



FASTING

6

days of
SHAWWAL after
MONTH OF RAMADHAN

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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**FASTING SIX DAYS OF
SHAWWAL UL-MUKARRAM
AFTER RAMADHAN UL-MUBARAK**

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FASTING SIX DAYS OF SHAWWAL UL-MUKARRAM AFTER RAMADHAN UL-MUBARAK

Sayyiduna Ayyub (Radiyahallahu Anhu) relates that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Whoever fasts Ramadhan and follows it with six days from Shawwal it is as if they fasted the entire year."

[Muslim, Abu Dawud, Tirmidhi, and Ibn Majah; Ahmad transmitted it from Jabir]

Sayyiduna Thawban (Radiyahallahu Anhu) relates that the Messenger of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "Whoever fasts Ramadhan, and then six days after 'Id, it is (like fasting) an entire year. Whoever does a good deed shall have ten times its reward." [Ibn Majah]

IMPORTANT NOTES:

1. Based on this, the majority of the fuqaha (jurists), including the Hanafi, Shafi'i, and Hanbali school, have held that it is recommended to fast six days of the month of Shawwal.
[Radd ul-Muhtar: Mughni ul-Muhtaj: Kashshaf ul-Qina']

2. It is permitted to fast these six days separately throughout the month, or consecutively, after 'Id ul-Fitr.
[Ibid]

3. It is prohibitively disliked (makruh tahriman) and sinful to fast on 'Id day itself.
[Radd ul-Muhtar]

4. The Shafi'is and Hanbali's state that it is superior to make the six fasts consecutive [Minhaj, Ghayat ul-Muntaha].
Khatib Shirbini explains the reasoning as being, "In order to hasten to do the good, and because of the problems inevitable in delaying," such as becoming lazy and not actually fulfilling this sunnah in the end, though he points out that the sunnah is fulfilled by both consecutive and non-consecutive fasting of six days in Shawwal.
[Mughni ul- Muhtaj]

The later Hanafi scholars differed as to which is better, fasting the six days consecutively or non-consecutively, though neither is disliked and both fulfill the Sunnah.
[Radd ul-Muhtar]

However, it would be agreed that those who fear not fulfilling the recommendation due to laziness, forgetfulness or other excuses, should hasten to fast the six days consecutively immediately after 'Id ul-Fitr.

5. The reward is akin to having fasted obligatory fasts the entire year days, according to Buhuti, Shirbini, and others.

Sayyiduna Abu Hurayrah (Radiyahallahu Anhu) said that the Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) said, "The strong believer is better and more beloved to Allah (Subhan Wa Taala) than the weak believer, though there is good in both. Be avid for that which benefits you. Rely on Allah (Subhan Wa Taala) and do not deem yourself incapable ... "
[Muslim: 4816, Ibn Majah: 76, Ahmad: 8436]

Imam Nawawl (Radiyallahu Anhu) explained that the 'strength' in this hadith refers to, "One's determination and ability in matters of the next life."

[Sharh Sahih Muslim]

EXCERPTED FROM:

1. Ibn 'Abidtn, Radd ul-Muhtar 'ala 'd-Durr il-Mukhtar, Vol. 2, Page 125
2. Shirbini, Mughni ul-Muhtaj, Vol. 2, Page 184-185
3. Buhiitl, Kashshaf ul-Qina'. Vol. 2 Page 237-38

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