

# Make the Most of Winter

Shaykhul-Ḥadīth, Ḥaḍrat Mawlānā  
Muhammad Saleem Dhorat ḥafīzahullāh

In winter, the nights are long and the days are short. This is a great blessing from Allāh ﷻ which we should take full benefit from. Due to the long nights, one can have a good night's sleep and still have the opportunity of performing Tahajjud Ṣalāh. And as the days are short and the heat less, fasting also becomes relatively easy. Therefore, in winter, one should try to perform Tahajjud and also fast, especially the residents of countries which are cold in climate. Sayyidunā ‘Abdullāh Ibn ‘Umar رضى الله عنه would say upon the commencement of winter:

طَالَ اللَّيْلُ لِصَلَاتِكُمْ وَقَصُرَ النَّهَارُ لِصِيَامِكُمْ فَاغْتِنِمُوا

(كتاب التهجد وقيام الليل لابن أبي الدنيا)

*The night has become long for your Tahajjud Ṣalāh and the day has become short for your fast, so take full benefit from this.*

Those who have qaḍā (missed) fasts should value these days and absolve themselves from their obligation. And those who do not have any qaḍā fasts should try to fast the way Sayyidunā Dāwūd عليه السلام used to fast; fasting a day and leaving the next. Our beloved Nabī ﷺ states:

أَحَبُّ الصَّيَامِ إِلَى اللَّهِ صِيَامُ دَاوُدَ، كَانَ يَصُومُ يَوْمًا وَيُفْطِرُ يَوْمًا (البخاري)

*The most beloved fasts in the sight of Allāh are the fasts of Dāwūd. He used to fast a day and leave a day. (Al-Bukhārī)*

If this is not in one's capability, then at the least, one should endeavour to fast on Monday and Thursday, and on the Ayyām-ul-Bīḍ (the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of every Islamic Month).

May Allāh ﷻ grant us the ability to act upon these points. Āmīn.

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