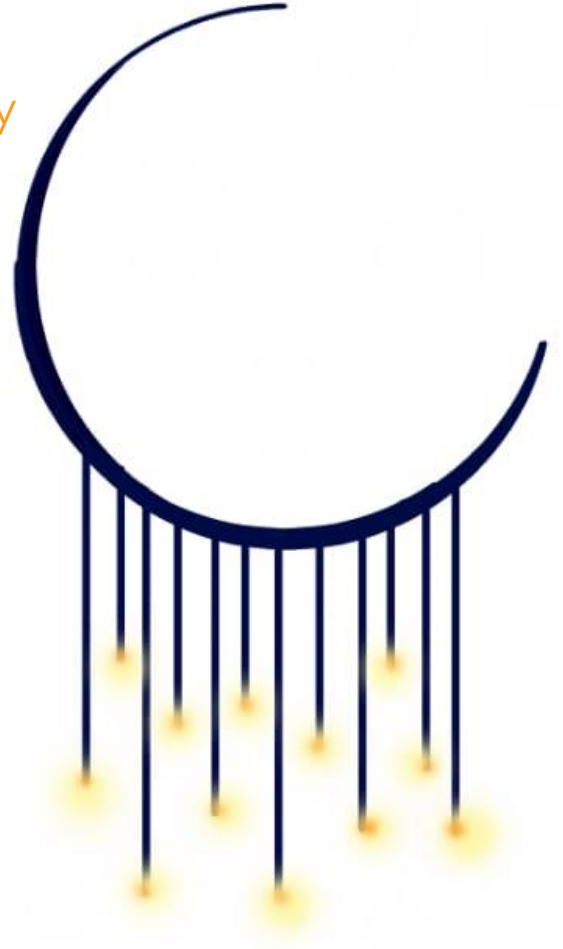




**DARULARQAM**  
Educational & Welfare Association  
أَلَا بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ تَطْمَئِنُّ الْقُلُوبُ  
No doubt, in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find peace

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THE DESCRIPTION OF

# *The Twelve Months of Islam*

EXPLAINED IN A Q&A FORMAT



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*I commence with the Name of Allah - in Whom all excellences are combined and Who is free from all defects.*

*All praise be to Allah who completed the religion for us, perfected the blessing on us and chose Islam as our religion. May the blessings and peace be upon His Messenger, who called upon people to obey his Lord.*

*Dear Readers,*

*The purpose of this e-book is to provide information related to the topic in an easy, summarised and beneficial way.*

*Whatever written of truth and benefit is only due to Allah's assistance and guidance, and error if any, is entirely mine. Allah alone knows Best and He is the only source of strength.*

## INTRODUCTION

Q) How many calendars are used in different parts of the world?

A) About 40 calendars.

Q) Name the months of the Islamic calendar.

A) The 12 months in order are:

-1- Muharram

-7- Rajab

-2- Safar

-8- Shaban

-3- Rabi al Awwal

-9- Ramadan

-4- Rabi at Thani

-10- Shawwal

-5- Jamaadi al Awwal

-11- Dhul Qaada

-6- Jamaadi at Thani

-12- Dhul Hijjah

Q) Who established the Islamic calendar?

A) Omar bin Khattab (R).

Q) When did the Islamic calendar come into existence?

A) The Islamic months were prevalent in the Arabs. The Islamic calendar came into existence in 17 Hijri.

Q) Which event was considered to be the beginning of the Islamic calendar?

A) Hijrah (migration) of Rasool Allah (S) to Madina from Makkah.

Q) Which date corresponds with the start of Hijrah calendar?

A) 16 July, 622 CE = 1 Muharram AH.

Q) A Lunar year consists of how many days?

A) 354 or 355 days.

Q) A Lunar month consists of how many days?

A) 29 or 30 days.

Q) When does a new day start according to Islamic months?

A) After Maghrib.

Q) Which is the only criteria of the start of new month in Islamic calendar?

A) Moon. Months begin when the first crescent of a new moon is sighted.

Q) Based on the witness of how many people, is the sighting of moon considered valid?

A) One. One sound adult, whether male or female.

Q) What is the Du'a for sighting new moon?

اللَّهُمَّ أَهْلُهُ عَلَيْنَا بِالْأَمْنِ وَالْإِيمَانِ ، وَالسَّلَامَةِ وَالْإِسْلَامِ ، وَالتَّوْفِيقِ لِمَا  
تُحِبُّ وَتَرْضَى ، رَبُّنَا وَرَبُّكَ اللَّهُ

Q) How were the Islamic months named?

