

Dua al Kumail of Amir al Mumineen, Ali ibn Abi Talib, & its Significance

By: Qazi Dr. Shaikh Abbas Borhany

PhD (USA), NDI, Shahadat al Aalamiyah (Al Hawzah, Najaf, Iraq), M.A, LLM (Shariah)

Mushir: Fed. Shariat Court of Pakistan

Member, Ulama Council of Pakistan

The Writer is Attorney at Law & Religious Scholar

Email: qazishkborhany@hotmail.com

Website: www.durrenajaf.com

Follow us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/fatemistudies>

Subscription for Updates: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/durrenajaf/>

To solve your problems: <https://najafspiritualcenter.wordpress.com/>

Published in 'Daily News', Pakistan on 29-07-2009

This article is dedicated to my parents who gave me Talim. May Allah grant them Ajar Azeem by the Wasilah of Ali Amir al Mumineen(as), Aameen

Revised: 15 – 05 – 2016

1). 15th Night of Shab'an – an opportunity to change destiny:

'Tabari' has mentioned the following Ayah, which appeared on 15th day of Shab'an, when Rasulallah(S) was offering Salaat al Zuhur: [1]

Transliteration: "Qad Nara Taqalluba Wajhika Feel Sama-i Falanuwal'liyannaka Qiblatan Tardaha Fawalli Wajhaka Shatral Masjidil Harami Wa Haythu ma Kuntum Fawalloo Wujoohakum Shatrah...."

"Verily, we see the turning of your face to heaven, so we shall turn you to a Qiblah which you will like. So turn your face towards Masjid al Har'am; and wherever you are, turn your face towards it".

Direction of the Qiblah was changed in-between the Salaat from Bait ul Maqdis to Kabah. [2] Rasulallah(S) conferred Nass upon Amir al Mumineen on the auspicious night of 15th Shab'an and declared Ali to be 'Qiblah al Ruhani of Mumineen' like himself. It is noteworthy to discuss that Ghadeer al Khum is not the sole place where Nass upon Ali was announced. Everyday Rasulallah(S) discussed the merits of Ali in a manner which indicated that Ali was his successor. The 15th night divides the month of Shab'an in to two equal parts just as Shariah is divided in to two different parts, Tanzeel and Taweel. Rasulallah(S) is the interpreter of Tanzeel while his Wasi, Ali ibn Abi Talib, is an exponent of Taweel. Resemblance of the Nabi and his Wasi is like *"Noorun Ala Noor"* – Light upon Light. Remember, this Marefah is the key to change fortune.

9th Al Dai al Fatemi, Syedna Ali bin Syedna Husain (d. 682[A.H], Sanaa, Yemen) has written "Risalah al Kamilah Fee Salasah Layalil Fazilah" on the importance of three nights in Islam. He divided this Risalah in to three chapters in which he dealt with esoteric importance of these three important nights:

i). 27th night of Rajab,

ii). 14th night of Shab'an

iii). 23rd night of Ramazan - Lailat al Qadr

This Risalah also explains the concept of special Nawafil Salaat offered on these occasions. The learned Dai of Yemen discussed the enigmatic Tafsir of Ayah 144, Surah al Baqarah(2) in

regard to 15th Night of Shab'an, which opens intellectual vistas for those wishing to dive into the deep ocean of 'ilm al Ruhani. [3]

A Dua, exclusive for 15th night of Shab'an, draws our attention to deeply consider its wordings. The learned compiler of the Dua says: [4]

"Ilahee In Kunta Katabtani Fee Ummul Kitabay Indaka Shaqiyan Faqiran Faamhu Anni Ismal Faqray Wal Shaqawatay Wa Asbitnee Indaka Saeedan Ghaniya, Wa In Kunta Katabtani Fee Ummul Kitabay Indaka Mahruman Muqataran Aleya Rizqee Faamhu Anni Hirmani Wa Taqtira Rizqee"

(O Allah! If you have mentioned my name in Ummul Kitaab as an unfortunate, then remove it. If I am unlucky, fix my name in your record as prosperous, happy and independent. And if you have mentioned my name in Ummul Kitaab as one who's Rizaq has shrunk, then increase my Rizaq).

