

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

“IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, THE MOST GRACIOUS, THE MOST MERCIFUL”



Deep Dive: the Day of Arafah

PRESENTED BY NOOR AL-FAJR



Religious How-To's

THE PLAIN OF ARAFAH



THE MOUNTAIN OF MERCY



SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DAY OF ARAFAH

A Jewish man said to Umar bin Al-Khattab, “O Leader of the Believers! There is a verse in your Book, which is read by all of you, had it been revealed to us, we would have taken that day as a day of celebration.”

Umar bin Al-Khattab asked, ‘Which is that verse?’

The Jew replied: “This day, I have perfected for you your religion and completed My favour upon you and have approved for you Islam as religion.”

Umar replied, "By Allah! I know when and where this verse was revealed to Allah's Messenger. It was the evening on the Day of Arafah on a Friday.”



SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DAY OF ARAFAH

The Prophet said: “There is no day in which Allah sets free more slaves from Hell-fire than the Day of ‘Arafah. Indeed, He draws near, and He then boasts about them to the angels and says: ‘What do these (slaves of mine) want?’” (Muslim)



VIRTUES OF THE DAY OF 'ARAFAH

- 1. It is the day God perfected the religion of Islam.**
- 2. It is the day God bestowed the completion of His divine favor upon the Muslims, and for humanity.**
- 3. It is the day God said He chose and was pleased with Al-Islam — The Peace — as the religion of the believers unto the end of the world.**
- 4. It is the day God revealed these three virtues of Islam to His Prophet, God's blessing and peace upon him, as part of the Quran (Sûrat Al-Mâ'idah, 5:3).**



VIRTUES OF THE DAY OF 'ARAFAH

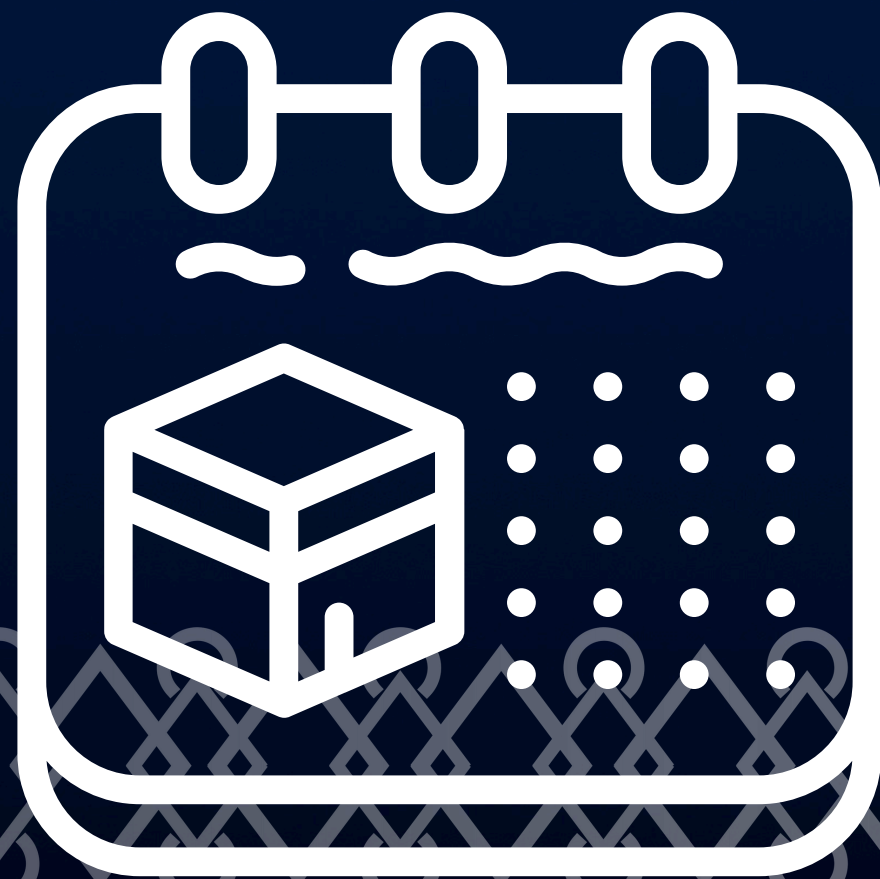
5. It is the day of the Prophet's celebrated Farewell Address (Khutbah Al-Wadâ') to all the believers until the end of time, which took place on a Friday, during which the previously cited revelation came down.

6. It is the day the Prophet bore witness three times before the believers and Allah that he had successfully completed the divine mission of His messengership: To convey God's message of the Quran and Islam to humanity.



9TH OF DHUL HIJJAH

‘Arafah takes place on the ninth day of Dhu’l-Hijjah, the 12th and final month in the Islamic calendar. It occurs on the second day of the Hajj pilgrimage to Makkah that Muslims are obligated to perform at least once in their lifetime, if able.