A) Mostly these months were named on the basis of (1) climatic conditions (2) wars.

Q) What are acts of worship prescribed in the Sunnah for each month?

A) Fasting on 13th, 14th and 15th of each lunar month. [Tirmidhi. 761]

Q) Mention some prominent points regarding the Islamic year.

A) \* Islamic calendar begins with sacrifice (Hijrah of the Prophet and the Muslims to Madina) and ends with sacrifice (Hajj, Hijrah of Hajira).

\* Islamic year begins with a sacred month (Muharram) and ends with a sacred one (Dhul Hijjah)!

Q) Which is the best thing to remind yourself of, at the start of the new Islamic year?

A) The sacrifices made by Muslims 1400 years ago in establishing a new Muslim society in Madina, after leaving Makkah.

Q) What is the ruling regarding wishing Islamic new year?

A) If someone offers you congratulations, then respond to him, but do not initiate such greetings. The Salaf did not regard the first of Muharram as the first day of the new year until the caliphate of Omar bin Khattab (R).

Q) Is there any authentic dua to be read on the start of new Islamic year?

A) No.

Q) Since when is the classification of twelve months?

A) Since the creation of universe.

"Verily, the number of months with Allah is twelve months (in a year), so was it ordained by Allah on the day when He created the heavens and the earth; of them four are sacred. That is the right religion, so wrong not yourselves therein." [Surah Tauba: 36]

Q) In which situations should Muslim follow the calculation of Islamic months?



A) Calculating days of breastfeeding, Iddat, Zakat.

Q) What is the importance of knowing the details of these months?

A) ❤️ Be aware of the wrong practices associated with each month prevalent in society. Be distant from them and educate others regarding it.

❤️ Try to utilise the specified days of blessings by maximising good deeds in them.

❤️ Try to be aware of the Islamic date in your daily lives and dealings.

## SACRED MONTHS

Q) What are the sacred months?

A) Chosen months of Allah. [Surah Baqarah: 194]

During these sacred months, warfare is forbidden. It was prohibited in it to fight, out of respect for the sanctity of these months.

Q) Which are the four sacred months?

A) Dhul Qaada, Dhul Hijjah, Muharram and Rajab. [Sahih Bukhari. 2958]

Q) When was the sanctity of these sacred months established?

A) The sanctity of these months was established long time ago, even before the birth of Rasool Allah (S). The four sacred months were known since the time of Ibrahim (a.s).

The Arabs believed in the sacredness of the holy months. They did not indulge in war or any other crime in these months. They used to wait for the holy months to get over so that they can be free from all sort of restrictions and avail the opportunity to indulge in robbery, theft and war.

Q) What was the main purpose of the sanctity of these months?

A) The main purpose of the sanctity of these months was to ban battles and make the journey of Hajj safe. Hajj is performed in Dhul Hijjah, so this month along with the month before it (Dhul Qaada) and a month after it (Muharram) were sanctified. In addition, the month of Rajab was specified as being sacred, as Arabs performed Umrah in it.

Q) What is allowed in the sacred months?

A) Getting married, hunting, defending oneself if attacked in a war.

Q) What is the magnitude of good and bad deeds in the sacred months?

A) Allah likes the good deeds done in these four sacred months.

Similarly, bad deeds in these months are particularly disliked.

Q) What are the recommended things to do in the sanctified months?

A) ♥ Extra good deeds, extra fasting, extra charity, abstinence from minor sins.

Q) What are the most practical things to do in the sacred months?

A) ♥ Self analysis.

♥ Do not be a source of harm to others; be it physical, mental or emotional.

♥ Rectify your worship of Allah and rectify your dealings with the slaves of Allah.

♥ Revive any neglected Sunnah.

Q) Which Hadith should be constantly remembered in these months?

A) A Momin is one by whose hands and tongue, other is safe. [Sahih Bukhari:10; Sahih Muslim:40]

## MUHARRAM

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Muharram"?

A) Muharram means 'forbidden'. Muharram is so called because it is a sacred month. It was so called to affirm its sanctity, because the Arabs used to change it, making it not sacred one year and making it sacred another year.

Q) What did Rasool Allah (S) say regarding fasting in Muharram?

A) "The best fasts after the fasts of Ramadan are those of the month of Muharram". [Sahih Muslim: 1982]

Q) Mention some of the Biddahs (innovations) associated with the month of Muharram.

- A) 1. Preparing a particular type of meal or drink on the day of Aashoora.
2. Considering it as an evil or unlucky month.
  3. Considering it obligatory to visit the graveyard.
  4. Wearing only a particular colored dress in this month.
  5. Avoiding marriage ceremonies, business startups in the month of Muharram.
  6. Lamentations and mournings.

