



اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

## Niaz Imam Jaffer-e-Sadiq <sup>asws</sup> 22 Rajab Niaz (kounday)

22<sup>nd</sup> of Rajab is celebrated with supplications to Allah <sup>azwj</sup>, praise and remembrance of Masomeen <sup>asws</sup>' contributions and sacrifices for the purpose of establishing Allah <sup>azwj</sup>'s recognition and saving entire universe from destruction. A specially prepared feast is also offered to brethren in Eman along with denouncing the enemies of Ahlul Bait <sup>asws</sup>. A centuries' old tradition, regularly commemorated by the followers of Ahlul Bait <sup>asws</sup>, and is referred to 'Niaz' Imam Jafar-e-Sadiq <sup>asws</sup>. We have briefly described, below, preparation and offering of this feast.

In order to prepare Niaz it is suggested that followers of Ahlul Bait <sup>asws</sup> should get up early in the morning of 22 Rajab and should clean the house and purify themselves by taking Ghusal (bath/shower), put on fragrance (etar) and lit agar bate/use air freshener in their home and spread a clean 'tahir' sheet in a clean room. One should make sure all the utensils to be used in the preparation of niaz are clean and Pak.

### **Procedure For Preparing Niaz**

Make dough of approximately one kilogram and a quarter of flour 'mayda' and prepare 14 pieces of bread 'pooriyan' and short sweet bread 'tikiyan' (which are sweet bread and small in size like pan cakes) and fry them in oil. Prepare some semolina 'halwa' as well.

For khas niaz take out 7 pooriyan and 7 tikiyan and some halwa in clean and pure pots and place the pots containing Niaz facing Qibla. After praying Fajar prayers read the following mojiza of Imam Jafar-e-Sadiq <sup>asws</sup>'s offer niaz, and make prayers. One should take extra care in consuming khas niaz and it is better not to allow any one to take the 'khas niaz' i.e. the selected portion, out of the house as it is considered disrespectful. The other food to be prepared may be given out to take away by momaneen. The niaz is also part of a celebration, a day on which Allah <sup>azwj</sup> relieved momaneen from one of the worst Muslim rulers, who was trying to kill and eliminated shian-e-Ali <sup>sws</sup>.

### **Mojiza of Imam Jafar-e-Sadiq <sup>asws</sup>**

Recite Salawat 3 times prior to reading/telling about the follow:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ

A very poor woodcutter used to live in a city and cut woods every day in a jungle and sell tree-branches to earn living for his family. Upon finding it difficult to make both

ends meet, one day he decided to go abroad to earn better wages. They prayed to God for blessings and have mercy on them.

He left in the search of work and better job, but unfortunately his fate was not in his favour. He intended to return home but time slowly slipped away and he could not save enough from the little savings he managed to secure from few odd jobs. He remained in uncertainty for twelve years thinking of gathering money but during all that time he could neither send any money to his family nor could go back to see them.

On the other hand, his wife initially waited for few days with the hope that her husband will soon start supporting them. However, when she did not hear from him for a long time and in order to support her starving family, she found herself a job, as a cleaner in prime minister's palace to bring home some food for survival

One day, she saw a dream that she was cleaning prime minister's palace, when all of a sudden the Master of both worlds Imam Jafar-e-Sadiq<sup>sws</sup> came into the courtyard together with His companions and enquired from His companions: 'Do you know which date is today and which month is it?' They replied, 'ya Mola<sup>asws</sup> tonight is 22<sup>nd</sup> Rajab-ul-mujarab. Imam<sup>asws</sup> replied from his Divine tongue that if some one is engulfed into troubles, no matter how severe or bad they are, he/she should prepare 'pooriyan' of 1,1/4 kg of flour and give a nazar on the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup> Rajab and pray Allah<sup>azwj</sup> and ask for Our sake. Allah<sup>azwj</sup> will, for sure, listen to their requests and relieve them from their hardships. When the woodcutter's wife woke up, she decided to perform this nazar. And on the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup> Rajab after praying Fajar, she did the nazar exactly in the way as prescribed by Imam<sup>sws</sup> in her dream. Salawat!

Now listen to the situation of woodcutter himself: When his wife was offering niaz on the morning of 22<sup>nd</sup> Rajab, her husband was cutting woods in a jungle after climbing on a tree when all of a sudden his axe fell out of his hand on the ground below. When he pulled it out of the soft ground, he felt there is something buried there, like a hidden treasure. On digging the ground, he found an enormous treasure, hidden in a box. At this instance, he covered it again and went back. He then returned to the place and started extracting jewels and gold from the box little by little. Upon recovering all of it, he started to prepare for his journey back home, now with plenty of wealth and self-esteem.

