



**Fatwa no. 2122**

**Q: Allah (Exalted be He) says (what means):** ﴿Hâ.-Mîm. [These letters are one of the miracles of the Qur'ân and none but Allâh (Alone) knows their meanings].﴾ ﴿By the manifest Book (this Qur'ân) that makes things clear.﴾ ﴿We sent it (this Qur'ân) down on a blessed night [(i.e. night of Al-Qadr, Sûrah No. 97) in the month of Ramadân - the 9th month of the Islâmic calendar]. Verily, We are ever warning [mankind that Our Torment will reach those who disbelieve in Our Oneness of Lordship and in Our Oneness of worship].﴾ **I have read in "Tafsir Al-Jalalayn" by Jalal Al-Din Al-Mahally and Jalal Al-Din Al-Suyuty the interpretation of Allah's Words:** ﴿We sent it (this Qur'ân) down on a blessed night [(i.e. night of Al-Qadr, Sûrah No. 97) in the month of Ramadân - the 9th month of the Islâmic calendar].﴾ **explaining that the Ayah (Qur'anic verse) refers to either Laylat-ul-Qadr (the Night of Decree) or the middle night of Sha'ban, when the Qur'an was sent down from the Mother of the Book (i.e. Al-Lawh Al-Mahfuz) in the seventh heaven to the nearest (lowest) heaven. I inquired about this matter and asked many shaykhs who told me that it denotes Laylat-ul-Qadr in Ramadan. Kindly provide us with a clear explanation of this Ayah, may Allah protect you.**

**A:** Allah (Exalted is His Majesty) swears by His Glorious Book - the miracle and the inexcusable evidence He revealed to Muhammad (peace be upon him) to support his Message - that He sent down

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the Glorious Qur'an in a blessed night full of bounties, namely, Laylat-ul-Qadr. Allah says: ﴿Verily, We have sent it (this Qur'ân) down in the night of Al-Qadr (Decree).﴾ ﴿And what will make you know what the night of Al-Qadr (Decree) is?﴾ ﴿The night of Al-Qadr (Decree) is better than a thousand months (i.e. worshipping Allâh in that night is better than worshipping Him a thousand months, i.e. 83 years and 4 months).﴾ to the end of the Surah. This Night was in the month of Ramadan, because Allah (Exalted be He) says: ﴿The month of Ramadan in which was revealed the Qur'ân, a guidance for mankind and clear proofs for the guidance and the criterion (between right and wrong).﴾ Anyone who claims that it is the middle night of Sha'ban is mistaken, as they have contradicted the Qur'an and the authentically reported Prophetic Hadith which have specified the month and mentioned it by name. Moreover, those who claim it is the middle night of Sha'ban have no dependable proof from the Qur'an or Sunnah (whatever is reported from the Prophet) supporting their claim. In addition, this is not a reasoning or speculative issue open to debate nor is built on logic-based evidence, rather it is aurally communicated depending on what is said in the Qur'an and authentically reported in the Sunnah. Allah (Glorified be He) then shows the Justice of His Law and His All-Embracing Mercy towards His servants when He says: ﴿Verily, We are ever warning [mankind that Our Torment will reach those who disbelieve in Our Oneness of Lordship and in Our Oneness of worship].﴾ Meaning that Allah shall send messengers to convey His Laws and guide mankind to their Lord. They shall warn them against the end of disobeying His Commands and neglecting His Prohibitions. All this in order to establish Divine Justice, leaving no excuse to mankind after messengers, who are sent out of Allah's Mercy towards His servants. Allah (Exalted be He) says: ﴿Messengers as bearers of good

news as well as of warning in order that mankind should have no plea against Allâh after the (coming of) Messengers. And Allâh is Ever All-Powerful, All-Wise.) He also says: (This is because your Lord would not destroy the (populations of) towns for their wrong-doing (i.e. associating others in worship along with Allâh) while their people were unaware (so the Messengers were sent).)

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He (Exalted be He) says: (Whoever goes right, then he goes right only for the benefit of his ownself. And whoever goes astray, then he goes astray to his own loss. No one laden with burdens can bear another's burden. And We never punish until We have sent a Messenger (to give warning).)

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

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**Source: Fatwas of the Permanent Committee**