"He is not from our group who slaps his cheeks, tears his clothes and cries in the manner of the people of Jahiliyyah". [Sahih Bukhari]

Q) What is Aashoora?

A) The fast of 10th Muharram.

Q) What is the significance of fasting on the tenth of Muharram?

A) The minor sins of the previous year shall be forgiven, Insha-Allah.

[Sahih Muslim: 1162]

Q) Did Jews fast on the tenth of Muharram?

A) Yes. Because Musa (a.s) fasted on that day, as Bani Israel got freedom from Firaun.

Q) What did Muhammad (S) say regarding the fasting of Aashoora when he saw Jews fasting on that day?

A) We Muslims shall also fast as we are more closely related to Musa (a.s).

But to be different from the Jews, he ordained us to fast a day before or a day after along with it. That is we should fast on 9th and 10th Muharram OR 10th and 11<sup>th</sup> Muharram. [Sahih Bukhari: 1865]

Q) Is the fast of Aashoora obligatory?

A) After Hijrah, in first Hijri, the fast of Muharram was obligatory and in the second year, it became recommended and Ramadan became obligatory.

Q) What are some of the misconceptions related to the day of Aashoora?

- A) 1. This is the day on which Adam (a.s) was created.
2. This is the day when Allah accepted the repentance of Adam (a.s).
3. This is the day when Ibrahim (a.s) was born.
4. This is the day when Qayamah will take place.
5. Whoever takes a bath on the day of Aashoora will never get ill.
6. Whoever puts kohl in his eyes on the day of Aashoora will not suffer from eye diseases.

Q) Is the sanctity of Aashoora related to the martyrdom of Hussain (R)?

A) The death of Hussain (R) has nothing to do with the sanctity of Muharram. Aashoora was a holy day even before Hussain (R) was martyred!

No doubt the martyrdom of Hussain (R) is one of the most tragic episodes of our history. Yet the sanctity of Aashoora cannot be ascribed to this event for the simple reason that the sanctity of Aashoora was established during the days of Rasool Allah (S) much earlier than the birth of Hussain (R).

Q) Which events took place in Muharram in Islamic history?

A) (1) Drowning of Firaun. [Sahih Muslim: 2658]

(2) Incident of Ashaab-ul-Feel (Event of Elephant). (571 A.D)

(3) Battle of Khaibar. (7 Hijri)

(4) Rasool Allah (S)'s marriage to Safiyah bint Huyai bin Akhtab. (7 Hijri)

(5) Rasool Allah (S)'s marriage to Umm Habiba (Ramla) bint Abu Sufyan. (7 Hijri)

(6) Martyrdom of Hussain bin Ali (R). (10th Muharram 61 Hijri)

## SAFAR

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Safar"?

A) 1] Safar means 'empty' or a house that is empty from items and goods. It also means empty handed. As soon as Muharram (sacred month) used to be over, and Safar began, the Arabs would start committing crimes, theft, robbery, fighting with other tribes, leave their homes vacant and therefore this month was named Safar.



It is also said that it was so called because Makkah was emptied of its inhabitants, when they travelled during this month. It was also suggested that they called it Safar because they used to fight with other tribes during this month.

2] It means 'void'. Supposedly named thus because pre-Islamic Arab houses were empty this time of year while their occupants gathered food. Another account relates that they used to loot the houses of their enemies after defeating them in battle, leaving nothing behind.

3] Safar means 'Yellow'.

4] They would leave whoever they met with 'zero' (sifr) goods.

5] Safar means 'whistling of winds'. This name was given because of the weather condition at that time.

6] Arabs followed the 12 lunar months. Because of which, Hajj came in different seasons (as days are preceded by 11 days each year when following the moon). When Hajj came in extreme climatic conditions, only few people came for the Pilgrimage, which led to their loss of business as well. For this reason, the Arabs added an extra month to the twelve months, every third year, and called it 'Safar'; as Safar meant 'empty', 'void', 'zero'. When this law was applicable, they called "Muharram" as 'Muharram ul Haraam' and the month next to it as 'Muharram ul Halal' (as this month was not haram {sacred}). When

this law was abandoned, the term ‘Muharram ul Halaal was also finished. And the month of Safar was placed after Muharram.

[Probably for this reason of it being the 13th month, it is called ‘the month of terah tezi’].

This act of changing the position of months is called Nasee. [Surah Tauba:37]

Q) Are there any specific acts of worship that are prescribed for the month of Safar?

A) There are no particular practices of this month in the light of Quran and Sunnah. Therefore a person should continue his daily routine practices.

Q) Mention a few Biddahs associated with the month of Safar.

A) 1. Regarding the month of Safar as unlucky or inauspicious.

2. Praying Salaat-ut-Tasbeeh on the last Wednesday of the month of Safar, at the time of Duha prayer.

3. Not holding marriages in this month.

4. Boiling chickpeas and distributing them so that the bad omens are passed on to others.

5. Making 365 balls of flour and throwing them in water so that bad omens, misfortunes are driven away and provision is increased.

6. Reciting Surah Muzammil 313 times.

7. Some believe that no one should be circumcised in the month of Safar.

8. Avoiding travelling in Safar.

9. Not starting a new business in this month.

10. Celebrating the last Wednesday of this month, regarding it as a holiday and praying particular prayer in it.

11. Reciting a specific Du'a.

12. Keeping eggs, oil etc. in the name of "terah tezi".

13. Going on picnics and walking on green grass on the last Wednesday of Safar.

14. Breaking earthen utensils with the belief that these are the targets of evil spirits in the first 13 days of Safar.

Jabir (R) said, "I have heard the Prophet (S) saying, the descending of illness and evil superstition befalling in the month of Safar is untrue."

[Sahih Muslim]

Q) What are some of the misconceptions associated with the month of Safar?

A) 1. Rasool Allah (S) used to weep in the month of Safar.

2. Evil powers land on earth in this month; on kids, young girls and brides.

3. Arabs held the belief that because of this month, they would get diseases.

4. Arabs believed that because of the coming of this month, they would be entangled in difficulties and their finances & livelihood would get affected as well.

5. The month of Safar was regarded as unlucky in the Jahiliyyah period.

6. Calamities befall people on the last Wednesday of the month of Safar.

7. Unlucky happenings such as diseases, curses, evils, loss in business and all misfortunes are related to this month.

8. Considering this month to be "hard" for the dead.

9. Considering the 13th of this month referred to as "terah tezi" as unlucky.

10. Believing that the one who distributes food or gives money in charity on the 13th of this month, will be saved from its bad luck and ill fortune.

Q) What is the truth regarding any number, day, month, colour, place as lucky or unlucky?

A) It falls under the category of Shirk.

Q) What are the other forms of superstitions? Why are they not allowed in Islam?

A) Amulets, horoscopes, zodiac signs, fortune-telling, omens.

They are not allowed because they involve depending on something other than Allah and believing that benefit and harm come from something other than Him.

Q) Which events took place in Safar in Islamic history?

A)(1) Migration of Rasool Allah (S) to Madina. (27th Safar 1 Hijri)

(2) Battle of Abwa. (2 Hijri)

(3) Khalid bin Waleed and Amr bin Al-Aas accepted Islam. (7 Hijri)

(4) Rasool Allah (S) fell sick on his farewell journey to Allah. (29 Safar 11 Hijri)

### RABI AL AWWAL

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Rabi al Awwal"?

A) Rabi al Awwal is so called because they did not travel during that month. (The word 'irtiba'a, derived from the same root means 'not travelling'.

Rabi al Awwal means 'first spring'.

It also means 'to graze', because cattles were grazed during this month.

Q) Which greatest Biddah is celebrated in Rabi al Awwal?

A) Mawlid or the birth of Rasool Allah (S) on 12th Rabi al Awwal.

Q) What wrong practices are done in the name of Eid Milad?

A) Innumerable.

Q) What should one know regarding the celebration of Milad-un-Nabi?

A) 1. Annual celebration is allowed in Islam only on two days, that is Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Adha.

2. A Muslim lives his life according to instructions mentioned in Quran & Sunnah only. No such celebration or instruction is found in the words of Rasool Allah (S) or the actions of His pious Companions (R).

3. The birth of Muhammad (S) is not proved to be on the 12th of Rabi al Awwal from authentic sources.

4. A Muslim is commanded not to imitate other cultures or religions.

5. Celebrating birthdays are not allowed in Islam; be it of any individual or of any Prophet.

6. Love towards the Prophet is shown by following His teachings.

Biddah is an act done to gain Allah's rewards, but is not mentioned in the Islamic teachings and for which there is no evidence in the Qur'an, Rasool-Allah (S)'s life or the actions of the blessed Companions (R).

“Every innovation is going astray, and every going astray will be in the Fire.” [Sahih Muslim: 867]

Q) Which events took place in Rabi al Awwal in Islamic history?

