الصادق جعفر بن محمد عليهما السلام قال: صيام شعبان ذخر للعبد يوم القيامة، وما من عبد يكثر الصيام في شعبان إلا أصلح الله له أمر معيشته وكفاه شر عدوه، وإن أدنى ما يكون لمن يصوم يوماً من شعبان أن تجب له الجنة.

Section 7 On Fasting One, Two or Three of Its Days

The following is narrated through a chain of documents on the authority of Ja'far As-Sadiq (MGB), on the authority of his father (MGB), on the authority of his grandfather (MGB), on the authority of God's Prophet (MGB): "Sha'ban is my month and Ramadhan is the Honorable the Exalted God's month. I shall intercede on behalf of whoever fasts one day during my month. God shall forgive all the past sins of whoever fasts for two days during my month. Whoever fasts three days during my month will be told to restart his deeds."

The following is narrated through a chain of documents to Abu Ja'far Muhammad ibn Babuyih in his book *Man La Yahzaruh Al-Faqih*, on the authority of Al-Hassan ibn Mahboob, on the authority of Abdullah ibn Hazm al-Azudy, on the authority of Aba Abdullah As-Sadiq (MGB): "Paradise is a certainty for whoever fasts on the first day of Sha'ban. Everyday God would look upon whoever fasts two days of Sha'ban as long as he is in this world and in Paradise. Whoever fasts three days of it would visit God in His Throne in Paradise every day."

Perhaps what is meant by 'God would visit him in His Throne in Paradise every day' is that he shall be amongst the residents of God somewhere on the Throne where he could be called one of the pilgrims of God, just as God has established the Holy Ka'ba as His Sacred House and anyone who goes to visit there has indeed visited God.

فصل (٧) فيما نذكره من صوم يوم أو يومين أو ثلاثة أيام منه

روينا بعدة أسانيد إلى الصادق عليه السلام قال: حدثني أبي، عن أبيه، عن جده عليهم السلام قال: قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله: شعبان شهري ورمضان شهر الله عز وجل، فمن صام يوما من شهري كنت شفيعه يوم القيامة، ومن صام يومين من شهري غفر الله له ما تقدم من ذنبه، ومن صام ثلاثة أيام من شهري قيل له: استأنف العمل.

ومن ذلك ما رويناه باسنادنا إلى أبي جعفر بن بابويه من كتاب من لا يحضره الفقيه فيما رواه عن الحسن بن محبوب عن عبد الله بن حزم الأزدي قال: سمعت أبا عبد الله عليه السلام يقول: من صام أول يوم من شعبان وجبت له الجنة البتة، ومن صام يومين نظر الله إليه في كل يوم ولية في دار الدنيا ودام نظره إليه في الجنة، ومن صام ثلاثة أيام زار الله في عرشه في جنته كل يوم.

أقول: لعل المراد بزيارة الله في عرشه، ان يكون لقوم من أهل الجنة مكان من العرش، من وصل إليه يسمى زائر الله، كما جعل الله الكعبة الشريفة بيته الحرام، من حجها فقد حج الله.

Sheikh ibn Babuyih – may God have mercy on him - in his book *Man La Yahzaruh Al-Faqih* said that this narration refers to the pilgrimage of the Prophets (MGB) of God in Paradise and that their pilgrimage is similar to God's pilgrimage.

There are many narrations on this issue. Visiting and feeding a believer, and clothing him is like visiting God. It is like having treated God this way.

وذكر الشيخ ابن بابويه رحمه الله في كتاب من لا يحضره الفقيه ان معنى هذا الحديث زيارة انبياء الله وحججه في الجنان وان من زارهم فقد زار الله .

وقد وردت أحاديث كثيرة: ان زيارة المؤمن وعبادته وإطعامه، وكسوته، منسوبة إلى انها زيارة الله وموصوفة بأنها عملت مع الله .

Section 8 On the Nobility of Giving Charity and Asking For Forgiveness During the Month of Sha'ban

The following is narrated based on documents on the authority of Sa'ed ibn Abdullah, through a chain of documents on the authority of Dawood ibn Kasir al-Ruqi: "I asked Aba Abdullah Ja'far ibn Muhammad As-Sadiq (MGB) about fasting during the month of Rajab. He (MGB) said, "Why don't you ask about fasting in Sha'ban?" I said, "O' son of God's Prophet (MGB)! What is the reward of one who fasts on a day of the month of Sha'ban? He (MGB) replied, "By God it is Paradise!" Then I said, "O' son of God's Prophet (MGB)! What is the best thing to do during it?" He (MGB) replied, "Giving charity and asking for forgiveness. Whoever gives charity during the month of Sha'ban, God would raise it just like you raise a small camel. Then God would give it to you on the Resurrection Day while it is as large as Mount Uhud."

فصل (٨) فيما نذكره من فضل الصدقة والاستغفار في شهر شعبان

روينا ذلك باسنادنا إلى سعد بن عبد الله باسناده إلى داود بن كثير الرقي قال: سألت أبا عبد الله جعفر بن محمد الصادق عليه السلام عن صوم رجب فقال: أين انتم عن صوم شعبان، فقلت له: يا بن رسول الله ما ثواب من صام يوماً من شعبان؟ فقال: الجنة والله، فقلت: يا بن رسول الله ما أفضل ما يفعل فيه؟ قال: الصدقة والاستغفار، ومن تصدق بصدقة في شعبان رباها الله تعالى كما يربي أحدكم فصيله حتى يوافي يوم القيامة وقد صار مثل احد.

