

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

In the name of Allāh, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful

Topic: Dawhul Ardh [The Spreading of the Earth]

Extracted from the Book Iqbāl al-A'māl

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TOPIC: 25TH OF DHUL QA'DAH – THE SPREADING OF THE EARTH (EARTH DAY)

As it has been mentioned in the books of supplication and aḥādīth, the 25th of Dhul Qa'dah (January 18th of this year) is the day of Daḥwul Arḍh (دحو الأرض) (also known as Earth Day). According to some āḥādīth, this event actually is on the 29th of Dhul Qa'dah (January 22nd of this year) – however, keeping these dates in mind, we highlight the importance of this day, some of the events that had transpired in history and what actions we should perform on this blessed day that Allāh (Glory and Greatness be to Him) has granted to us.



What is the importance of this day?

- It is said that the Sacred Ka'bah was sent down to Earth on this day and this is also when Allāh (Glory and Greatness be to Him) spread out ALL the land on the Earth under the Ka'bah. According to the same narration, this is also the day when Prophet Ādam (peace be with him) was sent to Earth after he and his wife, Ḥawwah ate from the tree in the 'Earthly Paradise'.¹ The Qur'ān refers to the Ka'bah as being the first house of worship for mankind on this Earth in the following verse:

﴿ إِنَّ أَوَّلَ بَيْتٍ وُضِعَ لِلنَّاسِ لَلَّذِي بِبَكَّةَ مُبَارَكًا وَهُدًى لِّلْعَالَمِينَ ﴾

"Surely the very first house that was placed for mankind (as a place of worship) was the one in Bakkah (Makkah) the Blessed and (a source of) guidance for all the worlds." (3:96)

- This day is also the birthday of two great Prophets, Prophet Ibrāhīm al-Khalīl al-Raḥmān (peace be with him) who is known as the Father of Monotheism as it is from him that the great Prophets came that make up the Jews, Christians and Muslims of today. It is this great Prophet that the Qur'ān

¹ رويناه ذلك بإسنادنا إلى الشيخ محمد بن يعقوب الكليني رحمه الله بإسناده في كتاب الكافي إلى محمد بن عبد الله الصيقل قال خرج علينا أبو الحسن يعني الرضا ع. عمرو في يوم خمس و عشرين من ذي القعدة فقال صوموا فيني أصبحت صائما فلنا جعلنا فذاك أي يوم هو قال يوم نشرت فيه الرحمة و دحيت فيه الأرض و نصبت فيه الكعبة و هبط فيه آدم عليه السلام.

refers to as an “Ummah” or a Nation. In addition, the Prophet that the Christians revere, ‘Isā ibn Mariam al-Masīḥ (peace be with him) was born on this blessed day. Not only is he Rūḥullāh or the Spirit of Allāh, but he was made a Prophet when he was still in the cradle and he indeed spoke to the people in defense of his mother and the baseless accusations that were leveled against her².

﴿ قَالَ إِنِّي عَبْدُ اللَّهِ آتَانِيَ الْكِتَابَ وَجَعَلَنِي نَبِيًّا وَجَعَلَنِي مُبَارَكًا أَيْنَ مَا كُنْتُ وَأَوْصَانِي بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالزَّكَاةِ مَا دُمْتُ حَيًّا وَبَرًّا بِوَالِدَتِي وَلَمْ يَجْعَلْ لِي جَبْرًا شَقِيًّا وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيَّ يَوْمَ وُلِدْتُ وَيَوْمَ أَمُوتُ وَيَوْمَ أُبْعَثُ حَيًّا ذَلِكَ عِيسَى ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ قَوْلَ الْحَقِّ الَّذِي فِيهِ يَمْتَرُونَ ﴾

He said: "I am indeed a servant of Allāh: He has given me revelation and made me a Prophet. And He has made me Blessed wheresoever I be and has enjoined on me Prayer and Charity as long as I live (He) has made me kind to my mother and not overbearing or miserable So Peace is on me the day I was born the day that I die and the Day that I shall be raised up to life (again). Such (was) Jesus the son of Mary: (it is) a statement of truth about which they (vainly) dispute." (19:30-34)

Benefits of keeping this a Day of Worship

- If a person fasts on this day, it would act as a Kaffārah (Penitence) for his sins of seventy (70) years.³
- In another ḥādith, if a person fasts on this day, it would be equivalent to fasting 60 months!
- According to another ḥādith narrated in Thawāb al-A'māl compiled by Shaykh Ṣadūq, this is also the day that Al-Qāim (may Allāh hasten his return) will make his glorious advent.
- Imām ‘Ali ibn Abi Ṭālib (peace be with him) has stated that to fast on the 25th of Dhū al-Qa‘dah and stay up the night in ‘Ibādah it is equivalent to the worship of 100 years as if the person had fasted those 100 years straight and had stayed up in worship all of the nights and that if there is a group of Muslims who gather together and perform the Dhikr of their Lord, they will not separate from one

