

# Virtues of *Rabī' Al-Awwal*

The *Jawahir Al-Ghaibi* has it that the recompense of the voluntary prayers said during the first twelve days of *Rabī' Al-Awwal* must be passed on to the Holy Spirit ﷺ, because the holy *Ashabah, Tabi'in* and *Taba Tabi'in*, may Allāh the Almighty be pleased with them all, used to transmit the reward of these prayers to the Holy Spirit ﷺ. They comprise twenty units that have the *Surah Al-Ikhlās* said twenty one times in each unit. If there is not the opportunity to pray daily for twelve days, they must be said on the second and twelfth days in the said order and the reward passed on to the Holy Prophet ﷺ. The worshipper of this prayer has been given the glad tiding of the place in Paradise by the Holy Prophet ﷺ. Visitation of and the glad tiding by the Holy Prophet's (ﷺ) after his demise is synonymous to as if (seeing him) in his life.

It is written in the *Kitāb Al-Awrād* that when the Moon for the month of *Rabī' Al-Awwal* is sighted one must pray 16 units of voluntary prayer, reciting in couplets and *Surah Al-Ikhlās* three times after *Surah Al-Fatiha* once in each unit. Once he is free from the whole prayer, he must recite the following *Darud Sharif* one thousand times:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ وَرَحْمَةَ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتِهِ.

... *Allahumma sallay 'ala Muhammadin nabi al-ummi wa rahmatullahi wa barakatohu!* (O Allāh! Send blessing to Muḥammad, the Unlettered Messenger, and the mercy and graces too!)

The *Darud Sharif* must be recited for twelve days after '*Ishā'*' prayer followed by sleep with *wudū*. Thus he will dream of the the Holy Prophet ﷺ. The *Kitāb Al-Masha'ikh* has it that if one recites this *Darud Sharif* one thousand and twenty five times daily after '*Ishā'*' prayer from the first day of sighting the Moon until the last day of *Rabī' Al-Awwal*, will have the audience of the Holy Prophet ﷺ in his vision. This *Darud Sharif* is as follows:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ

... *Allahumma sallay 'ala Muhammad(in)w wa 'ala āle Muhammad(in) Kuma sallayta 'ala Ibrahima wa 'ala āle Ibrahima! Innaka hamdidum majid!* (O Allāh! Send blessing to Muḥammad and his offspring as You did send blessing to Ibrahim and his offspring! You are, indeed, the praiseworthy and the Most High!)

The book cited above has it that if someone recites the following *Darud Sharif* one hundred and twenty five thousand times daily during the whole of *Rabī' Al-Awwal*, he will certainly see the Holy Prophet ﷺ in his dream. The *Darud Sharif* is:

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

... *Sallallahu 'alayhi wa Sallam!* (Peace and blessing be on him!)

Alternative it must be recited thus:

الصلوة والسلام عليك يا رسول الله

... *Assalatu wassalamu 'alaika yā Rasul Allāh!* (Peace and blessing be to you, O the Messenger of Allāh!)