A) (1) Rasool Allah (S)'s birth. (April 571 A.D)

(2) Rasool Allah (S)'s arrival in Quba. (8 Rabi al Awwal, 1 Hijri)



(3) Rasool Allah (S)'s arrival in Madina. (12 Rabi al Awwal, 1 Hijri)

(4) Battle of Banu Nazeer. (4 Hijri)

(5) Rasool Allah (S)'s demise. (12 Rabi al Awwal, 11 Hijri)

(6) Demise of Juveria bint Harith. (50 Hijri)

### RABI AT THANI

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Rabi at Thani"?

A) Rabi at Thani means 'second spring'.

Q) What is Rabi at Thani also known as?

A) Rabi al Aakhir.

Q) Is anything specified in Quran and Sunnah regarding this month?

A) No.

Q) Are there any recommended acts of worship to be done in Rabi at Thani?

A) No. Rasool Allah (S) did things which he did on regular basis.

Q) Mention some of the Biddahs associated with the month of Rabi at Thani.

A) (1) Reciting a certain wazifa 100 times after each Salah.

(2) Keeping 3 fasts (specifically in this month).

(3) Offering 2 units of Nafeel Salah after each prayer.

(4) Celebrating the death anniversary of Sheikh Abdul Qadir Jilani (Ghous-e-Azam) on 11th of this month.

(5) Special meals made and distributed on 11th, to please Sheikh Abdul Qadir Jilani, thinking he will fulfil needs and help in achieving spiritual goals.

(6) Offering Salaat-ul-Asraar or Salaat-ul-Ghousia.

## JAMAADI AL AWWAL

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Jamaadi al Awwal"?

A) It means 'first freezing'.

Jumood means freezing. It was so called because water froze during this month.

It could also mean 'the first of parched land'. It was considered as the pre-Islamic summer.

Q) What is Jamaadi al Awwal also known as?

A) Jamaadi al Oola.

Q) Which events took place in Jamaadi al Awwal in Islamic history?

A) (1) Battle of Mubah. (8 Hijri)

## JAMAADI AT THANI

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Jamaadi at Thani"?

A) Jamaadi at Thani means 'second freezing'.

Q) What is Jamaadi at Thani also known as?

A) Jamaadi al Aakhir or Jamaadi al Ukhra.

## RAJAB

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Rajab"?

A) The name of the word Rajab comes from the word tarjeeb, which means 'veneration' (to respect). It is one of the holy months when fighting is prohibited.

Rajab may also mean 'to remove', because pre-Islamic Arabs would remove the heads of their spears and refrain from fighting.

Q) What is the honour of this month?

A) This is the second sacred month in which fighting is prohibited.

Q) Is there any particular virtue of fasting during Rajab?

A) No specific fasts for this month have been prescribed. The voluntary routine fasts are permissible.

Omar (R) used to forbid fasting in Rajab because it involved resemblance to the Jahiliyyah (pre-Islamic period).

Q) Mention some of the Biddahs associated with the month of Rajab.

A) (1) Increasing worship.

(2) Praying Salaat al-Raghaa'ib on the first night of Rajab.

(3) Offering Salaat Umm Dawood on 15th Rajab.

(4) Celebrating Kunday (table cloth dinner) on 22nd Rajab.

(5) Celebrating Meraj on 27th Rajab.

(6) Performing a sacrifice on 27th. (The Arabs used to slaughter a sacrifice during Rajab as an act of worship towards their idols).

(7) Singling out Rajab for making Umrah and believing that doing Umrah in Rajab has a specific virtue.

(8) Visiting graves specifically in Rajab is biddah, because graves are to be visited at any time of the year.

(9) Reciting certain duas specifically in Rajab.

(10) Celebrating Urs festival or death anniversary of Moinuddin Chishti, founder of Sufism.

Q) Mention famous Ahadith regarding Rajab that are not true or authentic.

A) 1. ❌ 'When Rajab began, Rasool Allah (S) said: "O Allah, bless us in Rajab and Shaban, and let us reach Ramadan"'.  
2. ❌ 'Whoever says in Rajab, "I ask Allah for forgiveness, there is no God but He alone, with no partner or associate, and I repent to Him" one hundred times, and ends it with charity, Allah will decree for him mercy and forgiveness. And whoever says it four hundred times, Allah will decree for him the reward of one hundred martyrs'.

Q) What is the truth of celebrating Shab-e-Meraj on 27th of Rajab?

A) There is no proof that the Isra and Meraj (The miraculous night journey of Rasool Allah (S) from Makkah to Jerusalem, and then to the Heavens) happened on this date. THE DATE, MONTH AND YEAR OF MERAJ IS NOT CONFIRMED FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES.