Qur'an says: [5]

"Allah will remove what He wishes and continue and He has Ummul Kitaab".

2). Only the unfortunate can ignore the Night of 15th of Shab'an:

Hadith Literature provides guidance to those who refuse to realize the importance of this great night and offers an opportunity to repent on their Jahalat. A narration from one of the wives of Rasulallah(S) is as follows: [6]

"One night of the 15th of Shab'an, I did not find Rasulallah(S) in the house so I went in search of him. After a long search, I found him in Jannat al Baqi (the burial place of the dignitaries of Islam in Madinah, whose shrines and graves have been destroyed by the current regime), busy in Dua for the deceased and praying for their forgiveness".

Number of Ash'ab transmitted following Hadith: [7]

"Allah looks upon His creation on the middle of the night of Sha'ban, and He forgives all of His creations, except for a Mushrik or a quarreler."

Rasulallah(S) said: [8]

"During the Night of 15th Shab'an, Allah takes decisions in the matters of sustenance, life and death as well as welfare of people".

After "Lailat al Qadr", the night of 15th Shab'an is the most auspicious night. According to Abi Jafar al Imam Mohammad al Baqir and Abi Abdillah al Imam Jafar Assadiq, Allah has promised to fulfill every legitimate desire that will be submitted to Him on this night. [9] On this night Allah bestows upon His creation His bounty and forgives them with His grace and generosity. Spend this night in ibadah and encourage your dear ones to get closer to Allah through Dua. There are a few chosen nights when Allah opens the doors of Barakah and Rahmah for humankind; the night of 15th Shab'an is one of them when Dua is granted.

3). Injunction of the Qur'an Regarding 15th Night of Shab'an:

Prior to the discussion of Dua al Kumail, introduction of Syedi Kumail is essential. [10] Syedi Kumail bin Ziyad bin Nahid bin Haysam bin S'ad bin Malik bin Nakhai, born in 18 (A.H), was the head of his tribe in Kufah, Iraq. He was a Muttaqi and a reliable Reporter of Hadith. He was also

a true friend and learned pupil of Amir al Mumineen Ali ibn Abi Talib. A person of exemplary nature, he refined himself to the highest degree by following Rasulullah(S). Nabavi Tarbiyah and Alavi Talim made him shine like a lustrous Ruby. Moreover, became the Governor of Heet, Iraq, during the time of Ali, in the year 35-40 (A.H.). Amir al Mumineen also taught him the general characteristics of a Muslim ruler, besides the Ruhani 'ilm.

Amir al Mumineen Ali Ibn Abi Talib taught Syedi Kumail Ibn Ziyad al Nakhaee Dua al Khizar, which later became famous as Dua al Kumail and he became the source of transmission of this great Dua. Shaikh Abu Jafar Mohammad ibn Hasan al Tusi has recorded in his famous book, 'Misbah al Mutahjijid': Syedi Kumail narrates that one night Ash'ab of Ali gathered at Masjid al Basrah. When one of the Ashaab asked Ali, O Amir al Mumineen, explain to us the meaning of the Ayah: [11]

"Feeha Yufraqu Kullu Amrin Hakim" (On that night all divine instructions are given).

Ali explained that it is the night of 15th Shab'an on which plans are prepared for the entire year. Wallah! A Mumin who performs Ibadah and recites Dua al Khizar is blessed with Barakah.

Ash'ab of Ali then returned to their homes, but Syedi Kumail knocked at the door of Ali. Without asking who was on the door, Ali said: [12]

"Kumail! What brings you at this late hour of the night?"

Kumail replied:

"O Amir al Mumineen! I have come to learn Dua al Khizar".

Being the sole trustee of 'ilm al Nabi, Ali ibn Abi Talib bestowed tidings to Kumail: [13]

"May Allah protect you from the evils of enemies and the plots contrived by impostors. O' Kumail! In consideration of your companionship and understanding, I grant you the honor of entrusting this Dua to you".

This Dua should be recited every Lailat al Jumuah (night between Thursday & Friday). If this is not possible then recite it once a month, on any Jumuah night. If not possible, recite it on the night of 15th Shab'an; if even that is not possible then at least recite it once in a lifetime. Amir al Mumineen Ali said: [14]

"Whosoever stays up in Ibadah on the night of 15th Shab'an and recites Dua al Khizar, undoubtedly, that person's Haj'at will be granted by Allah".

To seek fulfillment of legitimate desires, recite it after Farz Salaat, until the desire is fulfilled. It guarantees safety from the intrigues of enemies, multiplies means of livelihood, and helps in sins being forgiven."

Furthermore, reciting this Dua with conviction awakens human soul and will invoke Rehman of Allah. This Dua is available in "Al Sahifah al Alaviyah" which is read around the world and people benefit according to their belief and level of understanding. [15] Syedi Kumail spent 18 long years under the Noorani Nabavi umbrella of Rasulullah(S). He was blessed with Shahadah, as predicted by Amir al Mumineen Ali. When the tyrant Hajjaj was appointed governor of Iraq, he searched for Kumail, whose only crime was his devotion to Ali ibn Abi Talib and Ahl al Bait. Kumail went into seclusion, but when he learnt that Hajjaj had made life difficult for his family and relatives and banned their food, he came out of seclusion. It was below his dignity that his

relatives suffer because of him. He appeared before Hajjaj Saqafi who threatened to kill him for his support of Ahl al Bait. Syedi Kumail replied: [16]

"Do whatever you wish; my Master (Amir al Mumineen Ali) has already informed me that you will be my killer. Soon we both will appear in the court of Allah".

Hajjaj Saqafi instructed the executioner to cut off his head. Kumail was ninety years old at the time of his execution. His Shrine is located in Suya, in between Najaf and Kufa (Iraq).

4). Aamaal of 15th Night of Shab'an:

Give Sadaqah in the name of Allah. It is recommended to give Sadaqah in Shaban even if amounts to half a date. Giving Sadaqah in this month keeps one away from Jahannam. In this respect, it has been narrated that when Imam Sadiq was asked about the merits of observing Sawm in Rajab, he questioned: [17]

"Why do you not ask about the merits of observing Sawm in Shab'an?"

The narrator asked: "What is the reward for one who observes Sawm on one day in Shab'an, O son of Rasulallah(S)?" The Imam replied: [18]

"The reward will be Jannah, Wallah."

The narrator then asked again: "What are the best deeds that should be done in Shab'an?"

The Imam answered: [19]

"Giving Sadaqah and seeking Istaghfar are the best Aamaal in Shab'an. Verily, if anyone of you gives Sadaqah in Shab'an, Allah will breed that Sadaqah in the very same way as you breed your small camels. Therefore, this Sadaqah will be as huge as Mount Uhud on the day of Qayamah."

5). Divine Instructions of Dua:

For better understanding the divine strategy of Dua, it is necessary to know that when the Creator speaks to the creation it is known as Wahi, and when the created speaks to the Creator, it is called Dua. It is a universal remedy which has a miraculous power of healing from the Rahman as a gift of Rehmah. The word "Dua" is derived from the word "D'aa", which means in Arabi language to call Allah. This call is very essential in order to achieve proximity to Allah. When all doors of world are closed, Dua is the only hope. The faith of Jews and Christians regarding Dua is totally repugnant to Islam. The Jews have presented the Creator as an embodiment of terror, where scope of Rehmah and Maghfirah is very narrow, while Christians have enlarged the elements of Rehmah and Maghfirah to such an extent that they have become ignorant of the outcome of their deeds and rewards. However, Islam provides a balanced ideology between these two extremes and beautifully maintains the concept of justice along with Rehmah and Maghfirah. How aptly an intellectual has explained: "There is only one key to happiness and that is Dua". Only the unfortunate do not believe in Dua. The punishment and torture of Jahannam are ordained in the Qur'an for the one who does not offer Dua. Qur'an says: [20]

"Your Lord says: Call to Me, I will answer you. Verily those who are too arrogant to offer Ibadah, due to pride, shall enter the Jahannam soon and be disgraced".

