
Menstruating woman and her worship during the Night of Decree

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Article taken and slightly adapted from: shaikhalbaani.wordpress.com

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Sukainah, the daughter of Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)¹ said, “I asked my father (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) ‘How does the female who has the excuse accorded to her by the Sharee’ah [i.e., menses] perform worship on the Night of Decree?’

So he answered me, saying, ‘By supplicating, remembering Allaah [dhikr] and reciting the Qur’aan, and there is no problem in her doing that. And I think that you are sure about the fact that it is not disliked for the menstruating woman to recite the Qur’aan. So this is the way out from one angle.

And from another, it is fitting for the Muslim in such circumstances, whether he is male or female, to emulate the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)² who said, ‘**Seize the benefit of five before five: your youth before you become old, and your health before you become ill ...**’³ For what reason [did he say this?] Because in Saheeh al-Bukhaaree it has been reported that, ‘**When a slave [a believer] falls ill or travels, then he will get written to his accounts [the reward] similar to that which he used to get for his good deeds practised at home and in good health [as if he is doing them on his journey and in illness].**’⁴

So it is upon such a woman to seize the opportunity of benefitting from her time when she is clean and is able to stand during the last ten nights, or at least the odd nights, or at the very least the day or night of the twenty-seventh.

For indeed when Allaah (عز وجل)⁵ knows that His female servant used to do that when she was able to stand in prayer then suddenly comes into a state where she is excused, He records for her what used to be written for her when she was in a state of purity.

This is a very important point. Its fruits are that the Muslim should strive as was just explained: that he should always spend his time in obedience as much as he is able to. Such that when his obedience increases and the worship then passes him by [due to him becoming ill or travelling, the reward] is still written for him even if he is not able to actually perform it.’’⁶

¹ (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah have mercy on him

² (صلى الله عليه وسلم) May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him

³ Saheeh at-Targheed wat-Tarheeb, no. 3355

⁴ Saheeh Bukhaaree no. 2996

⁵ (عز وجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Mighty and Majestic is He

⁶ Original article taken from her blog: <http://tamammannah.blogspot.com>