

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ حَقَّ حَمْدِهِ

اللهم صل وسلم على سيدنا محمد نورك الساري ومددك الجاري واجمعني به في كل أطواري وعلى آله وصحبه يا نور

The Rabī al-Awwal Letter



“A Messenger has come to you from among yourselves. Your suffering distresses him: he is deeply concerned for you and full of kindness and mercy towards the believers.” (Qur’ān 9:128)

Our noble master Anas ibn Mālik رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of God صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “None of you will believe until I am more beloved to him than his children, his father, and all people.”

[Bukhārī, Muslim, and Nasāī]

This is an excerpt from the book *Kanz Al-Najāh wa As-Surūr*, a book highlighting the special qualities of each month. During this blessed month of Rabī al-Awwal we ask God that He graces us with a sincere connection to and love for the beloved Messenger of God صلى الله عليه وسلم. *Āmīn*.

Know that during this month it is recommended for one to increase in his or her invoking God’s blessings and mercy upon the Prophet Muḥammad صلى الله عليه وسلم (Arabic: *ṣalawāt* or Urdu: *durūd sharīf*). It was in *this* month that the greatest blessing was revealed to the world. It was in *this* month that the light of guidance emanated for mankind and jinn. It was in *this* month that the Prophet Muḥammad, peace and mercy be upon him, was born.

Recommended things to do in the month of Rabī al-Awwal:

- Increase in the sending of mercy, peace, and blessings upon the Messenger of God. God commands this in the verse **“God and His angels shower blessings on the Prophet. O you who believe! Blessing him and salute him with a worthy salutation!”** (33:56).
- Read and reflect upon the biography (*Sīrah*) of the Prophet ﷺ. Many scholars strongly encourage people to take advantage of this month by reading about his life and inculcating his Prophetic character into one’s own. Two great books that are in English are [“Muhammad - His Life Based on the Earliest Sources”](#) by Martin Lings, and [“al-Shifā’ bi ta’rīf ḥuqūq al-Muṣṭafā”](#) by Qādī ‘Iyāḍ (translated into English).
- For a good audio version of the prophetic biography there is [“The Life of the Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ”](#) by Shaykh Hamza Yusuf .
- Give out charity (*ṣadaqah*) in its many forms as often as possible.
- Increase in reading the Quran.
- Fast as often as possible this month.
- Express one’s love for the Prophet ﷺ inwardly and outwardly.
- Renew your oath to follow God’s Messenger ﷺ in his inward and outward actions.
- Attend gatherings of remembrance of God and His Messenger, such as *Mawlid*s, learning circles that discuss his life and sayings, or any other praiseworthy gathering to remember God the Exalted and His Beloved, peace and mercy be upon him.

May God bless us, our families, and the entire *Ummah* during this month by allowing us to reconnect with the Prophet ﷺ. We should try to embody him ﷺ in all that we do, say, and think. If we attempt to actualize our love for the Prophet, peace and mercy be upon him, during this month and during our entire lives it may be that God will grant us the Prophet’s intercession on the Day of Judgment and He grants us a place in the highest levels of Paradise in the company of the Prophets, the True Saints (*ṣiddiqīn*), and the Elite Angels. Āmīn!

والحمد لله رب العالمين