

Some of the Benefits of Having Emaan (Faith) in al-Qadar (the Divine Pre-Decree)

Imaam Muhammad Ibn Saalih al-Uthaimen (Rahimahullaah) said:

“Having **Emaan** (faith) in **al-Qadar** (the Divine Pre-Decree) is **Wajib** (obligatory); and its **status** in the **Deen** is that it is **one** of the **Six Pillars of Emaan**.

This is as the Prophet (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam) said to Jibreel, when he said: **What is al-Emaan (Faith)? He (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam) said: [It is] to believe in Allaah, His Angels, His Books (i.e. revelations), His Messengers, the Last Day (i.e the Day of Judgement) and to believe in al-Qadar (the Divine Pre-Decree), its good and its evil.**”
[Saheeh Muslim]

He (Rahimahullaah) went on to say:

“Having **Emaan** (faith) in **al-Qadar** (the Divine Pre-Decree) has **benefits**, and from among these benefits is,

One: Believing in it (i.e. **al-Qadar**) is from the *completion* or *perfection* of **Emaan**; and Emaan is not *completed* or *perfected* without it.”

Two: Believing in **al-Qadar** (the Divine Pre-Decree) is from the *completion* or *perfection* of having faith in **ar-Ruboobeeyah** (Allaah’s Lordship over the creation), since the **act of pre-decreeing** everything and **then bringing it into being** (by creating everything that exists) is from **His actions**. [And *Ruboobeeyah* is related to Allaah’s actions, just as *Ulooheeyah* is related to the actions of the created beings, i.e. offering their worship to Him, Alone]

Three: Believing in **al-Qadar** (the Divine Pre-Decree) will cause a person to refer all of his affairs back to his **Rabb** (Allaah), since when he knows that everything is based upon the **Qadaa’** of Allaah and His **Qadar**, he will turn to Allaah to *repulse* harm from him [before it befalls him] and to *remove it* [if it has already befallen him]. Likewise, he will attribute every good to Allaah and know that it is from the favor/bounty of Allaah upon him.

Four: [Believing in **al-Qadar** (the Divine Pre-Decree) makes it] so that a person will **know** his (true) value/worth and he will **not be proud** (of himself) if he does some good [since he will **realize** that it is all by the **Pre-Decree and Will of Allaah**].

Five: [Believing in **al-Qadar** (the Divine Pre-Decree)] ...**lightens** (the effect of) the **affliction** upon the person, since whenever the human being knows that **the calamity is from Allaah**, this will minimize (the effect of) the calamity upon him.

This is as Allaah, the Most High, said: **“Whoever believes in Allaah, He will guide his heart [i.e. to the acceptance of what He has decreed for him].”** [Al-Qur’aan 64:11].

And ‘Alqamah (rahimahullaah) said: **‘This is referring to the person who is afflicted with a calamity, and he knows that the calamity is from Allaah (i.e. by His Divine Pre-Decree), hence he is pleased with and accepts (what Allaah has decreed for him).’** [Tafseer Ibn Katheer 64:11]

Six: [Believing in **al-Qadar** (the Divine Pre-Decree) leads one to] ...attributing the bounties/favors to the One Who gave it, since if you *have not believed* in **al-Qadar** you will have given credit for the favors (that you receive) to *the (human being) who directly gave it* (to you) [instead of the One Who is the Ultimate source of every good, i.e. Allaah].

This is something that occurs frequently from those who seek favor from the kings, princes and ministers through flattery. Hence, if he gets what he wants from them, he attributes the favor (of Allaah) to these people, and forgets that the favor (is actually from) the Creator, the One Free from All Imperfections!

It is true that it is obligatory upon the human being to thank the people (who have done good by you), based upon the saying of the Prophet (SallAllaahu Alaihi wa Sallam): **“Whoever does some good to you, then compensate him (i.e. return some good to him).”** [Hadeeth Saheeh, see: *Silsilah al-Ahaadeeth as-Saheehah*, no. 254]

However, one must know that the **real source** (of every good) is **Allaah**, the Mighty, the Majestic, Who has *caused* (this good, to come to you) *at the hand of this person*.

Seven: A person will know – *through this faith in al-Qadar* – the **Hikmah** (Wisdom) of Allaah, the Mighty the Majestic, since whenever he looks at this universe and the amazing changes (i.e. events) that occur within it – by this, he will come to know the **Hikmah** (Wisdom) of Allaah, the Mighty, the Majestic.

On the other hand, whoever forgets **al-Qadaa’ wal-Qadar** (i.e. that all of these amazing works are the result of **Allaah’s Execution of what He has Pre-Decreed**) – such a one *will not receive this benefit* (i.e. the benefit of **witnessing** and **acknowledging** the **Wisdom of Allaah** in His creation).

[Excerpts from the explanation of al-‘Aqeedah al-Waasiteeyah, pgs. 361 & 362,
by Imaam Muhammad Ibn Saalih al-Uthaimen (May Allaah Have Mercy Upon him).
Translation: Abu Muhammad, Shawwaal 1436 AH (July, 2015 CE)]