WHY IS THIS DAY CALLED 'ARAFAH?

'Arafah, or 'Arafât (literally: the Place of Meeting, or Knowing, or Fragrance) is a vast, open desert plain about 12 miles southeast of the Ka'bah, which is in the city of Makkah. The Plain of 'Arafah is marked by the prominence of Jabal 'Arafah, the Mount of Meeting, also known as Jabal Al-Rahmah, the Mount of Mercy. This is a granite hillock rising to a peak of about 230 feet.

The plain surrounding the Mount of Mercy hosts the millions of Pilgrims who embark from one of Hajj's waymarks called Mina. They depart Mina after sunrise on the second day of Hajj to gather at 'Arafah.

WHY IS THIS DAY CALLED 'ARAFAH?

The scholars record four unauthenticated accounts of the origin of the name 'Arafah for this plain:

1. It marks the place of reunion on earth for Adam and Eve after their divine banishment from the Garden for eating of the forbidden tree. Both are said to have descended to Earth in different localities — according to some accounts, Adam in India and Eve in East Africa. They “met up” — ‘arafah — at a lone mountain in a vast plain. Thus, it and its surrounding plain became known as the Mount of 'Arafah. Upon this holy site, Adam and Eve became "reacquainted with one another" — also a meaning of 'arafah — after lengthy years of separation (some say two centuries).

WHY IS THIS DAY CALLED 'ARAFAH?

2. 'Arafah is the nominalization of the verb 'arafa, "he came to know." It became the place name of the plain because of the Arch-Angel Gabriel's questioning of the Prophet Abraham, on him be peace, on this site after Gabriel, on him be peace, had taught him each of the rituals of Hajj, asking Abraham after his instruction in his religious rites: "A'raftah? Do you now know it?" and Abraham answering: "'Araftuh. I now know it."
3. It names the plain where Pilgrims get to know one another.
4. It is the holy site where the mercy of God descends during Hajj as if with its own "heavenly fragrance," another meaning of 'arafah.

THE MOUNT OF MERCY



9TH OF DHUL HIJJAH

The Day of 'Arafah (Yawm Al-'Arafah), also called the Day of the Standing (Yawm Al-Waqf), is significant because it is the holiest day of the Islamic Hijri lunar year (just as Laylat Al-Qadr, the Night of Empowering Decree in Ramadan, is the holiest night of the Islamic year).



WHAT IS THE DAY OF 'ARAFAH?

الْحَجُّ عَرَفَاتُ الْحَجِّ عَرَفَاتُ الْحَجِّ عَرَفَاتُ

The Prophet said,
“Hajj is Arafat. Hajj is Arafat. Hajj is Arafat.”

Without observing it in its proper place and time, there is no Hajj. All other aspects and rites of Hajj have some lawful way to make up for missing or modifying them, or factors that may excuse one from them.



ON THE DAY OF 'ARAFAH

On the Day of 'Arafah, from somewhat before noon until sunset, Pilgrims, observing the rules and symbolic dress of ritual pilgrim sanctity (iḥrâm), gather to the Plain of 'Arafât and take their stand (wuqûf) of faith before God, entreating His mercy and forgiveness. From this rite, 'Arafah takes its other popular name, Yawm Al-Waqf (the Day of Standing).

Its scene — a sea of indistinguishable humanity across a stark plain, pleading with outstretched hands for their Lord's acceptance of their repentance, His pardon, forgiveness and mercy, and His admission of them into His Paradise — presages humanity's standing before God on the Day of Judgment.

ON THE DAY OF 'ARAFAH

While resting and even sleep from fatigue are not prescribed for Pilgrims on this day, the Prophet, on him be peace, is known to have condensed and combined, the noon and midday ritual Salah-Prayers of Dhuhr and 'Asr, respectively, at the earliest time on this day. Then he beseeched God in supplicatory prayer (du'a) — with outstretched arms, upraised palms from just after noon until sunset.



ON THE DAY OF 'ARAFAH

وَإِذَا مَسَّ الْإِنْسَانَ الضُّرُّ دَعَانَا لِجَنْبِهِ أَوْ قَاعِدًا أَوْ قَائِمًا فَلَمَّا كَشَفْنَا عَنْهُ ضُرَّهُ مَرَّ كَأَن لَّمْ يَدْعُنَا إِلَى ضُرِّ مَسَّهُ كَذَلِكَ زِينٌ لِّلْمُسْرِفِينَ مَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ

Whenever someone is touched by hardship, they cry out to Us, whether lying on their side, sitting, or standing. But when We relieve their hardship, they return to their old ways as if they had never cried to Us to remove any hardship! This is how the misdeeds of the transgressors have been made appealing to them. [10:12]





NoorAl-Fajr

THANK YOU

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

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