

The value of Nawaafil (optional deeds)

Hadhrat Abu Hurairah Radhiyallaahu Anhu narrates, "Rasoolullah Sallallaahu Alayhi Wasallam said:

"The first interrogation on the Day of Qiyaamah will be regarding a man's Salaah. If his Salaah is in order, he will be successful and reach his objective. If his Salaah is found lacking, then he will be unsuccessful and a failure. If there are deficiencies in his Fardh Salaah Allah will tell the angels, "See if my servant has any Nafil Salaah to his credit." The deficiencies in his Fardh are then compensated by these. In this manner, the rest of his deeds shall also be assessed."

(Tirmidhi, Nasa'ee, Ibn Majah and Haakim)

This Hadith makes it evident that a person needs to have sufficient Nafil acts in store so that these may compensate for the deficiencies in the Faraa'idh (plural of Fardh). Many people can be heard saying that they are able to only fulfil the Faraa'idh and that the Nawaafil (plural of Nafil) are best left for the pious. Although it is true that it is sufficient to fulfil the Faraa'idh, it is no easy feat to ensure that they are carried out meticulously. Since there will always be deficiencies, one cannot do without the Nawaafil to offset these failings.

Whilst we are experiencing the Mubaaruk month of Ramadaan, let us exert ourselves in the performance of Nafil Salaah also and ensure that we perform our Fard Salaah meticulously, Insha Allah.

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