

# Virtues of *Shawal al-Mukarram*

Ḥaḍrat Abu Ayyub Ansari رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ has narrated the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ saying: “The one who fasts for the month of Ramadan and then six voluntary fasts in Shawal will be regarded as though he /she fasted perpetually.– (Muslim, Abu Da’ud)

Ḥaḍrat Anas رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ has narrated the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ saying: “The man who prays eight *Raka’ats* during the night or day of *Shawal*, reciting *Surah al-Fatiha* once and *Surah al-Ikhlās* fifteen times in each followed by, after the prayer, recitation of *Subhan-Allāh* seventy times and salutations on the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ seventy times. I swear by the *Dhat*, Who has granted me this true *Dīn*, that whoever offers this prayer would have Allāh the Almighty opening the fountains of wisdom in his heart with which He makes his tongue flow. He shows him the worldly ailment and its cure. I swear by the *Dhat* Who has granted the true *Dīn* that he who performs this prayer would be forgiven and in case of death would die as a martyr. Should he perform it during a journey, his ordeals (of travelling) and reaching the destination will be made easy. If the worshipper is a debtor, Allāh the Almighty will pay it off. If he is in need, Allāh the Almighty would fulfill his need. I swear by the *Dhat* Who has granted me the true Faith that Allāh the Almighty grants him for each word a *makhrafa*.” When beseeched: “What is a *makhrafa*?” The Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ replied: “It is the garden in Heaven that if a rider on horseback travels underneath its tree his journey will not end for a hundred years.” – (Ghunyat al-Talibin, P580-81/ Tartib Sharif, P846-47)

The Hadith has it: “Whoever performs at home four *Raka’ats* of a prayer on the first night of *Shawal* or after the *Eid al-Fitr* prayer, reciting in each unit after *Surah al-Fatiha* *Surah al-Ikhlās* twenty one times would have Allāh the Almighty opening all eight doors of Heaven and shut all seven doors of Hell for him. The worshipper will

not die until he/she has seen his/ her house in Heaven.” – (*Risala Fada'il ash-Shuhur*)