Q) What is done on this night of innovation?

A) This night is celebrated by: Performing extra acts of worship specifically on this night, fasting during the day, singing & music.

Nothing of this kind has been reported from Rasool Allah (S) or His Companions - (R).

“  
The Messenger of Allah (S) said, "Whoever does a deed that is not a  
part of this matter of ours will be rejected ” . (Sahih Bukhari: 2550)

Q) Which events took place in Rajab in Islamic history?

A) (1) Migration to Ethiopia. (5th year of Prophethood)

(2) Demise of Najashi (King of Ethiopia). (9 Hijri)

(3) Battle of Tabuk. (9 Hijri)

## SHABAN

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Shaban"?

A) 'To spread and distribute' or 'Scattered'.

It was the time of the year when Arab tribes dispersed to find water.

Q) In which month other than Ramadan, did Rasool Allah (S) fast the most?

A) Shaban. According to Ayesha (R), she had not seen Rasool Allah (S) fasting so much in any month than the month of Shaban. [Sahih Bukhari: 1970]

Q) Did Rasool Allah (S) command any Companion to fast in this month?

A) No.

Q) What is Shab-Baraat?

A) Some Muslims celebrate the night of 15th of Shaban and call it Shab-Baraat or Layl-at-ul-Bara, Layl-at-ul-Nasf or Layl-at-ul-Mubaaraka.

Q) Is there any significance of this night?

A) No. It is not known in Sunnah that this night is to be singled out for acts of worship or customs. It is just like any other night.



Q) What are some of the Biddahs associated with this night?

A) (1) Display of fireworks.

(2) Fasting during the day and standing the night in voluntary prayers, considering it the night of forgiveness.

(3) Gathering and staying in Masjid on this night.

(4) Praying Salaat-ul-Alfiyya (praying 100 Rakahs in which Surah Ikhlas is recited 10 times in each Rakah) in congregation.

(5) Praying 6 Rakahs on this night with the intention of warding off calamities, having a long life and being independent of people.

(6) Reciting Surah Yaseen thrice.

(7) Keeping wine, cigarettes and playing cards for deceased relatives!

(8) Distributing sweets or food to people.

Q) What are a few misconceptions regarding this night?

A) (1) Allah descends to the first heaven (specifically) on this night to forgive us.

(2) On this night, the souls of the dead return to their families.

(3) Some Muslims believe that the spirit of the dead comes to them during this night. They cook sweets and distribute to others. Hence, they also call it the Eid of the dead.

(4) Our fate, lifespan and provisions are decreed on this night.

(5) Decisions of life and death are taken on this night.

(6) During this night a heavenly tree on which people's names are written, is shaken, and leaves would fall, symbolising the people who are going to die.

Q) What advise did Rasool Allah (S) give us regarding the month of Shaban?

A) ♥ Prepare yourself for the month of Ramadan, during the month of Shaban.

Q) Mention a few things to follow in the month of Shaban.

A) ♥ Develop a connection with Qur'an in this month to stay connected with it in Ramadan.

♥ Memorize a portion of Quran or revise the memorized part of it.

♥ Be sure to complete the missed obligatory fasts of previous year.

♥ Do not go overboard in the preparation of Ramadan.

Q) Which events took place in Shaban in Islamic history?

A)(1) Change of Qibla. (2 Hijri)

(2) Rasool Allah (S)'s marriage with Hafsa bint Omar. (3 Hijri)

(3) Birth of Hussain bin Ali (R). (4 Hijri)

(4) Battle of Banu Mustaliq. (5 Hijri)

(5) Rasool Allah (S)'s marriage to Juveria bint Harith. (6 Hijri)

(6) Demise of Umm Kulthum bint Muhammad. (9 Hijri)

(7) Demise of Hafsa bint Omar. (45 Hijri)

## RAMADAN

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Ramadan"?

A) The name of Ramadan comes from the word 'ramada', which refers to intense heat or burning heat. Another word from the same root is used to refer to the thirst of camels when they become thirsty. Burning

is related to fasting as in empty stomach one's worldly desires will burn.

Q) Which verse of the Quran says that fasting is compulsory in Ramadan?

A) **Surah Baqarah: 183.**

Q) What are the virtues of Ramadan? How is it distinguished from other months?

A) 1- Quran was revealed in this month.

2- Layl-at-ul-Qadr is in this month.

3- Allah opens the gates of Paradise and closes the gates of Hell, and chains up the devils in this month. **[Sahih Bukhari: 1898]**

4- Umrah in Ramadan is equivalent to Hajj. **[Sahih Bukhari: 1782]**

Q) What does Qadr mean?

