



# The Tamkeen Times

## *Qiyamul Layl:*

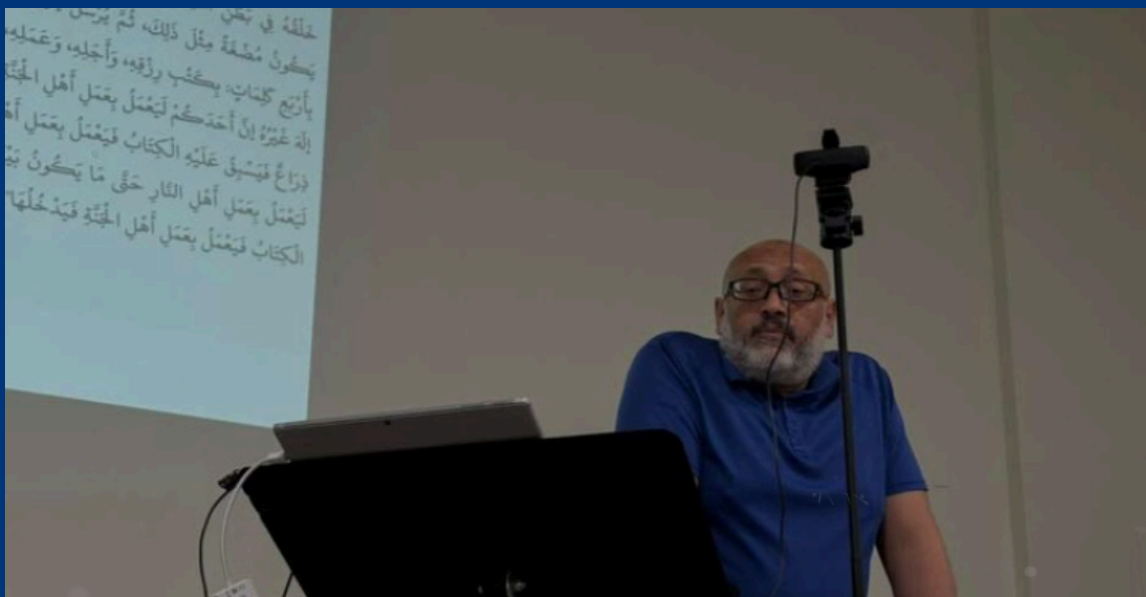
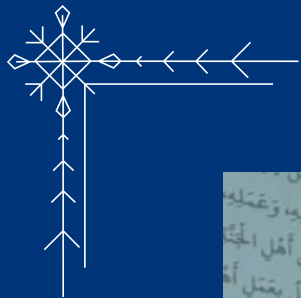


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### *Introduction*

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Assalamu alaykom Tamkeen, it's nice to see you again this month! InshaAllah, as the weather gets colder, the Editorial team is embarking on a journey to get YOU to lock in and prepare for Ramadhan. The theme for this December is Qiyamul Layl, which is something many of us do frequently during Ramadan, so it's a good habit to start trying to form now. Many of us have heard the of the term Qiyam or Qiyamul Layl. This powerful term is the difference between your typical night of sleep (a.k.a staying up scrolling) and a night where we see who is closest to Allah (swt), spending their night in His remembrance and struggling against their nafs (weak self) and desire to sleep. Keep reading to learn about updates from this month and don't forget to check out our "Theme- Exploration Section", that dives deep into the first part of our Tamkeen winter arc: Qiyam!



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## December Debrief

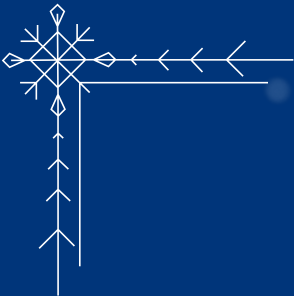
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Alhamdulillah, this month we held our second **parent meeting** of the year as Tamkeen's Fall Quarter came to a close and have our next one scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup> inshaAllah. Along with **nearly completing of our first series** on Imam Al-Nawawi's 40 Hadith, Tamkeeners have almost finished studying and memorizing the first seven hadiths together alhamdulillah. Our groups continued consistently throughout the quarter, making steady progress in Qur'an memorization as well. On the **content** side, the Peer Review and Reteach teams were especially active, producing article summaries and halaqa companion guides for the first two hadith, with the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth on the way, and the series exam forthcoming.

Across the **quizzes** from this month, each quiz had about 76–80 total answers, with boys consistently submitting more responses than girls. Across these quizzes, girls generally wrote longer answers than boys, especially in Quizzes 1436 and 1438 where the difference was more noticeable. Boys' answers were usually shorter but more consistent in length, while girls' answers varied more, meaning their responses differed more in size. Overall, boys participated more often, but girls tended to write longer and more varied answers. (showing more engagement and detail and basically how Tamkeen girls are better than the boys; confirmed by the website data)

The **Fishing Club** continued meeting during the month, though gatherings may slow as the fish disappear for the winter season. There are also rumors of Tamkeen getting a **new van** soon...