Al-Sheikh Abu Ja'far ibn Babuyih reported in his book *Al-Amali* where he has narrated the following on the authority of Al-Hassan ibn Ali ibn Fazzal having said that he heard Ali ibn Musa al-Reza (MGB) say: "Whoever asks the Blessed and the Sublime God for forgiveness seventy times during the month of Sha'ban would be forgiven by God even if his sins are as numerous as the number of the stars."

قال الشيخ أبو جعفر ابن بابويه في أماليه فيما روينا باسناده إلى الحسن بن علي بن فضال قال: سمعت علي بن موسى الرضا صلوات الله عليه وآله يقول: من استغفر الله تبارك وتعالى في شعبان سبعين مرة غفر الله له ذنوبه ولو كانت مثل عدد النجوم.

Section 9 On the Nobility of Exalting God and Asking for Forgiveness During the Month of Sha'ban

The following is found in the books on acts of worship narrated on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): “Whoever says the following a thousand times during the month of Sha'ban ‘There is no God but God. We do not worship anyone other than Him, being sincere in our faith even though the polytheists detest this!,’ God would record the reward of one-thousand years of worshipping for him and remove the sins of a thousand years from him. On the Resurrection Day, he would be taken out of the grave with his face shining like the full moon. He would be recorded amongst the truthful ones.’ ”

فصل (٩) فيما نذكره من فضل التهليل ولفظ الاستغفار في شهر شعبان

وجدنا ذلك في كتب العبادات عن النبي صلى الله عليه وآله قال: ومن قال في شعبان ألف مرة: لا إله إلا الله ولا نعبد إلا إياه مخلصين له الدين ولو كره المشركون، كتب الله له عبادة ألف سنة، ومحى عنه ذنب ألف سنة ويخرج من قبره يوم القيامة ووجهه يتلألأ مثل القمر ليلة البدر وكتب عند الله صديقاً.

Especial Form of Asking for Forgiveness on Every Day of Sha'ban

The following is narrated based on documents on the authority of Muhammad ibn al-Hassan al-Saffar in the book *Fazl al-Dua* through a chain of documents that Abu Abdullah (MGB) said: “Whoever says the following supplications seventy times on each day of Sha'ban, ‘I ask God for forgiveness. There is no God but Him. He is the Living, *the Self-Subsisting, Most Compassionate, Most Merciful*. And I repent to Him.’ We read the following in another narration on the authority of my grandfather Abi Ja'far al-Tusi – may God have mercy on him: “I ask God for forgiveness – Him besides whom there are no Gods. *Most Compassionate, Most Merciful, the Living, the Self-Subsisting, and repent to Him.*”

We read the following in another narration by Al-Saffar: “These shall be recorded on the Clear Horizon!” When asked what is meant by ‘the Clear Horizon’, the answer was, “It is a plain field in front of the

Throne where rivers flow and contains drinking vessels as many as the stars.”

We read the following in another narration on the authority of my grandfather Ja'far al-Tusi: “These shall be recorded in the Clear Horizon and continued it the same as above with ‘as many as there are stars in the sky!’ ”

ذكر لفظ الاستغفار كل يوم من شعبان :

روينا ذلك باسنادنا الى محمد بن الحسن الصفار من كتاب فضل الدعاء باسناده فيه قال: قال أبو عبد الله عليه السلام : من قال في كل يوم من شعبان سبعين مرة : استغفر الله الذي لا إله إلا هو الحي القيوم الرحمن الرحيم وأتوب إليه. وفي رواية جدي أبي جعفر الطوسي رحمه الله : استغفر الله الذي لا إله إلا هو الرحمن الرحيم الحي القيوم واتوب إليه.

وفي رواية الصفار : يكتب في الأفق المبين، قال: قلت : ما الأفق المبين؟ قال: قاع بين يدي العرش فيها أنهار تطرد فيه من القدحان عدد النجوم .

وفي رواية جدي الطوسي زيادة : كتبه الله في الأفق المبين، ثم اتفقا في اللفظ، وزاد الطوسي : عدد نجوم السماء.

Section 10 Supplications for the Month of Sha'ban

The following is reported on the authority of Ibn Khaluyat al-Hussein ibn Muhammad, whose nickname was Abu Abdullah, about whom Al-Najjashy has said that he lived in Halab and knew about our faith as well as Arabic, literature, poetry, etc. He has also been named by Muhammad ibn al-Najjar in Al-Taz'yeel and in the third volume of Al-Tahseel. Ibn Khaluyat al-Hussein was a leader and one of the rare people in terms of his knowledge and courtesy. The people rushed to see him from around the world. He resided in Halab and was respected by the Al-Hamdan. He also perished there. The following supplications are that of the Commander of the Faithful Ali (MGB) and the other Divine Leaders (MGB) from his Household (MGB). They recited it during the month of Sha'ban.

فصل (١٠) فيما نذكره من الدعاء في شعبان، مروى عن ابن خالويه أقول أنا:

واسم ابن خالويه الحسين بن محمد، وكنيته أبو عبد الله، وذكر النجاشي انه كان عارفا بمذهبنا مع علمه بعلوم العربية واللغة والشعر وسكن بحلب .

