

TUHFAH EDUCATION

ACTS OF WORSHIP IN WINTER



For More Resources



INFO@TUHFAH.NET

Hafidh Ibn Rajab Mentions: “Winter is like spring for a believer; he enjoys the season by doing good deeds with ease. The cold makes worship lighter, and his heart finds joy in acts of obedience.” (Laṭā’if al-Ma‘ārif)

This beautiful metaphor likens the happiness people feel in spring, when the earth comes to life and hearts are refreshed, to the joy a believer feels in winter. In winter, the believer finds comfort and a chance to worship more, drawing closer to Allah and gaining success in this world and the next.

Hafidh Ibn Rajab also stated: “Abū Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) would say, Shall I not direct you to the easy gain? They replied, Yes, indeed. He said, it is fasting during winter. (Laṭā’if al-Ma‘ārif)

The Companions and early righteous praised the arrival of winter and seized its blessings:

- ‘Umar ibn al-Khaṭṭāb (RA) said: “Winter is the reward of the righteous.” (Ḥilyat al-Awliyā’)
- ‘Abdullāh ibn Mas‘ūd (RA) said: “Welcome, O winter! A season filled with blessings.” (Laṭā’if al-Ma‘ārif)
- Al-Ḥasan al-Baṣrī said: “Winter is a wonderful season for a believer; the nights are long, perfect for prayer, and the days are short, making fasting easy.” (Al-Tahajjud of Ibn Abī al-Dunyā)

Winter is a season full of chances for worship, reflection, and spiritual growth.

Below are ten important acts of worship that believers can focus on during this blessed time.



Fasting During Winter Days

1

Fasting in winter is an easy yet highly rewarding act of worship. The days are short and the weather is cool, making it much easier than fasting in summer.

Abū Sa‘īd al-Khudrī (RA) reported: I heard the Prophet ﷺ say, **“Whoever fasts a day for the sake of Allah, Allah will distance his face from the Fire by seventy autumns (years).”** (Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī)

This season is also perfect for making up missed fasts - such as those from Ramadan - or for fasting the Sunnah days like Mondays, Thursdays, and the white days (13th, 14th, and 15th of the lunar month). Every fast is a step closer to Allah and an increase in one’s good deeds.

Night Prayer (Qiyām al-Layl)

2

Winter nights are long and peaceful, ideal for standing in prayer. ‘Abdullāh ibn Mas‘ūd (RA) said: **“Welcome, O winter! its night is long for those who stand (in prayer), and its day short for those who fast.”** (Laṭā’if al-Ma‘ārif)

Praying at night during winter is especially beloved, even a few rak‘ahs prayed with sincerity during these quiet hours bring immense reward.

Recitation of the Qur’an

3

Winter nights are perfect for reading and reflecting on the Qur’an. The Prophet ﷺ used to recite with focus and reflection, pausing to make du‘ā’ and glorify Allah.

The great scholar, ‘Ubayd ibn ‘Umayr said: **“When winter came, he would say: O people of the Qur’an! Your nights are long for recitation, so read; and your days are short for fasting, so fast.”** (Ḥilyat al-Awliyā’)

This reminds us to fill our long, quiet nights with the words of Allah; reading, understanding, and letting the Qur’an bring peace to our hearts.

Repentance and Turning Back to Allah

4

Storms, snow, and cold winds remind us of the Day of Judgement and the power of Allah. **The great Caliph, ‘Umar ibn ‘Abd al-‘Azīz used to encourage people to seek forgiveness during storms.**

Winter, therefore, is a time to renew one’s heart and turn back sincerely to Allah.

5

Reflection and Contemplation

Thunder, lightning, and rain remind us of Allah's power. 'Abdullah Ibn al-Zubayr (RA) said: **"When I hear thunder, I stop speaking and say: 'Glory be to Him whom the thunder glorifies with His praise, and the angels too, out of fear of Him.'"** (Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī)

Allah commands us to reflect on His signs: **"Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth, and the alternation of night and day... are signs for those who use reason."** (Al-Baqarah 2:164)

So, whenever we see the sky change or hear thunder, it's a reminder to think of Allah's greatness and power over all things.