Imam Ali Zain al Abideen explained the meaning of the above Ayah: 'Ibadah' here as Dua, because Dua is a faculty of Ibadah, which is not only the request for a purpose but also an expression of submission with devotion. It is an appeal of Rahmah, Maghfirah, Naimah and Naj'at. It is Hamd of the Creator, which is Sunnah of Anbiya and a teaching of Ahl al Bait. Dua in

assembly is highly recommended. Dua is always granted when it is offered with tears, devotion and repentance. If one offers Dua with devotion for 40 days continuously, Allah will answer, in sha Allah. The motivation of 40-days long Ibadah is derived from the following Hadith: [21]

"Whoever offers Ibadah sincerely for forty (40) days; Allah opens his heart, expands his chest and loosens his tongue to speak with wisdom even though he may be very weak in speaking and understanding".

Another Hadith says: [22]

"When forty persons collectively offer Dua for one cause, at one place, Allah grants it, even if they offer Dua for a difficult matter; even mountains move from their site".

A tradition transmitted from Imam Sadiq: [23]

"When forty (40) people jointly offer Dua for one cause, before they separate their Dua gets the honor of acceptance".

Essa (as) was instructed through the Wahi: [24]

"O Essa! Be closer to the congregation of Mumineen and order them to offer Dua with you".

Imam Jafar Assadiq (d.148 A.H/765 A.H, Jannat al Baqi-Madinah) narrates that when my father Imam Baqir faced problems, he gathered women and children of the family and performed Dua and all of them loudly recited A'ameen. The word of A'ameen is usually recited after submitting an appeal which means O Allah! Be the witness. Syedna Salman al Farsi (d.33 A.H/653 A.D., Madayn-Iraq) explained that it is a compound sentence created with a verb and noun which means that O Allah, fulfill my needs. Musa (as) (13th Century BCE) sent Lanah on Firoon and his supporters. He offered Dua: O Allah! Crush them and make their hearts fearful. Subsequently Harun(as) (13th Century BCE) recited A'ameen. It is also said that A'ameen in Hebrew is said as Aam'an. It also points towards the acceptance of agreement, similarly said at the end of any agreement for its acceptance. This is the sentence of proof and witness for any Dua. Based on the above meaning it is mentioned in "Mazamir", "Save us O our Lord! Attach all nations with peace so that we should approach you, and feel proud to offer you Sajud. [25]

6). Dua al Kumail: Nucleus of 'Sahifah Alaviyyah':

*"Dua al Kumail" is a peerless precious gem available in "Al Sahifah al Alaviyyah". Every sentence of it renders the reader spellbound. It is believed to be the nucleus of "Al Sahifah al Alaviyyah". Awliya have composed numerous Ady'at, with the help of a single sentence available in Dua al Kumail. Every single sentence is used as Amal for numerous matters. An excellent Dua of the learned writer of "Al Shamus al Zahirah", 3rd al Dai al Fatemi, Syedna Hatim Mohiyuddin(d.596 A.H/1199 A.D, al Hutaib, Yemen) is an evidence. He composed one Dua in the fort of Al Hutaib, Hir'az, Yaman, in such a literary manner that he used half a part of the first opening sentence of Dua al Kumail *"Allah'humma Inni Asaluka"* as beginning of his Dua and the remaining half as a closing. [26]*

7). Amal of Dua al Kumail:

Dua al Kumail provides solace here and in the hereafter. It gives increment in Rizaq for the body and soul. It protects from the Evil Eye and shields from evil sciences such as Black Magic. It becomes armor for the enemies. In short, it is a cure for all pains, and a solution for all kinds of problems. Dua al Kumail, if recited with conviction provides protection from misery, averts

calamity, fulfills wishes, begs forgiveness of sins and is a source of Naj'aat. Awliya suggested specific sentences of this Dua to be recited a particular number of times for the attainment of various purposes. Whenever in trouble, make Wuzu and prepare yourself for Ibadah. Apply Attar and burn Oud, Bukhur, Luban. Then offer two Rak'at Salaat al Hajat, recite Salawaat eleven times in beginning and at the end of Dua al Kumail. Recite Dua al Kumail with Tazarru. In sha Allah, each legitimate desire will be fulfilled by Allah. Do this act in darkness of the night, under an open sky and in isolation. [27]

The goal of Dua al Kumail is not confined to create Noor in the hearts of those who recite it with full dedication but its aims are magnificent. It seeks Noorani help; in other words, Ta'ed to advance materially, spiritually and intellectually. Turn your face towards the Qiblah and recite with tears. A Dua offered with tears is very dear to Allah. Deeply consider wordings of Amir al Mumineen Ali ibn Abi Talib when he says: [28]

“Ah - the Provision is meager - in quantity- and the journey is long, after departure (death)”

8). Firework: An Act of Shait'an:

Fireworks and the use of firecrackers are *Israf* and *Tabzir* in the lexicon of Qur'an, which is an act of Shait'an. Muslim parents have a great responsibility to refrain their children who are unaware of the teachings of Shariah. Muslim Intelligentsia is bound to ask others to refrain from these evil acts and not invite curse.