وذكر محمد بن النجار في التذييل : وقد ذكرناه في الجزء الثالث من التحصيل، فقال عن الحسين بن خالويه : كان إماما أوحده أفراد الدهر في كل قسم من أقسام العلم والأدب وكان إليه الرحلة من الأوقات وسكن بحلب وكان آل حمدان يكرمونه ومات بها قال: انها مناجاة امير المؤمنين علي بن أبي طالب عليه السلام والأئمة من ولده عليهم السلام، كانوا يدعون بها في شهر شعبان :

“O’ my Lord! Please bestow Your Blessings on Muhammad and his Progeny (MGB). Please listen to my prayers when I call on You; listen to my call when I call You; and turn to me when I call You. I have come running to You and am standing before You, imploring You in humility, crying to You, and hoping to get the reward You have for me. You see me, You know what is in my heart, and You are aware of my needs. You know what is in my mind and are not unaware of my afterlife and my present life, of what I want to begin my speech with; of the demand I would utter, and of the hopes I have in regard to my well-being. O’ my Master! Whatever You have destined for me up to the end of my life, public or private is bound to come. What is to my advantage and what is to my disadvantage – all my losses and gains are in Your Hand, not in the hand of anyone else. My Lord, if You deprive me, who will provide me; and if You let me down, who will help me? O’ my God! I take refuge in You from Your Wrath and earning Your displeasure. O’ my God! If I am not fit for gaining Your Mercy, You are certainly fit to be generous to me due to Your Vast Compassion. O’ my Lord! I see as if I am standing before You protected by my trust in You. You did what befitted You and covered me with Your Forgiveness. O’ my God! Who is more suitable than You to forgive me? If the time of my death has come near and my deeds have not still brought me close to You, I make this confession of my sins as a means of approaching You. O’ my God! I have been unjust to my soul for I have not looked after it. It will certainly be doomed if You do not forgive me. O’ my God! You have always been kind to me during my lifetime. Please do not cut off Your Favor from me at the time of my death. O’ my Lord! How can I lose the hope of Your Kind Consideration after my death, when you have always been good to me during my life. O’ my Lord! In my case do what befits You and bestow Your Favors on me – a sinner enwrapped in ignorance. O’ my God! Verily You have

concealed many of my sins in this world. Yet, I am in a greater need of their being concealed in the Hereafter. As You have not revealed my sins even to any of Your Servants in the ranks of the righteous. Please do not disgrace me on the Day of Resurrection in front of everybody. O' my God! Indeed Your Generosity has expanded my hope in You, and Your Forgiveness is superior to my deeds. Therefore, please make me happy with allowing me to meet You on the day You administer justice to Your Servants. O' my God! My apology to You is the apology of one who cannot afford it not to be accepted. Therefore, please accept my apology! O' the Most Benevolent of those to whom the evil-doers apologize. O' my God! Please do not turn down my request; do not foil my desire; and do not cut off my hope and expectation of You. O' my God! If You had wanted to disgrace me, You would not have guided me; and if You had wanted to expose my faults and vices, You would not have kept me safe and sound. O' my God! I do not think that You will turn me down regarding my demands for which I have spent my whole life. O' my God! All praise belongs to You – praise that is forever and ever, everlasting, eternal, increasing and not diminishing as You like and are pleased. O' my God! If You question me for my crimes, I will cling to Your Pardoning, and if You question me for my sins, I will cling to Your Forgiveness! If You drag me into Hell, I will inform its inmates that I love You. O' my God! Although my deeds are too small compared to how much I should obey You, my aspirations are high compared to what I should expect of You. O' my God! How can I go away from You deprived and disappointed, when I had high hopes in Your Benevolence to send me back with mercy and deliverance. O' my God! I have wasted my life by forgetting You. I have ruined my youth intoxicated with staying away from You. O' my God! I did not wake up when I was under a delusion about You and was inclined to earn Your displeasure. O' my God! Here I am – Your servant, the son of Your servant, standing before You and hoping to benefit from Your Generosity! O' my God! I am Your servant! I want to rid myself of the sins I used to commit in Your presence because I lacked the sense of feeling ashamed that You were looking at me. I ask You to forgive me, because forgiveness is a characteristic of Your Kindness. O' my God! I was not strong enough to abstain from Your disobedience, except when You awakened me to Your Love. Then I was exactly as You wanted me to be. I am thankful to You for including me in Your Generosity and purging my heart of the impurities of being negligent to You. O' my God! Please look upon me as one You called and he responded, and You helped by using his services, and he obeyed You. O' the All-near Who is not far from one who is away from You. O' Munificent! O' He who does not withhold His reward from one who hopes for it. O' my God! Please bless me

with a heart with passion to bring it near You, and a tongue with which truth may be submitted to You, and a vision withature to bring it close to You. O' my God! Whoever gets acquainted with You is not unknown; whoever takes shelter under You, is not disappointed; and one to whom You turn, is not enslaved. O' my God! One who follows Your Path is enlightened; and one who takes refuge in You, is protected. O' my God! I have taken refuge in You. Therefore, do not disappoint me of Your Mercy and do not deprive me of Your Kindness. O' my God! Please place me among Your friends in the position of one who hopes for an increase in Your Love. O' my God! Please inspire me with remembering You, and let my spiritual efforts be in success in Your Holy Names and Sacred Position. O' my God! I invoke You to admit me to the place reserved for those who obey You, and the abode of those who enjoy Your Good Pleasure. I can neither defend myself nor do I control what is advantageous for me. O' my God! I am Your servant, the weak, the sinful! I am Your repentant servant. So do not let me be one from whom You turn away Your face, and whose negligence has secluded him from Your Forgiveness. O' my God! Please grant me complete severance of my relations with everything else and total submission to You. Please enlighten the eyes of our hearts with the light of looking at You to the extent of penetrating the veils of light and reaching the Treasures of Grandeur, and let our souls get filled with the glory of Your Sanctity. O' my God! Please let me be those You called and they responded; who are thunderstruck by Your Glory when You look. You whisper to them secretly and they work for You openly. O' my God! I have not allowed disappointment to overcome my good opinion about You, and I have never lost hope of Your Beautiful Benevolence. O' my God! Although wrongdoings have caused me to be degraded near You, You may forgive me in view of my trust in You. O' my God! Although my sins have made me unfit to receive Your Tender Affection, my firm belief of Your Compassion has awakened me. O' my God! Although my negligence has put me to sleep instead of getting ready to meet You, my knowledge of Your Kind Bounties has awakened me. O' my God! Although Your Severe Punishment calls me to Hell, the abundance of Your Reward invites me to Paradise. O' my God! I ask You and, beg You and desire You. I ask You to bestow Your Blessings on Muhammad and his Progeny (MGB). Let me be of those who always remember You and never violate the pledge to You, who do not fail to show You their gratitude and do not take Your orders lightly. O' my God! Please let me be attached to the Light of Your Majestic Glory, so that I may know You, and turn away from others, and only fear You and watch out for You. O' Lord of Majesty, Bounty and Honor! Please bestow blessings and peace be on Muhammad and his Progeny (MGB) – the

immaculate and may His peace be on them plentifully.”

(اللهم صل على محمد وآل محمد واسمع دعائي إذا دعوتك، واسمع ندائي إذا ناديتك، واقبل علي إذا ناجيتك، فقد هربت إليك ووقفت بين يديك، مستكينا لك، متضرعا إليك، راجيا لما لديك، تراني، وتعلم ما في نفسي وتخبر حاجتي وتعرف ضميري، ولا يخفى عليك أمر منقلبي ومثواي، وما أريد ان أبدئ به من منطقي، وأتفوه به من طلبتي، وارجوه لعافيتي، وقد جرت مقاديرك علي يا سيدي، فيما يكون مني إلى آخر عمري، من سريرتي وعلايتي، وبيدك لا بيد غيرك زيادتي ونقصي، ونفعي وضري . الهي ان حرمتني فمن ذا الذي يرزقني، وان خذلتني فمن ذا الذي ينصرني، الهي أعوذ بك من غضبك وحلول سخطك . الهي ان كنت غير مستأهل لرحمتك، فأنت أهل ان تجود علي بفضل سعتك، الهي كأني بنفسي واقفة بين يديك، وقد أظلمها حسن توكلي عليك، ففعلت ما أنت أهله وتغمدتني بعفوك . الهي ان عفوت فمن أولى منك بذلك، وان كان قد دنى اجلي ولم يدنتي منك عملي، فقد جعلت الإقرار بالذنب إليك وسيلتي، الهي قد جرت علي نفسي في النظر لها فلها الويل ان لم تغفر لها . الهي لم يزل برك علي أيام حياتي، فلا تقطع برك عني في مماتي، الهي كيف آيس من حسن نظرك لي بعد مماتي، وأنت لم تولني إلا الجميل في حياتي، الهي تول من أمري ما أنت أهله وعد علي بفضلك علي مذنب قد غمره جهله . الهي قد سترت علي ذنوبا في الدنيا وأنا أحوج إلى سترها علي منك في الأخرى، الهي قد أحسنت إلي إذ لم تظهرها لأحد من عبادك الصالحين، فلا تفضحني يوم القيامة علي رؤوس الأشهاد . الهي جودك بسط أملي وعفوك أفضل من عملي، الهي فسرني بلقائك يوم تقضي فيه بين عبادك، الهي اعتذاري إليك اعتذار من لم يستغن عن قبول عذره، فاقبل عذري، يا أكرم من اعتذر إليه المسيئون. الهي لا ترد حاجتي ولا تخيب طمعي ولا تقطع منك رجائي وأملي الهي لو أردت هواني لم تهدني، ولو أردت فضيحتي لم تعافني، الهي ما أظنك تردني في حاجة قد أفنيت عمري في طلبها منك . الهي فلك الحمد أبدا أبدا دائما سرمدا يزيد ولا يبيد كما تحب وترضى، الهي ان أخذتني بجرمي أخذتك بعفوك، وان أخذتني بذنوبي أخذتك بمغفرتك، وان أدخلتني النار أعلمت أهلها إني احبك الهي ان كان صغر في جنب طاعتك عملي فقد كبر في جنب رجائك أملي، الهي كيف انقلب من عندك بالخيبة محروما، وقد كان حسن ظني بجودك ان تقلبني بالنجاة مرحوما . الهي وقد أفنيت عمري في شره السهو عنك

وأبليت شبابي في سكرة التباعد منك، الهي فلم استيقظ أيام اغتراري بك وركوني إلى سبيل سخطك، الهي وأنا عبدك وابن عبدك قائم بين يديك، متوسل بكرمك إليك الهي أنا عبد أتصل إليك مما كنت أواجهك به من قلة استحيائي من نظرك، واطلب العفو منك، إذ العفو نعت لكرمك، الهي لم يكن لي حول فانتقل به عن معصيتك إلا في وقت أيقظتني لمحبتك وكما أردت ان أكون كنت، فشكرتك بإدخالي في كرمك، ولتطهير قلبي، من أوساخ الغفلة عنك .

