

نَحْنُ الْآنَ فِي شَهْرِ صَفَرٍ، وَهُوَ أَصْعَبُ شُهُورِ السَّنَةِ الْهِجْرِيَّةِ.

Naḥnu al-'āna fī shahri Ṣafar, wa-huwa aṣ'abu shuhūri s-sanati l-hijriyyah.

We are now in the month of Ṣafar, the most difficult month of the Islamic year.

نَقُولُ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ: «أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ» ثَلَاثِمِائَةً مَرَّةً طَلَبًا لِلْحِفْظِ مِنْ صُعُوبَاتِ هَذَا الشَّهْرِ، وَنَقْرَأُ سَبْعَ مَرَّاتِ آيَةِ الْكُرْسِيِّ، وَسَبْعَ مَرَّاتِ سُورَةِ الْفِيلِ.

Naqūlu kulla yawmin: “Astaghfiru Llāh” thalātha-mi'ati marratin ṭalaban lil-ḥifẓi min ṣu'ūbāti hādha sh-shahr, wa-naqra'u saba'a marrātin Āyata l-Kursiyy, wa-saba'a marrātin Sūrata l-Fīl.

Every day, we say “Astaghfirullāh” 300 times for protection from the difficulties of this month, and we recite Āyatu l-Kursī seven times and Sūratu l-Fīl seven times.

وَيُنْصَحُ أَيْضًا بِإِخْرَاجِ صَدَقَةٍ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ، وَالْمُكُوثِ فِي الْبَيْتِ مَا أَمَكَنَ. فَالْبَيْتُ هُوَ مَوْضِعُ حِفْظِنَا، وَلَنْ تَصِلَ إِلَيْنَا الْمَشَاكِلُ فِيهِ. وَمَنْ كَانَ مُضْطَرًّا إِلَى الْعَمَلِ أَوْ إِلَى إِدَارَةِ تِجَارَتِهِ، فَلَهُ أَنْ يَخْرُجَ مِنَ الْبَيْتِ، وَلَكِنْ دُونَ إِكْثَارٍ.

Wa-yunṣaḥu ayḍan bi-ikhrāji ṣadaqatin kulla yawmin, wa-l-mukūthi fī l-bayti mā amkan. Fa-l-baytu huwa mawḍi'u ḥifẓinā, wa-lan taṣila ilaynā l-mashākilu fīhi. Wa-man kāna muḍṭarran ilā l-'amali aw ilā idārati tijāratihī, falahu an yakhruja mina l-bayt, wa-lākin dūna ikthār.

It is also recommended to give ṣadaqah every day and to remain at home as much as possible. Our home is our protection, and the difficulties will not reach us there. Those who have to work or run a business may go out when necessary, but should avoid unnecessary time outside.

وَمَنْ كَانَ مُضْطَرًّا إِلَى السَّفَرِ، فَلْيَخْرُجْ صَدَقَةً قَبْلَ انْطِلَاقِهِ، وَسَيَكُونُ - إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ - مَحْفُوظًا.

Wa-man kāna muḍṭarran ilā s-safar, fa-l-yukhrij ṣadaqatan qabla intilāqihī, wa-sa-yakūnu, in shā'a Llāh, maḥfūẓan.

Whoever has to travel should give ṣadaqah before setting out, and, in shā' Allāh, they will be protected.

وَسَيَكُونُ آخِرُ يَوْمٍ أَرْبَعَاءَ مِنْ هَذِهِ السَّنَةِ أَشَدَّ أَيَّامَهَا، فَلِنَر_اقِبْهُ بِعِنَايَةٍ، وَلِنَقْرَأُ الْقُرْآنَ، وَلِنُكْثِرْ مِنْ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ.

Wa-sa-yakūnu ākhiru yawmi Arbi'ā'a min hādhihi s-sanah ashaddu ayyāmihā, fal-nurāqibhu bi-'ināyah, wal-naqra' i l-Qur'ān, wal-nukthir min dhikri Llāh.

The last Wednesday of the month will be the most severe day of the year. Therefore, we should observe it carefully, recite the Qur'ān, and increase our dhikru Llāh (remembrance of Allah).

وَيُسْتَحَبُّ أَيْضًا أَنْ يُغَطِّيَ الْمَرْءُ رَأْسَهُ، لَا فِي الصَّلَاةِ فَقَطْ، بَلْ فِي جَمِيعِ الْأَوْقَاتِ، فَإِنَّ ذَلِكَ سَبَبٌ لِلْحِفْظِ.

Wa-yustaḥabbu ayḍan an yughaṭṭiya l-mar'u ra'sahu, lā fī ṣ-ṣalāh faqat, bal fī jamī'i l-awqāt, fa-inna dhālika sababun lil-ḥifẓ.

It is also recommended to keep the head covered—not only during prayer, but at all times. This provides special protection.

وَقَالَ اللَّهُ جَلَّ جَلَالُهُ:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
﴿أَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ فَعَلَ رَبُّكَ بِأَصْحَابِ الْفِيلِ
۱ أَلَمْ يَجْعَلْ كَيْدَهُمْ فِي تَضْلِيلٍ ۚ
وَأَرْسَلَ عَلَيْهِمْ طَيْرًا أَبَابِيلَ ۓ
۳ تَرْمِيهِمْ
بِحِجَارَةٍ مِنْ سِجِّيلٍ ۚ فَجَعَلَهُمْ كَعَصْفٍ
مَا كُولٍ ۝
صَدَقَ اللَّهُ الْعَظِيمُ

Wa-qāla Llāhu jalla jalāluhu: Bismi Llāhi r-Raḥmāni r-Raḥīm Alam tara kayfa fa'ala rabbuka bi-aṣḥābi l-Fīl. Alam yaj'al kaydahum fī taḍlīl. Wa-arsala 'alayhim ṭayran abābīl. Tarmīhim bi-ḥijāratin min sijjīl. Fa-ja'alahum ka-'aṣfin ma'kūl. Ṣadaqa Llāhu l-'Azīm.

And Allah, Jalla Jalāluhu (Majestic is His Glory), says: *Bismi Llāhi r-Raḥmāni r-Raḥīm* “Have you not seen how your Lord dealt with the People of the Elephant? Did He not make their plan go astray? And He sent against them birds in successive flocks, striking them with stones of baked clay, and He made them like eaten straw.” (Sūrat al-Fīl, 105:1–5) *Ṣadaqa Llāhu l-'Azīm.*