

saying, 'O seeker of virtues, rejoice and go ahead.' The other saying 'O doer of evils, desist from evil - doing.' (Do not accumulate causes of your damnation) Two angles also proclaim, one of them saying 'O Allah! Grant any person a return to what he spends for good'; the other saying, 'O Allah, cause ruin for the person who with holds money niggardly'.

Ataa Ibne Yasaar rahmatullah alayhe says; "When the middle night of Sha'baan comes, the angel of death is given a list of all the persons who are destined to die during the year, with orders that their souls should be taken out of their bodies at such and such time of the year. On many occasions, it so happens that a man is busy in decorating his house, or making arrangement for his marriage, or constructing a house, while his name has already been recorded among the dead."

(Durre Manthur)

Imaam Ghazali rahmatullah alayhe writes, "Even if the poor human beings were destined to endure no afflictions, no miseries, no pains and no horrors in this life, the anticipation of death alone, with its associations of harrowing pangs, throes and agonies should suffice to disconcert their sensual enjoyments, to deprive them of their ease and comforts, and to cure them of their heedlessness. Death is such a painful experience that one should always be concerned about it and engage onself in preparations for meeting death. One should be more cautious about it, particularly because nobody knows the time when it may come to pass."

A sage has said, "Man is like a puppet moving on strings and the strings are in the hands of someone else Who may pull them at any time (and cause him to fall to the ground ..... and meet sudden death)"

the year are handedj over to the angles and no changes can be made in the list".

According to another hadeeth, Rasulullah sallallahu alayhi wasallam once said, "On this night, the angels are given the names of persons who are going to die during the year from one Sha'baan to the next, with the specific hours of death destined for each. Many a man gets married in this world and a child is born to him, while in the heavens above, his name has been recorded in the list of the dead".

Aaishah radhiyallahu anha says : "Rasulullah sallallahu alayhi wasallam used to fast very frequently during Sha'baan, for it is in this month that a list is prepared of those who are destined to die during the year. Many a man is engaged in geeting married, while in the heavens above, his name has been recorded among the dead; or again, a man is preparing for Hajj while his name has been enlisted among the dead."

Another hadeeth reports that once Aaishah radhiyallahu anha asked Rasulullah sallallahu alayhi wasallam why he fasted more frequently in the month of Sha'baan, to which he replied, "In this month, a record is made of those who are destined to die during the year and I wish that when name is recorded in the list of the dead, I should be observing a fast."

A hadeeth says that every year, on the middle night of Sha'baan, Allha Ta'ala informs Isra'eel alayhis salaam (the Angel of Death) about all those who are destined to die during the year.

It occurs in a hadeeth that Rasulullah sallallahu alayhi wasallam once said, "Everyday at sunrise, the sun proclaims, 'Do whatever good you can today; for this day will never return in your life'. Also every morning, two angles proclaim from the heavens above, one of them

fact that, on one night, the list of those destined to die during the year are handed over to the angles.

Many a man is engrossed in sports and pastimes, while in the heavens above, orders have gone out for his arrest it has been decreed that he will suffer death and no one can intercede with Allah Ta'ala, or appeal to Him to change His decree. Nor can the decreed hour of a man's death be delayed a minute. Ibne Abbas radhiyallahu anhu commenting on Surah Ad-Dukhan says "On the night called Laylatul Qadr, the decrees of fate are transcribed from the Lauhe Mahfooz (the Guardian Book of Fate) and a record is made of all that is decreed for the year. A decree is issued about the amount of provisions to be sent down, the persons destined to die, the persons to be born and the amount of rains to be sent down during the year. So much so, that a list is prepared of the names of the persons who are going to perform Hajj in that year".

A hadeeth reports Ibne Abbas radhiyallahuanhu as saying, "You will notice that a person is walking about in the bazaars, though his name has been recorded in the list of those who are destined to die in that year".

Abu Nadhrah rahmatullah alayhe says, "On this night, the angels are assigned their duties for the whole year and orders are issued about the means of welfare apportioned for the year, about the evils to be suffered, about the sustenance to be provided, about the persons destined to die, about the afflictions and about the cheapness or dearness of commodities".

Ikramah radhiyallahu anhu says, "On the middle night of Sha'baan (Shabe Bara'at), all the events decreed for the year are assigned to the angles; the list of the persons destined to die and of those who will perform destined to die and of those who will perform Hajj during

**COMMENTARY** ----- It shows that no one should be scorned at or rejected as inferior because of his unkempt and untidy condition. Some of them attain a position of such nearness and preference with the Lord, by effacing themselves for His sake, that if, relying upon Him they swear about a thing that it will or will not be that way, Allah does not put them to shame and makes it happen accordingly.

It is worth remembering that the object of the above Tradition is not to encourage squalor and untidiness, as some people imagine. From the Prophet's *sallallahu alayhi wasallam* saying it is clear that he, generally liked to be neat and clean and advised other also not to be dirty and ill clad. When he saw anyone going to the extreme of self - denial and wearing dirty and tattered clothes and caring nothing for their appearance, he reproved them sternly. This Tradition is intended merely to give a warning advice to those who regard the poor and destitute bondsmen of the Lord as despicable and do not want to mix with them due to self - conceit.

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## DESTINY

*by : Shaikhul-Hadeeth Moulana Muhammed Zakariyya*

The angels deputed by Allah Ta'ala, are issued instructions for the whole year, on one particular night of the year they are assigned duties for the year and informed that such and such things have been decreed for such and such person. The ahadeeth vary as to whether these orders are issued on Laylatul Qadr (one of the last ten nights of Ramadhaan) or on the middle night of Sha'baan (Shabe Bara'at) but are in agreement about the