الهي انظر إلي نظر من ناديته فأجابك، واستعملته بمعونتك فأطاعك، يا قريبا لا يبعد عن المغتر به، و يا جوادا لا ييخل عمن رجا ثوابه، الهي هب لي قلبا يدنيه منك شوقه، ولسانا يرفعه إليك صدقة، ونظرا يقربه منك حقه. الهي ان من تعرف بك غير مجهول، ومن لاذ بك غير مخذول، ومن أقبلت عليه غير مملوك الهي إن من انتهج بك لمستير، وإن من اعتصم بك لمستجير، وقد لذت بك يا الهي فلا تخيب ظني من رحمتك، ولا تحجبني عن رأفتك، الهي اقمني في أهل ولايتك مقام من رجا الزيادة من محبتك . الهي وألهمني ولها بذكرك إلى ذكرك، واجعل همي في روح نجاح أسمائك ومحل قدسك، الهي بك عليك إلا ألحقتني بمحل أهل طاعتك والمثوى الصالح من مرضاتك، فاني لا اقدر لنفسي دفعا ولا املك لها نفعا . الهي أنا عبدك الضعيف المذنب ومملوكك المعيب، فلا تجعلني ممن صرفت عنه وجهك وحجبه سهوه عن عفوك .

الهي هب لي كمال الانقطاع إليك، وأنير أبصار قلوبنا بضياء نظرها إليك، حتى تخرق أبصار القلوب حجب النور، فتصل إلى معدن العظمة وتصير أرواحنا معلقة بعز قدسك، الهي واجعلني ممن ناديته فأجابك ولا حظته فصعق لجلالك، فناجيته سرا وعمل لك جهرا . الهي لم أسلط على حسن ظني قنوط الاياس ولا انقطع رجائي من جميل كرمك الهي ان كانت الخطايا قد أسقطتني لديك فاصفح عني بحسن توكلي عليك، الهي ان حطتني الذنوب من مكارم لطفك، فقد نبهني اليقين إلى كرم عطفك . الهي ان انامتني الغفلة عن الاستعداد للقائك، فقد نبهتني المعرفة بكرم آلائك، الهي ان دعاني إلى النار عظيم عقابك، فقد دعاني إلى الجنة جزيل ثوابك، الهي فلك اسأل واليك ابتهل وارغب، ان تصلي على محمد وآل محمد وان تجعلني ممن يديم ذكرك ولا ينقض عهدك، ولا يغفل عن شكرك ولا يستخف بأمرك . الهي وألحقتني بنور عزك الابهج، فأكون لك عارفا، وعن سواك منحرفا، ومنك خائفا مراقبا، يا ذا الجلال والإكرام وصلى الله على محمد رسوله وآله الطاهرين وسلم تسليما كثيرا.)

Supplications for Noon of Each Day of Sha'ban

My grandfather Abi Ja'far al-Tusi narrated the following and Muhammad ibn Ali Al-Tarazy reported it in his book in his own handwriting, on the authority of Muhammad ibn Yahya, on the authority of Ahmad ibn Muhammad al-Sayari, on the authority of Al-Abbas ibn Mujahid, on the authority of his father. Ali ibn al-Hussein (MGB) prayed at noon on each day of Sha'ban and on the middle day of Sha'ban he prayed for the Prophet (MGB) with the following supplications, "O' my God! Bestow Your Blessing on Muhammad and his Progeny (MGB) – the tree of Prophethood and the position of the Prophetic mission and where angels will come and go; the treasurers of knowledge, the Household of revelations. O' my God! Please bestow Your Blessings on Muhammad and his Progeny (MGB) who are like a boat sailing in the deep waters of a fathomless sea. Whoever rides it is saved and whoever abandons it is drowned. Whoever overtakes it is misled and whoever falls behind it is ruined. Whoever adheres to them is united with them. O' my Lord! Please bestow Your Blessings on Muhammad and his Progeny (MGB) – who are the secure shelter, who help the persecuted and the helpless, who are a resting place for the fugitives; savior of the frightened ones, and supporter of those who seek support. O' my God! Please bestow Your Blessings on Muhammad and his Progeny (MGB) - blessings that are abundant, pure, which should please them and grant them their due rights by Your Strength and Power – O' Lord of the worlds! O' my God! Please bestow Your Blessings on Muhammad and his Progeny (MGB) - the pure, the good whose rights have been made incumbent upon us by You and the obedience to whom has been deemed obligatory upon us by You and whose divine leadership over us has been deemed obligatory upon us by You. O' my God! Bless Muhammad and his Progeny (MGB). O' my God! Please revive my heart with obedience to You and do not make me ashamed of my disobedience to You. Please bless me with sympathy with those whose sustenance is restricted with the abundance in my share of sustenance out of Your Nobility, and by displaying Your Justice to me and letting me live under Your Shade. And this is the month You have attributed to Your Prophet (MGB) – the master of Your Messengers. It is the month of Sha'ban which You have encompassed with Your Mercy and Pleasure. God's Prophet (MGB) used to spend time in devotion during its nights and observed fasts during its days humiliating himself before You honoring and respecting it till his departure from this world. O' my God! Please help us in following his tradition and in achieving his intercession. O' my God! Appoint him as an intercessor for me and his intercession is accepted by You and appoint him to show us a Simple Path towards You and make me his follower until I meet You on the

Day of Resurrection in a state that You be pleased with me ignoring my sins for You have prescribed nobility and pleasure from you and my entertainment of a Permanent Abode and the abode of good people.”