A) Qadr means valuable, precious and power. The revelation of Quran during this night made it a night of value and power. Qadr also means destiny.

Q) When is Layl-at-ul Qadr?

A) It is confirmed to be in the last 10 nights of Ramadan. DATE IS NOT SPECIFIED.

Q) What are some of the Biddahs related to this month?

A) 1. Celebrating the 13th, 14th or 15th night of Ramadan as the festival of Qarqee'aan.

2. Gathering in Masaajid in the night of 17th Ramadan (Battle of Badr) to recite Surah Yaseen.

3. Celebrating the night of 27th Ramadan in anticipation of Layl-at-ul-Qadr.

4. Offering Khaza Umri (previously missed obligatory Salahs) on the last Friday of Ramadan.

Q) Mention weak Ahadith (unauthentic) about Ramadan that are very famous.

- A) 1. ❌ 'It is a month whose beginning is mercy, its middle is forgiveness and its end is ransom from the Fire'.
2. ❌ 'The one who does an obligatory action during this month is like the one who does seventy obligatory actions at any other times'.
3. ❌ 'Whoever offers congratulations to people for this blessed month, the Fire will be forbidden for him'.
4. ❌ 'Musa (a.s) asked Allah: 'You have honoured me by speaking to me directly. Will You give anyone else something like this?' Allah replied: 'O Musa, I have slaves whom I will bring forth at the end of time, and I will honour them with the month of Ramadan, and I will be closer to one of them than to you, because you have spoken to Me when there are 70,000 veils between Me and you, but when the Ummah of Muhammad (S) fasts until their lips turn white and their faces turn yellow, I will lift the veil between Me and them at the time they break their fast. O Musa, glad tidings to the one whose liver thirsts and whose stomach hungers in Ramadan.'
5. ❌ 'On the fifteenth of Ramadan, the night before Friday, there will be a tremor that will wake the one who is sleeping, make the one

who is standing sit down, and bring the young girls out of their seclusion & there will be a lot of earthquakes'.

Q) Which events took place in Ramadan in Islamic history?

A) (1) First revelation of Quran. (21 Ramadan, first year of Prophet hood)

(2) Demise of Khadija (R). (tenth year of Prophet hood)

(3) Battle of Badr. (17th Ramadan, 2 Hijri)

(4) Fasting made compulsory. (2 Hijri)

(5) Birth of Hassan bin Ali. (3 Hijri)

(6) Conquest of Makkah. (8 Hijri)

## SHAWWAL

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Shawwal"?

A) 'Raised'. She-camels would normally raise their tails at this time of year. It also means 'to be light and vigorous'.

Q) Which important occasion is on first of Shawwal?

A) Eid-ul-Fitr.

Q) The fasting of which days (after fasting in the month of Ramadan) gives the reward for fasting an entire year?

A) (Any) 6 days in Shawwal.

Q) What are some of the Biddahs related to the month of Shawwal?

A) Performing a sacrifice on 15th Shawwal.

Q) Which events took place in Shawwal in Islamic history?

A) (1) Rasool Allah (S)'s journey to Taif. (27th Shawwal, tenth year of Prophet hood)

(2) Rasool Allah (S)'s marriage to Sauda bint Zamaah. (tenth year of Prophethood)

(3) Rasool Allah (S)'s Nikah with Ayesha bint Abu Bakr. (eleventh year of Prophethood)



(4) Rasool Allah (S)'s consummation of marriage with Ayesha bint Abu Bakr. (1 Hijri)

(5) Establishment of Eid in Shawwal. (2 Hijri)

(6) Battle of Qainqah. (2 Hijri)

(7) Battle of Uhud. (3 Hijri)

(8) Battle of Hamraa-ul-Asad. (16th Shawwal, 3 Hijri)

(9) Rasool Allah (S)'s marriage to Umm Salamah Hind bint Abi Omaiyah. (4 Hijri)

(10) Battle of Hunain. (8 Hijri)

(11) Demise of Ibrahim, son of Muhammad (S). (10 Hijri)

### *DHUL QAADA*

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Dhul Qaada"?

A) Dhul Qaada is derived from the word 'qu'ood' (rest) as during this month they would rest from fighting, warfare and travelling.

Q) Is Dhul Qaada among the sacred months?

A) Yes. It is a holy month during which war is banned.

Q) Which events took place in Dhul Qaada in Islamic history?

