

DROUGHT

Remedies & method of
Salatul Istisqa'

Published By:



DARUL IHSAN
HUMANITARIAN CENTRE
GUIDANCE • UBUNTU • EMPOWERMENT

REMEDIES & METHOD OF SALATUL ISTISQA

Water is a beautiful and amazing bounty of Allah Ta'ala and is the source of life of every living body.

Allah Ta'ala says: *"It is He !Allah) who sends down water from the sky. From it you drink and from it grows the vegetation on which you send your cattle to pasture".* (Surah Nuh Verse 10)

Apart from it being the primary source of life and existence, water is essential for ritual cleanliness and purity, without which Muslims will be unable to pray and fulfill Islamic obligations .

When rainfall becomes scarce it leads to a short supply of water which leads to a drought.

HOW DROUGHTS HAPPEN

Climatic experts explain that a drought refers to a prolonged period of dry weather and shortage of rainfalls that brings about severe water constraints to the environment. This is

turn brings about an imbalance in the ecosystem and food chain affecting plants and animals and humans .

As Muslims, we believe that all natural conditions occur with permission and willing of Allah Ta'ala, the Master of the Universe, and have relevance with the actions of mankind. Good actions bring good conditions and evil actions result in adverse conditions.

Allah Ta'ala says, **Whatever of good reaches you, is from Allah, but whatever of evil befalls you, is from yourself.** (Surah Nisa)

The prevalence of vice and evil in the world is one of the major causes of natural disasters and escalation of adverse weather conditions. In

the hadith, frequent droughts have also been cited as a sign of the closeness of Qiyamah. A drought on the land should make us reflect over the drought of good deeds and virtue in our lives and spur us towards good action.

IMPACT OF DROUGHT ON SOCIETY

There are three main ways droughts impact lives and communities.

Economic impact: This includes losses in the timber, agricultural, and fisheries. Many of these losses are then passed on to consumers in the form of higher commodity pricing.

Social impact: Possibility of conflict over commodities, fertile land, and water resources. Increased chance of health risks due to poverty and hygiene issues.

Environmental impact: Include reduced air quality, and increased soil erosion and loss in species biodiversity,

SINS AND VICES THAT CAUSE DROUGHT

Though generally, all sins are abominable and draw the wrath of Allah Ta'ala, there are certain sins and vices that bring the onset of droughts and its disastrous effects on a community. Some of the major sins are:

- ♦ **Immorality and shamelessness** - This vice is prevalent throughout the globe and practiced flagrantly by many. Zina, nakedness, fornication, adultery, intermingling of sexes etc. have become so common that people do not regard these serious crimes against the command of Allah Ta'ala any longer.
- ♦ **Oppression** - Non fulfillment and usurping the rights of others, oppressing the elderly, weak and vulnerable, cheating lying fraudulent dealings etc. have also become wide spread in society.

- ♦ Non-payment of Zakaat - Withholding of this obligation from the poor and incorrect calculation of Zakaat is a major factor that leads to droughts. Payment of zakat to unlawful recipients or avenues is also common.

REMEDIES AND SOLUTIONS

- ♦ Sincere repentance - Individually and collectively all should in engage in excessive Istighfar and repentance. With repentance invokes the mercy of Allah Ta'ala's and brings about favourable conditions.
- ♦ Express gratitude for water - Constant gratitude and thanksgiving to Allah Ta'ala for His bounties whenever one is drinking or using water. An overlooked aspect of gratitude is to utilise the bounty in the correct manner and reflect over the mercy of Allah Ta'ala for providing such a bounty despite us not deserving it.
- ♦ Active Conservation - A conscious effort should be made to save water at every juncture. Leaking pipes and dripping taps etc. should be repaired and water saving appliances should be employed to recycle water that could be used elsewhere etc. Use of sprinklers and hose pipes etc. should be curtailed.
- ♦ Salat ul Istisqa - This prayer has been specified as a prayer for rain and is performed when seeking rain from Allah Ta'ala during times of drought.

METHOD OF LSTISQA SA/AH D SA/AH THAT IS PERFORMED FOR SEEK MG RAM:

- ♦ The appointed imam will lead the Salah of congregation consisting of two raka'ahs. The timing for the Istisqa Salah is anytime 'natl' optional prayers are permitted.

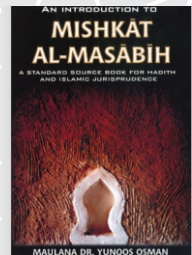
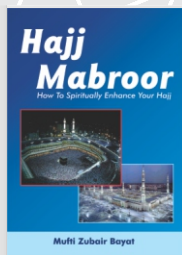
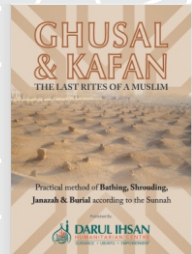
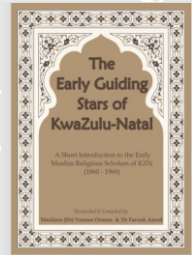
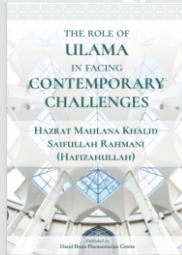
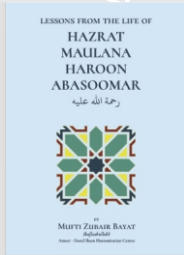
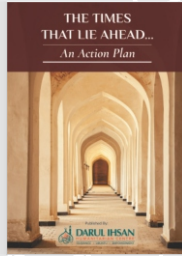
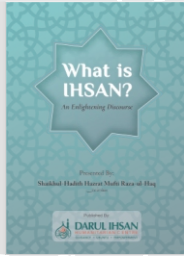
- ♦ Audible recitation will be conducted in both the rakaats. It is preferred to recite Surah Al-A'laa in the first rakaat, and Surah Al-Ghashiyah in the second.
- ♦ Thereafter the Imam will deliver a khutba. Following this, the imam will face the qiblah and make fervent dua.
- ♦ The imam will also flip his shawl (upper garment, cloak or sheet) - symbolically as a good omen or gesture) to signify the anticipated change from drought to prosperity. The congregation will not flip (or turnover) their sheets. (Mukhtasar Al Quduri, Kitaabul Fiqh Ala Madhahibil Arba'a)

On one occasion Rasulullah ﷺ asked a person who was performing wudhu, "Why are you wasting water?" The person inquired: "Is there wastage even in wudhu?" Rasulullah ﷺ replied: "Yes indeed, (do not waste) even if you are at the bank of a river." (Ibn Majah)

The community should invoke Allah Ta'ala's mercy for rain and engage in abundant Istighfar and repentance.



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About Darul Ihsan

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre provides education, guidance, social, empowerment and welfare services to the community. In providing this service, we adopt a holistic approach, that gives due importance to basic needs as well as human rights and dignity of those that we serve.

Founding Philosophy

Darul Ihsan Humanitarian Centre is a multi-purpose, humanitarian-services providing organisation. 'Ihsan' means compassion towards mankind and to act with excellence. The Centre was established in the year 2000 with the primary objective of serving humanity and alleviating poverty and hardship locally and abroad. Since its inception, it has developed and established many humanitarian projects and provides a variety of free services to the community.

Key Objectives

One of the key objectives of the Centre is to promote a better understanding of humanity and peace, thereby serving as a bridge-builder between faiths and communities. Through guidance, Ubuntu and empowerment, the organisation hopes to train and develop the youth to become torch bearers of hope, peace and compassion to humanity.