ومن الدعاء كل يوم من شعبان عند الزوال

ما رويناه بعدة طرق إلى جدي أبي جعفر الطوسي، ورواه محمد بن علي الطرازي في كتابه ووجدناه بخطه، فقالا فيما رواه عن محمد بن يحيى العطار، قال: حدثني احمد بن محمد السيارى، قال: حدثني العباس بن مجاهد، عن ابيه قال: كان ابي علي بن الحسين عليهما السلام يدعو عند كل زوال من ايام شعبان وفي ليلة النصف منه ويصلي على النبي صلى الله عليه وآله بهذه الصلوات اللهم صلى على محمد وآل محمد وفي شجرة النبوة وموضع الرسالة ومختلف الملائكة ومعدن العلم وأهل بيت الوحي، اللهم صل على محمد وآل محمد الفلك الجارية في اللجج الغامرة، يأمن من ركبها ويغرق من تركها، المتقدم لهم مارق والمتأخر عنهم زاهق واللازم لهم لا حق . اللهم صل على محمد وآل محمد، الكهف الحصين وغيث المضطرب والمساكين وملجأ الهاربين ومنجى الخائفين وعصمة المعتصمين اللهم صل على محمد وآل محمد، صلاة كثيرة طيبة تكون لهم رضا ولحق محمد وآل محمد صلى الله عليه وآله أداءً (وقضاء) بحول منك وقوة يا رب العالمين، اللهم صل على محمد وآل محمد الطاهرين الأخيار، الذين أوجبت حقهم وفرضت طاعتهم وولايتهم اللهم صل على محمد وآل محمد، اللهم وأعمر قلبي بطاعتك ولا تخزني بمعصيتك، وارزقني مواساة من قترت عليه من رزقك بما وسعت علي من فضلك، ونشرت علي من عدلك وأحييتني تحت ظلك، وهذا شهر نبيك سيد رسلك صلواتك عليه وآله، شعبان الذي حففته بالرحمة والرضوان، الذي كان رسولك صلواتك عليه وآله يدأب في صيامه وقيامه في لياليه وأيامه، بخوعاً لك في إكرامه وإعظامه إلى محل حمامه . اللهم فأعنا على الاستئان بسنته فيه ونيل الشفاعة لديه، اللهم فاجعله لي شفيعاً مشفعا وطريقاً إليك مهيباً، واجعلني له متبعا حتى ألقاه يوم القيامة عني راضياً وعن ذنوبي غاضياً، وقد أوجبت لي منك الكرامة والرضوان وأنزلتني دار القرار ومحل الأخيار

Section 11 On the Nobility of Every Thursday in Sha'ban and Praying on That Day

This deed is reported amongst the deeds for the first of Sha'ban as it could coincide with a Thursday. Then you would have it available to perform. If the first of the month does not coincide with a Thursday, you should perform it on the first coming Thursday to be cautious and avoid negligence.

We found the following highly honored narration on the deeds for the month of Sha'ban on the authority of our Master Ali ibn Abi Talib (MGB), who narrated that God's Prophet (MGB) said, "On every Thursday of the month of Sha'ban, the heavens are decorated and the angels say, 'O God! Please forgive whoever fasts on this day and fulfill his supplications.' Whoever says two units of prayers on it and in each unit says the Opening Chapter once, 'Say: *He is Allah, the One and Only*'¹ a hundred times, and bestows blessings upon Muhammad (MGB) a hundred times after he finishes his prayers, God would fulfill all his needs in this world and the Hereafter. Whoever fasts for one day during it, God would forbid the Hell-fire from touching his body.' "

We read the following in another narration on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): "God would grant anyone who fasts on the twenty-fifth day of Sha'ban to get some reward. God would fulfill twenty of his needs in this world and twenty of his needs for the Hereafter."

فصل (١١) فيما نذكره من فضل كل خميس في شعبان والصلاة فيه

أقول : انما قدمت هذا الفصل من عمل أول يوم من شعبان لجواز ان يكون أول الشهر الخميس، فيجده الإنسان المذكور فيه، وان لم يكن اول الشهر الخميس فيكون المطلع عليه في أوائل أيامه، ذكرا له وصل إليه ومحضوضا في جملة مهامه، استظهارا بذلك للعبادات وخوفا من الغفلات ومن شواغل الأوقات .

وجدنا هذه الرواية العظيمة الشأن في أعمال شعبان عن مولانا علي بن أبي طالب عليه السلام، قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وآله : تتزين السماوات في كل خميس من شعبان، فتقول الملائكة : إلهنا اغفر لصائمهم وأجب دعائهم، فمن صلى فيه ركعتين، يقرأ في كل ركعة فاتحة الكتاب مرة و (قل هو الله احد) مائة مرة، فإذا سلم صلى على النبي صلى الله عليه وآله مائة مرة، قضى الله له كل حاجة من أمر دينه ودنياه، ومن صام فيه يوما واحدا حرم الله جسده على النار.

¹ The Holy Qur'an: Al-Ikhlās 112:1.

أقول : ووجدت في رواية عن النبي صلى الله وآله : ان من صام يوم الاثنين والخميس من شعبان جعل الله تعالى له نصيبا، فمن صام يوم الاثنين والخميس من شعبان قضى لله له عشرين حاجة من حوائج الدنيا وعشرين حاجة من حوائج الآخرة .

Section 12 Deeds for the Second Night of Sha'ban

The following is found narrated on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): “Whoever says fifty units of prayers on the second night of the month of Sha'ban and in each unit he recites the Opening Chapter once, ‘Say: *He is Allah, the One and Only*’¹ plus the Chapters Al-Nas and Al-Falaq once, God the Sublime would order the Honorable Recorders (*Kiraman Katibin*)² not to record the wrongdoings of the servant for one year. God would give him a share of the reward of the worshippers in the heavens and the earth. And by Him who rightfully appointed me to the Prophethood, no one but the wretched, the hypocrite or the corrupt people would avoid getting up on this night along with much noble remembrance.’ ”

فصل (١٢) فيما نذكره من عمل الليلة الثانية من شعبان

وجدناه مرويا عن النبي صلى الله عليه وآله قال: ومن صلى في الليلة الثانية من شعبان خمسين ركعة، يقرأ في كل ركعة فاتحة الكتاب مرة (قل هو الله احد) والمعوذتين مرة، يأمر الله تعالى الكرام الكاتبين ان لا تكتبوا على عبدي سيئة إلى ان يحول عليه الحول، ويجعل الله تعالى له نصيبا في عبادة أهل السماء والأرض، والذي بعثني الحق نبيا لا يجتنب قيام تلك الليلة إلا شقي أو منافق أو فاجر - وذكر فضلا كثيرا.