His family welcomed him and he built a beautiful house, near the little old cottage and started living happily with his family. One day his wife told him about the mojiza and how she offered the nazar. When she told him about the date and timing, they were exactly the same date and timing when he got that treasure. Salawat!

He fully believed in it and became a devout momin. One day prime minister's wife was standing on top of her palace and enjoying sunshine and fresh air when she noticed a very attractive and newly built house in the proximity of their grand palace. She asked her slave girls about the owner of that house. They told her that the house belongs to the family of the lady who used to clean the palace. On hearing this, she called her (woodcutter's wife) and quizzed the legitimacy of her newly acquired wealth. Woodcutter's wife told her saga in detail, but the prime minister's wife did not believe her and thought that her husband must have stolen or robbed the described treasures.

While the prime minister's wife had this suspicion, her husband met his bad fate in the court of the king. One of the officials in the king's palace was against the prime minister. Upon finding a suitable time, he made fraudulent allegations against him to the King. The ruler immediately asked him to present before him all the accounts. The prime minister could not balance the accounts in that short notice and was humiliated and suspended from his position.

The king ordered to confiscate all of prime minister's property and asked them to leave their palace and go away from his kingdom. Both the husband and wife left their house and were walking on foot, which they were not used to, and felt exhausted with hunger and thirst. Soon they found a field full of melons in front of them. The prime minister took 2 dirham from his wife which were left in her pocket, by chance, and bought a melon and wrapped it in a cloth, to eat it later under a tree shade across the farm.

By chance the day when the prime minister got into trouble, the prince also went for hunting but did not manage to return home before the fall of the night. The King was worried and distressed so he consulted all his ministers and discussed the matter with them. The same minister who was always backbiting about the prime minister said, 'I think the prince has been taken away and killed by the grieved prime minister'. On hearing this king ordered to arrest the prime minister. The police found him near the melon field and arrested the prime minister and his wife. They had not eaten the melon by that time and it was still wrapped up in the cloth at the time of their arrest.

They were brought in front of the king who noticed blood seeping out from the cloth in which the melon was wrapped. On removing the cloth prince's deadhead was discovered. The king started crying and ordered to put them in jail for the night and behead both of them early in the morning. The prime minister and his wife were sent to the royal jail. In the jail the Prime Minister asked his wife 'I cannot understand why are we in so much trouble? What kind of sin have we committed for which we are getting punished?'. His wife told him about the woodcutter's story, word by word, and said that I did not believe in his spiritual 'nazar' and about Imam Jafar-e-Sadiq<sup>asws</sup> instructions in her dream.

Upon hearing this, the prime minister told his wife that there can be no sin graver than doubting Imam Jafar-e-Sadiq<sup>asws</sup> 's Divine powers and means of communications to help and assist his followers in desperation. They then decided to repent and ask for forgiveness as Mola<sup>asws</sup>'s miracles are always true and just. Therefore, they cried all night and asked for absolution and pledged to offer the Niaz if released from the prison without charge. Allah<sup>azwj</sup> accepted their apologies and early in the morning, the prince came back from hunting and greeted his father, the king. Salawat!

On the prince's return the king asked him, 'O my beloved son where have you been for so long?'

He replied that he decided to stay over night in one of their royal gardens due to unsuccessful haunting endeavour. The king asked him to go and take some rest and then asked for the prime minister and his wife, who were about to be hanged. The king also asked for the cloth in which he had seen the head of his son. This time when he opened it, he saw a melon there instead. He was surprised and asked the prime minister about the whole matter. The prime minister told him the whole event as it was. On listening to the entire story he sent for the woodcutter and his wife and asked them about the events described by the prime minister. They told the king, what they

had gone through which was in line with what the prime ministry had told him earlier. Upon gathering this information the king believed in it whole-heartedly and became a devout Momin and reinstated the prime minister to his former position and expelled the fellow who lied about him. Salawat!

Ya parwardigar!

Just as you have turned the wrong days of prime minister and woodcutter into better ones please, fulfil all prayers and wishes of all momaneen and mominaat and save us from the troubles and hardships, become our protector and give us the best sustenance, with ease, closer to my home, from 'halal and pak' resources and means, .Aamin suma Aamin.

Then stand up and recite Salawat 5 times, sura Fateha once, sura Ikhlas three times, sura Qadar once and five times Salawat and serve niaz to the participants, as described above.