A) (1) Battle of Hudaibiya. (1st Dhul Qaada, 6 Hijri)

(2) Rasool Allah (S)'s marriage to Zainab bint Jahsh. (5 Hijri)

(3) Battle of Trench. (5 Hijri)

(4) Battle of Banu Quraiza. (23rd Dhul Qaada, 5 Hijri)

(5) Rasool Allah (S)'s marriage to Maimoona bint Haarith. (7 Hijri)

## *DHUL HIJJAH*

Q) What is the meaning of the word "Dhul Hijjah"?

A) It was so called because Hajj was performed in this month.

Q) Which are the best ten days of the year?

A) The first ten days of Dhul Hijjah are referred to as the best ten days of the year.

Q) What are the recommended days of fasting in this month?

A) Days 1 to 9 of Dhul Hijjah (not necessarily all).

Q) Which day's of fasting will forgive previous year's sins and the coming year's sins?

A) 9th Dhul Hijjah -- Yawm al Arafah.

Q) What are the recommended things to do in the first 9 days of Dhul Hijjah?

A) ❤️ The following deeds are recommended to do:

Increasing recitation of Quran.

Enhancing obligatory acts of worship.

Increasing voluntary worship.

Increasing Dhikr and Salawat.

Repenting.

More charity.

Fasting.

Honouring one's parents.

Upholding the ties of kinship.

Offering a sacrifice on Eid.

Enjoining what is good and forbidding what is evil.

Q) What are the specific words of Allah's remembrance in the first ten days of this month as prescribed in Sunnah?

A) Tahmeed: Alhamdulillah (All Praise be to Allah).

Tahleel: La ilaha illa-llah (There is no God worthy of worship but Allah)

Tasbeeh: Subhan Allah (Glory be to Allah).

Takbeer: Allahu akbar, Allahu akbar, La ilaha illa-llah, Allahu akbar, wa lillahil hamd (Allah is most Great, Allah is most Great, there is no God worthy of worship but Allah, Allah is most Great and to Allah be Praise).

Q) Can one fast on the tenth of Dhul Hijjah -- Eid ul Adha?

A) No. It is haraam to fast on the day of Eid and the three days that follow (Ayyam-e-Tashreeq).

Q) How do we know about the importance of the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah?

A) Allah swears an oath by them, and swearing an oath by something is indicative of its importance and great benefit. Allah says, "By the dawn, by the ten nights". [Surah Fajr: 1-2]

Ibn Abbas reported that the Prophet (S) said: "There are no days in which righteous deeds are more beloved to Allah than these ten days". The people asked, "not even Jihad for the sake of Allah"? He (S) said: "not even Jihad for the sake of Allah, except in the case of a man who went out to fight giving himself and his wealth up for the cause and came back with nothing". [Sahih Bukhari: 2/457]

Q) What are the dates of performance of Hajj rites?

A) Days 8 to 13 of Dhul Hijjah.

Q) What are the names of these days?

A) 8 Dhul Hijjah --> Yawm al-Tarwiyah

9 Dhul Hijjah --> Yawm al-Arafah

10 Dhul Hijjah --> Yawm an-Nahr

11, 12, 13 Dhul Hijjah --> Ayyam-e-Tashreeq

Q) What should a person offering a sacrifice refrain from?

A) The Sunnah indicates that the one who wants to offer a sacrifice must stop cutting his hair and nails and removing anything from his skin, from the sighting of this month's moon until he has offered his sacrifice.

Q) Which events took place in Dhul Hijjah in Islamic history?

A) (1) Reversion of Hamzah bin Abdul Muttalib. (sixth year of Prophethood)

(2) Reversion of Omar bin Khattab. (sixth year of Prophethood)

(3) Second Aqabah Pledge. (thirteenth year of Prophethood)

(4) Umrah-tul-Qada of Rasool Allah (S). (4th Dhul Hijjah, 7 Hijri)

Q) Mention a few similarities between Ramadan and Dhul Hijjah.

A) 1\* The best nights of the year are in the month of Ramadan.

The best days of the year are in the month of Dhul Hijjah.

2\* The Islamic teachings started in the month of Ramadan in the form of revelation of Quran.

The completion of Deen was in the last Dhul Hijjah of Rasool Allah (S)'s life. [Surah Maida: 3]

3\* Eid-ul-Fitr is after the fasts of Ramadan.

Eid-ul-Adha is after the (voluntary) fasts of Dhul Hijjah.

4\* Looking after the lesser privileged people of society.

In Ramadan - Fitra

In Dhul Hijjah - Meat of the sacrificed animal.

5\* Both these months are chances of earning bonus rewards.



○ The events mentioned are taken from the book “The Sealed Nectar”.

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