Section 13 On the Nobility of Fasting Two Days of Sha'ban

The following is narrated through a chain of documents to Abu Ja'far ibn Babuyih in his books *Thawab Al-A'maal* and *Al-Amali* narrated through a chain of documents on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): “Whoever fasts two days

¹ The Holy Qur'an: Al-Ikhlās 112:1.

² Kiraman Katibin: angels writing down your deeds: “*But verily over you (are appointed angels) to protect you, kind and honorable, writing down (your deeds). They know (and understand) all that ye do.* [The Holy Qur'an: Infitar 82:10-12].

during the month of Sha'ban, his committed destructive wrong deeds shall be wiped off.”

فصل (١٣) فيما نذكره من فضل صوم يومين من شعبان

رويناه باسنادنا إلى أبي جعفر ابن بابويه في كتاب أماليه وكتاب ثواب الاعمال باسناده الى النبي صلوات الله عليه وآله قال: ومن صام يومين من شعبان حطت عنه السيئة الموبقة.

Section 14 Deeds for the Third Night of Sha'ban

The following is found narrated on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): “Whoever says two units of prayers on the third night of the month of Sha'ban and in each unit he recites the Opening Chapter once, and ‘Say: He is Allah, the One and Only’¹ twenty-five times, God would open eight doors of Paradise for him on the Resurrection Day, and would close seven of the gates of Hell to him and put one thousand attires and one thousand crowns on him.

فصل (١٤) فيما نذكره من عمل الليلة الثالثة من شعبان

وجدناه مرويا عن النبي صلوات الله عليه وآله قال: ومن صلى في الليلة الثالثة من شعبان ركعتين، يقرأ في كل ركعة فاتحة الكتاب مرة وخمسا وعشرين مرة (قل هو الله احد)، فتح الله له يوم القيامة ثمانية أبواب الجنة وأغلق عنه سبعة أبواب النار وكساه الله ألف حلة وألف تاج.

Section 15 On the Nobility of Fasting Three Days of Sha'ban

The following is narrated on the authority of Abu Ja'far ibn Babuyih in his books Thawab al-A'mal and Al-Amali narrated through a chain of documents on the authority of the Prophet (MGB): “Whoever fasts three days of Sha'ban shall be given seventy raise in ranks of pearls and rubies in Paradise.”

فصل (١٥) فيما نذكره من فضل صوم ثلاثة أيام من شعبان

رويناه باسنادنا إلى أبي جعفر ابن بابويه فيما رواه في كتاب أماليه وكتاب ثواب الأعمال باسناده إلى النبي صلى الله عليه وآله قال: ومن صام ثلاثة أيام من شعبان رفع له سبعون درجة في الجنان من در وياقوت.

¹ The Holy Qur'an: Al-Ikhlās 112:1.

Section 16 Deeds for the Third Day of Sha'ban Being the Birthday of Al-Hussein (MGB)

Beware that the various reports on the birth date of our Master Al-Hussein (MGB) - may the noblest blessings be upon him – are mentioned in Al-Tarif Lilmulid al-Sharif.

In that book we strived to clearly mention the names of the books from which we reported the various narrations. Here, we shall only reportarration in which his birth date is reported to be on the third day of Sha'ban and we will act accordingly.

The following is narrated based on documents on the authority of my grandfather Abi Ja'far al-Tusi who narrated the following regarding Sha'ban on the authority of Al-Qasim ibn al-Al'a al-Hamadaniy, the representative of Imam al-Hassan al-'Askariy (MGB) that our Master al-Hussein (MGB) was born on the third of Sha'ban. Thus, it is recommended that you fast on this day and recite the following supplications:

“O’ my God! I ask You for the sake of the one born on this day, the one promised with martyrdom before the beginning of his life and before his birth, for whom the heavens and all their inhabitants wept; and so did the earth and those living on it before he even stepped on it. He is the mourned for slain; the Master of the Family of Prophethood; the one who shall be backed with victory on the Day of Return; the one awarded for being slain with Divine Leadership to his offspring; and healing in his soil; salvation when he returns; and Trustees from his Progeny (MGB) after the advent of their Riser (MGB)¹ and his occultation to take revenge and retaliate, and please the Compeller Lord, and be the best supporters. May God’s blessings be perpetually upon them with the passage of nights and days. O’ my God! I implore You for their sake – like the imploration of a sinful one who confesses of his guilt, and has done bad to himself, due to his violations – in the past and the present. I ask You for protection from now until death. O’ God! Please Bestow Blessings upon Muhammad and his Progeny (MGB) and resurrect us amongst his group and allow us to dwell with him in the House of Nobility and the Abode of Residence. O’ God! As You have honored us with his recognition, please honor us with being near to him, bless us with his companionship and closeness, include us with those who submit to his orders, and those who often bestow blessings upon him when they mention him, and also upon all his Trustees

¹ Imam Mehdi (MGB)

(MGB) and Chosen Ones (MGB), who are defined by You as twelve persons, being the luminous stars, and the Proofs over all mankind. O' my God! Please grant us on this day the best of grants, and fulfill all our prayers on this day, in the same way that You bestowed Al-Hussein (MGB) to Muhammad (MGB): his grandfather, and in the same way as the angel Futrus sought refuge to him in his (i.e. Al-Hussein) cradle¹. We thus seek refuge with his tomb after his martyrdom, witness his soil, and expect his return. Amen! O' Lord of the worlds!"

