

THE RAMADHĀN OF OUR PIOUS PREDECESSORS

“The month of Ramadhān is the month in which the Qur’ān was revealed as a guidance for Mankind, the verses of which are full of clear proofs for guidance, and which distinguish (between truth and falsehood) ...” (Qur’ān Karīm, 2/185)

It was the practice of Nabi Sallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam and our pious predecessors to exert themselves in the worship of Allāh Ta’ālā during Ramadhān. Ramadhān is a time wherein we should place our attention solely on Allāh Ta’ālā. He has granted us this amazing month, wherein the reward of every action is multiplied beyond our imagination. How fortunate is the one who takes advantage of this great favour by increasing in his Tilāwah of the Qur’ān Karīm, Salāh, Zikr, charity, and other good deeds!

We should take inspiration from how our pious predecessors spent their Ramadhān. Take a few recent examples:

Hāji Imdādullāh Rahimahullāh never slept on most nights during the blessed month of Ramadhān. He would spend his night standing behind Huffāz in Salāh.

Shakhul-Hind Hazrat Moulana Mahmūdul Hasan Deobandi Rahimahullāh would recite the Qur’ān in Nafl Salāh from after Tarāwīh until Fajr Salāh!

The daughters of Sheikhu Hadith Moulana Zakariyya Rahimahullāh would, despite their domestic responsibilities, recite 15 or 16 Paras (Juz) daily. His grandmother would recite 40 Paras (Juz) a day.

The friends of Moulana Zakariyya Rahimahullāh would complain of being unable to meet him for even a few minutes during the month of Ramadhān. This was due to his preoccupation with the worship of Allāh.

Moulana Khalīl Ahmad Sahāranpūri would, in his advanced age, stand in Tarāwīh for 3 hours. He would sleep for 2 or 3 hours, then perform Tahajjud until Sehri (i.e. half an hour before Fajr). After Fajr, he would meditate until Ishrāq, after which he would work on his commentary of Abū Dāwūd. He would recite the Qur’ān between Zuhr and ‘Asr and engage himself in Zikr and meet people for a few minutes between ‘Asr and Maghrib. After Iftār, he would again recite 1 and a quarter Juz’ of the Qur’ān in Nafl Salāh.

If these relatively recent pious persons could spend their Ramadhān so productively, what stops us from at least trying to emulate them? May Allāh Ta’ālā grant us the ability. Āmīn