9). Concluding Remarks:

Finally, I conclude this discussion on a few verses of the *Manqabat*, written by 51st Al Dai al Fatemi, Syedna Taher Saifuddin, as “*Khit'amah-ul-Misk*”- seal of fragrance: [30]

Salaamu Aalaisyka Amir'al Arabe;

Amin'al ilahe Munil'al Arabe

O Amir al Arab! O Trustee of Allah! O distributor of wishes-on behalf of Allah, upon you Salaam

Shahidtu Banneka Qumtu Beamaril

'ilahe wa Adayytu Ma Qad Wajabe

I testify that you had enforced Laws of Allah and performed obligatory responsibility which was assigned to you.

Select Bibliography:

[1]. Ayah 144 of Surah Al Baqarah

[2]. Changed of the direction of the Qiblah in-between the Salaat from Bait al Maqdis to Kabah.

[3]. “*Risalah al Kamilah Fee Salasah Layalil Fazilah*”, by: 9th Al Dai al Fatemi, Syedna Ali bin Syedna Husain (d. 682[A.H], Sanaa, Yemen, manuscript

[4]. Dua of 15th night of Shab'an, by: Abi Abdillah Imam Jafar Assadiq

[5]. Surah Raad-13, Ayah 39

[6]. Hadith, Baihaqi

[7]. Hadith

[8]. Hadith

[9]. Imami Traditions

[10]. Syedi Kumail bin Ziyad

- [11]. Surat al Dukh'an, Ayah 4
- [12]. Kalaam Amir al Mumineen
- [13]. Tidings of Ali to Kumail
- [14]. 1-“Lub al Lubab”; 2- Bih'ar al Anw'ar, vol.53, p.326).
- [15]. “Al Sahifah al Alaviyah”
- [16]. Hajaj Saqafi Maloon killed thousands of the devotees of Ahl al Bait mercilessly
- [17]. Imami Taradition
- [18]. Imami Tradition
- [19]. Imami Tradition
- [20]. Surah al Mumin, Ayah 60
- [21]. 1-“Lub al Lubab”; 2- Bih'ar al Anw'ar, vol.53, p.326
- [22]. 1-“Mustadrak al Wasail”, vol.5, p.239; 2-“Jamey Ahadith al Shia”, vol. 19, p.354
- [23]. “Al Kafi”, vol. 2, p.487
- [24]. Hadith-e-Qudsi
- [25]. Kit'ab al Zinat, Syedna Abi Hatim al Razi, Hujjat al Jazirah of Ray, Head of the Dawah mission and responsible to promote the faith of Islam in that region, during the era of 11th Fatemi Imam Abdullah al Mahdi [d.322/934, Mahdiyah, Tunisia], manuscript
- [26]. “Shareh Sahifah Alaviyyah”, manuscript
- [27]. As Sahifah al Yemeniyyah, written
- [28]. Nahj al Balaghah
- [29]. Bidat of Fireworks and the use of firecrackers is common amongst Muslims of Indo-Pak Subcontinent.
- [30]. Manqabat, “Diw'an”, written by 51st Al Dai al Fatemi, Syedna Taher Saifuddin, Published in Dubai

This document may be used, only with this copyright notice included. Permission is granted to circulate among private individuals and groups, to post on internet forums, and include in not-for-profit publications subject to the following conditions: (1) Material used must be produced faithfully in full, without alteration or omission; (2) The author's subject title must remain unchanged, in whole or in part; (3) Material must be attributed to the author. Contact the author for all other rights, which are reserved. Copyright © 2016 Qazi Dr. Shaikh Abbas Borhany