فصل (١٦) فيما نذكره من عمل اليوم الثالث من شعبان وولادة الحسين عليه السلام فيه

اعلم اننا كنا ذكرنا في كتاب التعريف للمولد الشريف ماروينا من اختلاف من اختلف في وقت ولادة الحسين عليه أفضل الصلوات، واجتهدنا في تسمية الكتب التي روينا ذلك فيها والروايات، وانما نتبع الآن ما وجدناه من تعيين الولادة بيوم الثالث من شعبان والعمل فيه بحسب الإمكان .

روينا ذلك باسنادنا إلى جدي أبي جعفر الطوسي فقال عند ذكر شعبان : اليوم الثالث منه فيه ولد الحسين بن علي عليهما السلام، خرج إلى القاسم بن العلاء الهمداني وكيل أبي محمد عليه السلام ان مولانا الحسين عليه السلام ولد يوم الخميس لثلاث خلون من شعبان فصم وادع فيه بهذا الدعاء :

اللهم إني أسألك بحق هذا المولود في هذا اليوم الموعود بشهادته قبل استهلاله وولادته، بكته ملائكة السماء ومن فيها والأرض ومن عليها، ولما يطأ لابتيها، قتيل العبرة وسيد الأسرة،

¹ It has been reported on the authority of Abdullah ibn Abbass that on the day when Imam Hussein was born, God ordered Gabriel to descend and congratulate the Holy Prophet on His Behalf and on his own. While descending, Gabriel passed over an island where the angel Futrus had been banished due to his delay in executing a commission assigned by God. He was deprived of his wings and expelled to the island where he remained for several years praying and worshipping God and asking for His forgiveness. When the angel Futrus saw Gabriel, he called out, 'Where are you going, O Gabriel?' Gabriel replied, 'Hussein, the grandson of Muhammad is born, and God has commanded me to convey His congratulations to His Apostle.' Thereupon, the angel Futrus said, 'Can you also carry me along with you since then Muhammad (MGB) might make a recommendation to God on my behalf.' Gabriel took the angel Futrus along with him, came to the Holy Prophet, offered congratulations to him on behalf of God and himself and referred the case of the angel Futrus to him. The Holy Prophet (MGB) told Gabriel, 'Ask the angel Futrus to touch the body of the newly-born child and return to his place in Heaven.' On doing this, the angel regained his wings instantly and ascended towards the Heaven while praising the Holy Prophet and his newly-born grandson.

الممدود بالنصرة يوم الكرة، المعوض من قتله ان الأئمة من نسله، والشفاء في تربته، والفوز معه في أوبته، والأوصياء من عترته بعد قائمهم وغيبته، حتى يدركوا الأوتار، ويثأروا الثار. ويرضوا الجبار ويكونوا خير أنصار، صلى الله عليهم مع اختلاف الليل والنهار. اللهم فبحقهم إليك أتوسل، واسأل سؤال معترف مقترف مسيء إلى نفسه مما فرط في يومه وأمه، يسألك العصمة إلى محل رمسه، اللهم وصل على محمد وعترته واحشرنا في زمرة وبوتنا معه دار الكرامة ومحل الإقامة. اللهم وكما أكرمتنا بمعرفته، فأكرمنا بزلفته، وارزقنا مرافقته وسابقته، واجعلنا ممن يسلم لأمره، ويكثر الصلاة عليه عند ذكره، وعلى جميع أوصيائه وأهل اصطفائه، المعدودين منك بالعدد الاثنى عشر، النجوم الزهر والحجج على جميع البشر. اللهم وهب لنا في هذا اليوم خير موهبة، وانجح لنا فيه كل طلبه، كما وهبت الحسين لمحمد جده وعاذ فطرس بمهده، فنحن عائدون بقبره من بعده نشهد تربته ننتظر اوبته آمين رب العالمين .

Next recite the following supplications of Al-Hussein (MGB) that were the last supplications he (MGB) recited on the day the enemies overcame him (MGB):
 “O’ my God! You are verily the Most Exalted in position, Magnificent in Omnipotence, Mighty in Prowess, Self-Sufficient from the creatures, Ample in Magnificence, Powerful over what You want, Close in Mercy, Truthful in Promise, Opulent in Favors, Good in Trial, Near when called, All-encompassing of what He has created! Acceptor of repentance of those who repent to You! The Powerful to do what He wills, the Taker that takes whatever He demands! You are the Thankful for those who thank You, the Rememberer of those who mention You. I pray You for I need You; and I desire You for I am in need of You; and I resort to You for I am terrified; and I weep before You for I am grief-stricken; and I seek Your help for I am weak; and I rely on You for I trust in none but You. Please make a ruling between our people and us for they have deceived us, disappointed us, betrayed us, and killed us. We are verily the Progeny of Your Prophet (MGB), and the sons of Your beloved one - Muhammad ibn Abdullah (MGB) whom You chose for the Divine Mission and for keeping Your Revelation. Please provide an easy way out of our affairs. By Your Mercy. O’ the Most Compassionate, Most Merciful.”

Ibn Ayyash said: “I heard Al-Hussein ibn Ali ibn Sufyan al-Bazoofari say that Aba Abdullah (MGB) used to say these supplications on this day and say that these are the supplications for the third day of Sha’ban that is the birthday of Al-Hussein (MGB).”