² رويننا ذلك بإسنادنا إلى أبي جعفر محمد بن بابويه من كتاب من لا يحضره الفقيه و من كتاب ثواب الأعمال فقال روى الحسن بن الوشاء قال كنت مع أبي و أنا غلام فتعشينا عند الرضا ع ليلة خمس و عشرين من ذي القعدة فقال له ليلة خمس و عشرين من ذي القعدة ولد فيه إبراهيم عليه السلام و ولد فيها عيسى ابن مريم و فيها دحيت الأرض من تحت الكعبة فمن صام ذلك اليوم كان كمن صام ستين شهرا و في روايته من كتاب ثواب الأعمال الذي نسخته عندنا الآن أن فيه يقوم القائم عجل الله تعالى فرجه الشريف.

³ رويننا ذلك بإسنادنا إلى الشيخ أبي جعفر محمد بن بابويه رحمه الله بإسناده من كتاب من لا يحضره الفقيه و قد ضمن في خطبة كتابه صحة ما يرويه فيه و أنه رواه من الأصول المنقولة عن الأئمة ص فقال ما هذا لفظه و روي أن في تسع و عشرين من ذي القعدة أنزل الله عز و جل الكعبة و هي أول رحمة نزلت فمن صام ذلك اليوم كان كفارة سبعين سنة.

another before they are given what they ask for (from Allāh). It is also on this night that 1,000,000 mercies are sent down by Allāh (Glory and Greatness be to Him).⁴

- e. According to a ḥādīth from the Prophet (blessings of Allāh be upon him and his family), whoever fasts on this day (25th of Dhūl Qa'dah), everything that is between the heavens and the Earth will ask repentance for him from Allāh (Glory and Greatness be to Him).⁵

What should be performed on this day?

1. The following du'ā should be read on this day:

اَللّٰهُمَّ دَاخِيَ الْكَعْبَةِ، وَفَالِقَ الْحَبَّةِ، وَصَارِفَ اللَّزْبَةِ، وَكَاشِفَ كُلِّ كُرْبَةٍ، اَسْأَلُكَ فِيْ هَذَا الْيَوْمِ مِنْ اَيَّامِكَ اَلَّتِيْ
اَعْظَمْتَ حَقَّهَا، وَاَقْدَمْتَ سَبْقَهَا، وَجَعَلْتَهَا عِنْدَ الْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَدِيْعَةً، وَاِلَيْكَ ذَرِيْعَةً، وَبِرَحْمَتِكَ الْوَسِيْعَةِ اَنْ تُصَلِّيَ
عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ عَبْدِكَ الْمُتَّحِبِ فِي الْمِيثَاقِ الْقَرِيْبِ يَوْمَ التَّلَاقِ، فَاتِقِ كُلِّ رَتَقٍ، وَدَاعِ اِلَى كُلِّ حَقٍّ، وَعَلَى اَهْلِ
بَيْتِهِ الْاَطْهَارِ الْهُدَاةِ الْمَنَارِ دَعَائِمِ الْجَبَّارِ، وَوَلَاةِ الْجَنَّةِ وَالنَّارِ، وَاَعْظِنَا فِيْ يَوْمِنَا هَذَا مِنْ عَطَائِكَ الْمَخْزُوْنِ غَيْرِ
مَقْطُوْعٍ وَلَا مَمْنُوْعٍ، تَجْمَعُ لَنَا بِهِ التَّوْبَةَ وَحُسْنَ الْاَوْبَةِ، يَا خَيْرَ مَدْعُوٍّ، وَاَكْرَمَ مَرْجُوٍّ، يَا كَفِيَّ يَا وَفِيَّ يَا مَنْ
لَطْفُهُ خَفِيَ الطُّفُّ لِيْ بِلُطْفِكَ، وَاَسْعِدْنِيْ بِعَفْوِكَ، وَاَيِّدْنِيْ بِنَصْرِكَ، وَلَا تُنْسِنِيْ كَرِيْمَ ذِكْرِكَ بِوَلَاةِ اَمْرِكَ، وَحَفَظَةِ
سِرِّكَ، وَاَحْفَظْنِيْ مِنْ شَوَائِبِ الدَّهْرِ اِلَى يَوْمِ الْحَشْرِ وَالنَّشْرِ، وَاَشْهَدْنِيْ اَوْلِيَاءَكَ عِنْدَ خُرُوْجِ نَفْسِيْ، وَحُلُوْلِ
رَمْسِيْ، وَاَنْقِطَاعِ عَمَلِيْ، وَاَنْقِضَاءِ اَجَلِيْ، اَللّٰهُمَّ وَاذْكُرْنِيْ عَلَى طَوْلِ اَلْبَلَى اِذَا حَلَّتْ بَيْنَ اَطْبَاقِ الْاَثَرِ،
وَنَسِيْنِيْ النَّاسُوْنَ مِنَ الْوَرَى، وَاَحْلِلْنِيْ دَارَ الْمُقَامَةِ، وَبَوِّئْنِيْ مَنْزِلَ الْكِرَامَةِ، وَاَجْعَلْنِيْ مِنْ مُرَافِقِيْ اَوْلِيَائِكَ وَاَهْلِ
اَجْتِبَائِكَ وَاَصْطَفَائِكَ، وَبَارِكْ لِيْ فِيْ لِقَائِكَ، وَارْزُقْنِيْ حُسْنَ الْعَمَلِ قَبْلَ حُلُوْلِ الْاَجَلِ، بَرِيئًا مِنَ الزَّلَلِ وَسُوءِ

⁴عن عبد الرحمن السلمي عن أمير المؤمنين علي بن أبي طالب ص يقول إن أول رحمة نزلت من السماء إلى الأرض في خمس و
عشرين من ذي القعدة فمن صام ذلك اليوم و قام تلك الليلة فله عبادة مائة سنة صام نهارها و قام لييلها و أيما جماعة اجتمعت
ذلك اليوم في ذكر ربه عز و جل لم ينفروا حتى يعطوا [يؤتوا] سؤلهم و يتزل في ذلك اليوم ألف ألف رحمة يضع منها تسعة
و تسعين في خلق الذاكرين و الصائمين [الصافين] في ذلك اليوم و القائمين في تلك الليلة.

⁵فمن صام ذلك اليوم استغفر له كل شيء بين السماء و الأرض.

الْخَطَلِ، اللَّهُمَّ وَأَوْرِدْنِي حَوْضَ نَبِيِّكَ مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ، وَأَسْقِنِي مِنْهُ مَشْرَبًا رَوِيًّا سَائِغًا هَنِئًا لَا أَظْمَأُ
 بَعْدَهُ وَلَا أَحَلًّا وَرَدَّهُ وَلَا عَنْهُ أَذَادُ، وَاجْعَلْهُ لِي خَيْرَ زَادٍ، وَأَوْفَى مِيعَادٍ يَوْمَ يَقُومُ الْأَشْهَادُ، اللَّهُمَّ وَالْعَن
 جَابِرَةَ الْأَوَّلِينَ وَالْآخِرِينَ، وَبِحَقِّكَ أَوْلِيَاكَ الْمُسْتَائِرِينَ. اللَّهُمَّ وَأَقْصِمْ دَعَائِمَهُمْ وَأَهْلِكَ أَشْيَاعَهُمْ
 وَعَامِلَهُمْ، وَعَجِّلْ مَهَالِكَهُمْ، وَأَسْلُبْهُمْ مَمَالِكَهُمْ، وَضَيِّقْ عَلَيْهِمْ مَسَالِكَهُمْ، وَالْعَن مُسَاهِمَهُمْ وَمُشَارِكَهُمْ.
 اللَّهُمَّ وَعَجِّلْ فَرَجَ أَوْلِيَاكَ، وَارْدُدْ عَلَيْهِمْ مَظَالِمَهُمْ، وَأَظْهِرْ بِالْحَقِّ قَائِمَهُمْ، وَاجْعَلْهُ لَدَيْنِكَ مُتَّصِرًا، وَبِأَمْرِكَ
 فِي أَعْدَائِكَ مُؤْتَمِرًا. اللَّهُمَّ أَحْفَفْهُ بِمَلَائِكَةِ النَّصْرِ وَبِمَا أَلْقَيْتَ إِلَيْهِ مِنَ الْأَمْرِ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدَرِ، مُتَّقِمًا لَكَ حَتَّى
 تَرْضَى وَيَعُودَ دِينُكَ بِهِ وَعَلَى يَدَيْهِ جَدِيدًا غَضًّا، وَيَمَحُضَ الْحَقَّ مَحْضًا، وَيَرْفُضَ الْبَاطِلَ رَفْضًا. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ
 عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى جَمِيعِ آبَائِهِ، وَاجْعَلْنَا مِنْ صَحْبِهِ وَأُسْرَتِهِ، وَابْعَثْنَا فِي كَرَّتِهِ حَتَّى نَكُونَ فِي زَمَانِهِ مِنْ أَعْوَانِهِ. اللَّهُمَّ
 أَدْرِكْ بِنَا قِيَامَهُ، وَأَشْهَدْنَا آيَامَهُ، وَصَلِّ عَلَيْهِ وَارْدُدْ إِلَيْنَا سَلَامَهُ، وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْهِ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ .

“O Allah, (Who) spread the Kaa’bah, split the grain of corn, mitigates hardships, alleviates sorrows, I ask Thee today, [one of the days, belonging to Thee, which on account of their privileges, and availability of Thy unrestricted mercy (in them), have been declared important, given preference over (other days), and exclusively specified for the believers], to send blessing son Muhammad, Thy high-minded, great-hearted and generous servant, (whom we will) meet, very soon, on the promised Day of Judgement, (who) opened that which was kept locked and shut, and invited to truth, in every walk of life; an on his “Ahl ul Bayt” (children), the pure (above board) guides, giving light to people to sustain harmony and unity, and have the authority to admit into Paradise or sent to Hell; and give me today from Thy repository of grants, neither restricted nor denied (to the needy), and let us collect ourselves and turn to repentance and recovery in good time, O He who is called as the most favorite in exclusion to (all) others, and (who is) more generous (than others) in the matter of fulfilling hopes, O He who gives enough, O He who keeps His words, O He who treats with kindness and benevolence without making a show of it, be kind and friendly towards me, make me happy with Thy favours, lend me Thy helping hand, do not leave me out unmentioned from Thy reward giving list, for the sake of those who carry out Thy commands and take care of Thy most confidential policies, and keep me safe from the fraud and deceit of materialist vicissitudes, till the day Thou shall raise the dead for the final judgment; and let Thy close confidants be present beside me at the time when my soul departs, body disintegrates, activity ceases to operate, and my appointed time comes to an end. O Allah keep me in mind in the long hours of agony when I take quarters in between the layers of the earth, the preoccupied forgetful put me out of their head and think no more of me, and (I ask Thee to) settle me in the ever luxuriant land, and lodge me in a lovable comforting house, in the midst and company of Thy close friends and people who have been selected and chosen for Thy neighborhood, make my meeting with thee a blissful occasion, (so that it takes place) keep me alive adhering to good in my day to day life here, free from waywardness and indecent indulgence,

before the appointed time comes to an end, (then) O Allah let me reach the cistern (center) of Thy Prophet, Muhammad, blessing of Allah be on him and on his children), and quench my thirst there, thoroughly, in plenty, gliding the wholesome water pleasantly down the throat, never to be thirsty again, never to be kept away from it once I am there, never to be driven off, and let it be my most reliable preparation, quite sufficient for the questioning session on the day when witnesses will be brought. O Allah curse the oppressors from beginning to the end, who stirred up trouble and took possession of that which rightly belonged to Thy trustworthy representatives. O Allah put an end to their rule, destroy their followers and agents swiftly complete their ruin, freeze their properties, and let their methods and institutions enter on the narrow road ending at a dead end. Damn their theoreticians and their associates; O Allah, send Thy trustworthy representatives at once, wrongs done to them may be redeemed their “Qaa—im” (living representative may be given his rightful opportunity to appear, appoint him to give currency to Thy religion and to establish law and order by marking out the boundaries to end the domination of Thy enemies. O Allah let Thy Angels form a protective right around him, give him the responsibility to turn the tables on (Thy enemies) as has been decided in the night of Qadr, till Thou gets satisfied and Thy religion is re-established through him, blooming in full growth afresh on his hands, promote his cause by making it the pure truth, and let the falsehood disappear totally discredited. O Allah send blessings on him and on all his forefathers, and let us be his companions and familiar friends, bring us back to life so that he takes us in his service, so far as we prove ourselves his staunch supporters during his tenure. O Allah make us reach his days of renaissance and follow his leadership, and see with our own eyes his (golden) era, send blessings on him and favour us by conveying his message of goodwill to us, peace be on him and Allah’s mercy and blessing be on him.”

2. A two rak‘at Ṣalāt should also be performed in this manner:

- Sūrah al-Fātiḥā once followed by Sūrah al-Shams and Sūrah al-Dhuhā five times each – this is the same for both Rak‘at.

Once the Ṣalāt is finished, the following should be said once:

لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ

“There is no power or strength save with Allāh, the Most High, the Greatest.”

The following du‘ā should then be read once:

يَا مُقِيلَ الْعَثَرَاتِ أَقْلِي عَثْرَتِي، يَا مُجِيبَ الدَّعَوَاتِ اجِبْ دَعْوَتِي، يَا سَامِعَ الْأَصْوَاتِ اسْمَعْ صَوْتِي وَأَرْحَمَنِي
وَتَجَاوَزْ عَن سَيِّئَاتِي وَمَا عِنْدِي يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ. ◎

“O He who tolerates lapses, bear with my false steps, O He who responds to supplications, answer to my prayers. O He who pays attention to (all) voices, hear my cry, and have mercy on me, overlook my wrongdoings and opposition, O Owner of might and majesty.”

...all praise belongs to Allāh, only the mistakes are mine (Tr.)