Charity of Warmth

Winter reminds us of those who struggle without enough clothing, blankets, or shelter. Jarīr ibn 'Abdillāh (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: **"He who does not show mercy to people, Allah will not show mercy to him."** (Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī)

Ibn 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with them both) reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: "Whoever fulfils the need of his brother, Allah will fulfil his need; and whoever relieves a Muslim of one of the distresses of the Day of Judgement, Allah will relieve him of a distress from the distresses of that Day." (Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī)

Sharing warmth (by giving clothes, food, or comfort) is a form of worship that brings great reward. Helping others stay warm is one of the best ways to show gratitude for Allah's blessings.

Seeking Knowledge

The long, quiet nights of winter are excellent for study and reflection. The scholars would say: **"The best times for memorisation are at the end of the night and around midday. The memory of the night is more steadfast than that of the day."** (Al-Faqīh wa al-Mutafaqqiq)

This means winter gives us a chance to balance rest, prayer, and learning. Whether revising Qur'an, reading beneficial books, or attending lessons, a believer should make use of these peaceful nights for spiritual and intellectual growth.

Performing Wuḍū' in Cold Weather

Making wuḍū' in winter can be difficult because of the cold but doing it patiently brings great reward.

8

The Prophet ﷺ said: **“Shall I not tell you what erases sins and raises ranks? Perfecting wuḍū' despite hardship, walking often to the masjid, and waiting for one prayer after another, that is ribāṭ (steadfast devotion).”** (Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim)

Even if the water feels cold, this small struggle is beloved to Allah.

Supplication (Du'ā') During Rain

Rain is one of the special times when du'ā' is accepted. The Prophet ﷺ said: **“Seek the response of your supplications at three times: when armies meet, when the prayer is established, and when rain falls.”** (al-Umm of Al-Shāfi'i)

9

When rain came, he would say: **“O Allah, make it a beneficial downpour.”** (Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī)

So, whenever it rains, we should lift our hands and ask Allah for mercy, guidance, and blessings for ourselves and for others.

Exposing Oneself to Rain

When it rained, the Prophet ﷺ would lift his garment slightly to let the rain touch his body, saying: **“It has just come from its Lord.”** (Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim)

10

‘Alī (RA) would do the same, saying: “A blessing has descended from heaven, untouched by hands or watering.” (Fath al-Bārī of Ibn Rajab)

This beautiful act shows humility and gratitude in recognising rain as a direct blessing from Allah. Simply standing in the rain with thankfulness reminds us of His infinite mercy.

Conclusion

Winter is not a time for laziness or neglect, it is a season full of hidden blessings. For the believer, it is a chance to fast, pray, read the Qur'an, give charity, reflect, repent, and learn. Some spend the cold months in distraction and comfort, forgetting the opportunities before them. But the wise believer uses every short day and long night to draw closer to Allah through worship, kindness, and knowledge.

May Allah help us make the most of this blessed season, turning our winters into times of mercy, worship, and growth, and may He allow us to come out of every winter with hearts renewed and faith strengthened. **Ameen!**



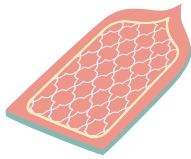
For more resources

SUMMARY

ACTS OF WORSHIP IN WINTER

2

NIGHT PRAYER (QIYĀM AL-LAYL)



4

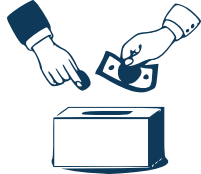
REPENTANCE AND TURNING
BACK TO ALLAH

التوبة



6

CHARITY OF WARMTH



8

PERFORMING WUDU'
IN COLD WEATHER



10

EXPOSING ONESELF TO RAIN



1

FASTING DURING WINTER DAYS



3

RECITATION OF THE QUR'AN



5

REFLECTION AND CONTEMPLATION



7

SEEKING KNOWLEDGE



9

SUPPLICATION (DU'A') DURING RAIN