Also, a reminder that we are entering **Rajab**- one of the most important months in the Islamic calendar. Rajab is one of the four sacred months where battle was prohibited by Allah (swt), and it is a time of presence, returning to your deen, and preparation for Ramadhan (Hence, our winter arc). As we approach another Ramadhan, start some planning ahead of time and take advantage of the barakah in this month to achieve some goals early on!



## *Best Quiz Answer: "Chatgpt Wrapped"*

### **Great Job to Amjad Attar mashaAllah!**

When I saw the ChatGPT Wrapped, it made me think about how much time we spend using technology and what we use it for. If my Wrapped showed that I used AI to learn, study, and help others, I would feel happy because the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said, "The best of people are those who are most beneficial to others" (Sahih al-Bukhari). That means using AI for good things, like learning or helping, is something to be proud of.

But if it showed that I used it mostly for fun or wasted time, I would want to change that. The Quran reminds us in Surah Al-Asr that time is very important: "By time, indeed, mankind is in loss, except for those who believe and do righteous deeds." This teaches that we should use our time wisely and not waste it.

Next year, I want to use AI in a better way—like learning new skills, understanding the Quran more, and becoming a kinder person. I also want to make sure I don't depend on it too much. The Prophet (PBUH) taught us to always try our best and trust Allah, saying, "Tie your camel and trust in Allah" (Tirmidhi). That means we should use tools like AI, but still rely on Allah for guidance.

In general, I want to grow as a person—be more patient, thankful, and careful with my time. I want my actions, even online, to bring me closer to Allah and help others too.

تَتَجَافَى جُنُوبُهُمْ عَنِ الْمَضَاجِعِ يَدْعُونَ رَبَّهُمْ خَوْفًا وَطَمَعًا وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنفِقُونَ

**They abandon their beds, invoking their Lord with hope and fear, and  
.donate from what We have provided for them**

Surah Sajdah: Ayah 16





## *Featured Story/Person*

And you might think that Qiyam is only for the legendary scholars from the past, people who were somehow close to our Rabb than the rest of us. But here's the truth: Qiyam exists for every single soul. Think of a mother who has lost her child, standing at night and weeping in Salah. Or a young man who prays at night, begging for Allah to forgive him for his past.

My point is that there isn't one beautiful story, there are countless ones, each shaped by a different struggle and reason for standing before Allah. That's the beauty of Qiyam ul Layl. It doesn't have one face. It doesn't belong to one type of person. There are many faces that show up at night, all for different reasons, all known only to Allah.

And you can be one of them.

Stop believing that Qiyam is only for people more righteous than you. No! There are normal people right now who make up the faces of Qiyam, and you would never know it. The sweet neighbor you say hi to every day. The person you see who is struggling with sin, crying at night asking Allah for forgiveness. Qiyam is for everyone.





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## *Tuesday Summary*

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This month featured a two part series of the life of Imam Al Bukhari and what made him unique. One of the biggest takeaways was how obsessed he was with knowledge. Not just memorizing hadith but understanding them, checking the chain of narrations and making sure everything was accurate. Imagine, at only ten years old, he corrected a major renowned scholar during a lesson.. not out of arrogance but because he genuinely knew his stuff.

What made Imam Bukhari legendary was not his memory but his obsession with the knowledge he was seeking. The point is that all of us have the ability to be as honorable as him but are we willing to obsess ourselves with books of Hadith rather than lyrics of our favorite artists?

At the age of 16, he asked his mother if he could stay behind in Makkah to seek knowledge while he was struggling financially but he did not care. The only priority in his heart was knowledge. His heart was invested deeply in this world of علم and he couldn't simply let it go.

Even later on in his life, when people got jealous, spread rumors and pushed him out of cities, he didn't change. There's much to say about this extraordinary figure but a short summary does not give him justice. I'd really encourage you to revisit the halaqas.



## New Chapter Updates



The last halaqa that we're covering for our current fall series (the 40 nawawi) will commence at halaqah 7. Our last halaqah will be on January 10<sup>th</sup> and followed by an epic tamkener appreciation activity to celebrate all tamkeeners who remained committed and worked for the sake of Allah this quarter.

As we reach the end of the series for now, remember that we covered this series in Tamkeen a few years ago and it can be found on the Tamkeen website ([tamkeen.us](http://tamkeen.us)) in halaqah archives under educational resources tab inshaAllah.

Speaking of the website, to prepare for the final exam to test your knowledge from the past couple of weeks, navigate to the text versions of the halaqas we've covered and the halaqah companion guides attached in them, to study to pass the exam and get a high grade so you can continue to the next quarter inshaAllah.

\*These articles are where you will find the text of the halaqas for summarizing and review inshaAllah!\*

Navigate to the "Holding Tight to the Raft" book section from here:  
<https://tamkeen.us/homepage/BookChapters.aspx>

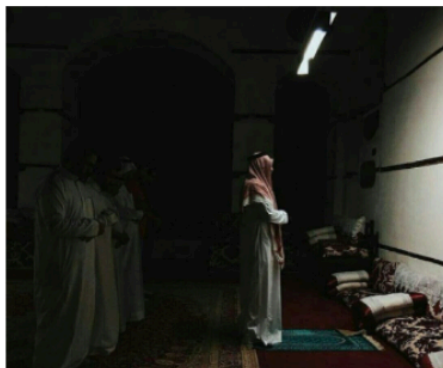




## Featured Article

### Stand Before Allah Before You Stand In Front Of The People

By: Anonymous



*"You enfolded one! Stand..." This is a call from on high, given by God Almighty. Stand, for you have a great mission and a heavy burden. Stand, for you need to put in sustained efforts. Stand, for the time of sleep and comfort is over. You need to prepare for the task ahead of you."*

Qutb, S. (2003). In the Shade of the Quran p.338

Not only does this beautiful article match our theme of qiyam, it dives into the deep topics of preparation for divine responsibility, inner strength before public struggle, and how Qiyam ul Layl was a deliberate training ground for the Prophet (saw) and the earliest believers. It powerfully connects Qur'anic verses, hadith, and lived experiences to show qiyam as a source of resilience, dignity, and emotional grounding in times of hardship. What makes this piece especially amazing is how it moves beyond theory and shows the real, lived impact of standing before Allah in moments of exhaustion, fear, and pain. The writing is heartfelt, layered, and reflective, inviting the reader to feel the weight of the mission, the beauty of private worship, and the depth of transformation that comes from sincere night prayer.

Click here to **submit your article**: <https://tamkeen.us/TamkeenerPortal/SubmitArticle.aspx>

Click here if you want **help picking an idea** to write about: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfIAOzT25woRMycK-XzQxzQMdVhibM1XkhTd0-vFoL1OAmGRQ/viewform>



## Theme Exploration: Qiyamul Layl

Qiyamul Layl, commonly referred to as the night prayer, is one of the most profound acts of worship in our deen. It is performed after Isha and before Fajr, during a time when the world is quiet and distractions are minimal. Allah praises those who devote part of the night to worship, saying: "They arise from [their] beds; they supplicate their Lord in fear and hope" (Quran 32:16). This prayer nurtures sincerity, strengthens faith, and cultivates a private relationship with Allah that is rooted in humility and devotion.

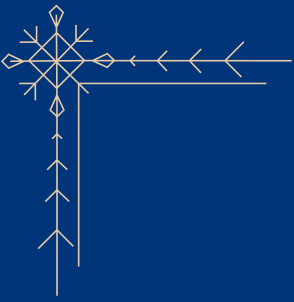
Historically, Qiyam al-Layl carried an even greater obligation. At the beginning of Islam, it was fard upon the Prophet, and many scholars state that it was initially obligatory upon the early believers as well. Allah commanded: "O you who wraps himself [in clothing], arise [to pray] the night, except for a little" (Quran 73:1–2). Later, Allah lightened this command as a mercy, making night prayer voluntary for the ummah. Despite this easing, the Prophet consistently maintained Qiyam al-Layl throughout his life. Aishah narrated that he would stand in prayer until his feet became swollen, and when asked why, he replied: "Should I not be a grateful servant?" (Bukhari, Muslim). This demonstrates that night prayer was an act of gratitude and devotion rather than obligation alone.

In conclusion, Qiyamul Layl remains one of the most meaningful acts of worship in Islam, deeply rooted in the Quran and the Sunnah. Though it is no longer obligatory, it was consistently practiced by the Prophet and praised as the best prayer after the obligatory ones (Muslim). It embodies sincerity, gratitude, and closeness to Allah, especially during moments when worship is unseen by others. In a time filled with constant noise and distraction, Qiyam al-Layl serves as a reminder that true spiritual connection is often found in the quiet moments when the world sleeps and the believer stands before Allah alone.

وَحَدَّثَنَا قُتَيْبَةُ بْنُ سَعِيدٍ، حَدَّثَنَا يَحْيَى بْنُ عَبْدِ الرَّحْمَنِ الْقَارِيُّ - عَنْ شَهِيلِ بْنِ أَبِي صَالِحٍ، عَنْ أَبِيهِ، عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، عَنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " يَنْزِلُ اللَّهُ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ الدُّنْيَا كُلَّ لَيْلَةٍ حِينَ يَمْضِي ثُلُثُ اللَّيْلِ الْأَوَّلِ فَيَقُولُ أَنَا الْمَلِكُ أَنَا الْمَلِكُ مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَدْعُونِي فَاسْتَجِبْ لَهُ مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَسْأَلُنِي فَأُعْطِيَهُ مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَسْتَغْفِرُنِي فَأَغْفِرَ لَهُ فَلَا يَزَالُ كَذَلِكَ حَتَّى يُضِيَءَ الْفَجْرُ " .

as saying: Allah descends every night to the (ﷺ) Abu Huraira reported Allah's Messenger lowest heaven when one-third of the first part of the night is over and says: I am the Lord; I am the Lord: who is there to supplicate Me so that I answer him? Who is there to beg of Me so that I grant him? Who is there to beg forgiveness from Me so that I forgive him? He continues like this till the day breaks. (Muslim)





# Game

## EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT...

InshaAllah our scavenger hunt is still in development, pay attention to the next update to participate and win inshaAllah! JazakomAllahu khairan for reading and:

