

Manifestation of Allah's Mercy on Laylat'ul Qadir March 13, 2026

**sebbaḥa lillahi mā fī l-samāwāti wal-arḍi wahuwa l-‘azīzu l-ḥakīmu Lahu mulku
assamawatiwal-ardi yuhyee wayumeetu wahuwa AAalakulli shay-in qadeer
(Surah Al Hadid 57:2)**

Whatever is in the heavens and earth exalts Allah, and He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise. To Him belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth: It is He Who gives Life and Death; and He has Power over all things.

We live in an era where strength is often reduced to the capacity to exert force. People are taught to believe they are courageous, secure, and self-sufficient when they possess the power to dominate. This same logic shapes our politics, military, even families: governments measure authority by how effectively they silence opposition, and militaries measure bravery by how efficiently they destroy, without accountability and without mercy. Even In many households, authority is mistaken for control, leading family members to seek dominance over one another, rather than connection.

But destruction has never been the measure of courage. The willingness to use overwhelming force against the powerless is not strength; it is fear disguised as power. When a society glorifies the capacity to destroy, it exposes not its bravery but its cowardice. True strength comes from trusting the One who is the source of all-power and strength, and whose might is perfected with His Mercy. That is the only strength that does not corrupt and that truly sustains the world.

True strength and courage are not only about having muscles that make you stand on your own, but lead to the ability to help others rise and to protect the innocent. Strength is never praiseworthy by itself, but it must support the moral values that Allah-u Ta'ala exemplified with His prophets and those who follow their examples. They were strong, yet trustworthy; they kept their promises and never lied. The prophets were humble, forgiving, even when they had the power to take revenge. We see this in the Messenger of Allah (saws), who granted mercy to the people of Mecca after years of persecution when the Muslims entered Mecca. The Prophet Yusuf (as) embraced his envious brothers who had once left him to die. The prophets did not walk the earth as tyrants, but as humble servants. Consider Omar ibn al-Khattab (ra), who entered Jerusalem in patched garments, while his servant rode the one camel; he proved that true honor and humility are found in Islam, not in crowns or titles. They treated power, strength, money and position as trusts from Allah, and were dedicated to serving Him and all of His Creation.

Before Islam was revealed, the culture in Arabia, often referred to as the time of Jahiliyya, was characterized by a pervasive culture of tribal warfare, social inequality, and practices that severely dehumanized certain segments of the society. Moral values such as trustworthiness, mercy, and keeping one's word were largely ignored. Power was not used to protect the innocent, but to destroy without mercy; it was used to erase. The culture valued revenge and cruelty, leaving little room for compassion or justice.

Today, we see the same tribal outlook all over the world. We are witnessing a global return to this primitive mindset. In our modern era, the impulse to dominate, suppress, and even exterminate has become normalized. Power is increasingly treated as a tool to tyrannize and destroy enemies without mercy or accountability. This lack of compassion is evident in the disregard for civilian life, the targeting of innocents, and the refusal to take prisoners. Racial ideologies and propaganda made the enemy appear unworthy of human consideration.

From the Islamic perspective, strength is highly valued. In Islam, strength is not an end in itself, but a means to serve. Rasulullah (saws) said: "The stronger believer is better and more beloved to Allah than the weak believer, while there is good in both." Strength is not only physical strength, but also the strength of mind, the strength of character, financial stability, mental resilience and so on. Such strength helps us to fulfill our responsibilities as servants of Allah, without giving in to the delusions of Shaytan-i Lain. The Prophet (saws) emphasized an important aspect of strength beyond muscle power as, "The strong one is not the one who overcomes others physically, but the strong one is the one who controls his anger."

Islam teaches us that Allah is the only source of all power and strength. His name Al-Qawiyy (All-Strong) signifies perfect, irresistible strength. He faces no struggle, opposition, or weakness. Similarly, His name Al-Qadir (The All-Powerful / All-Capable) emphasizes that He not only possesses all strength but also has the power to execute His will. He does whatever He wills, exactly as He wills. Allah's power is absolute and independent; it does not rely on anything external or pre-existing. When He decrees a matter, He simply says "Be" (Kun), and it comes into existence. This reminds us that when events do not unfold as we expect, it is never due to a lack of divine capacity, but because the divine will has not yet manifested.

His power is expressed through the execution of all of His names, and it harmonizes perfectly with His other beautiful attributes. People may possess power, yet lack the qualities to use it for goodness, peace, and felicity. Conversely, people may have virtuous qualities but lack the power to act, or be unable to bring goodness.

Rasulallah (saws) teaches us about how important it is to pair His Divine power with His Divine Mercy by describing the "arshi ala"—the exalted throne. The throne represents His ultimate authority, without time and space limitations. Every event

occurring beneath the throne is subject to the governing principle of the throne. In Surah Taha, He said, “Ar-Rahman alal-Arsh istawa: My Rahman, My Mercy rose above my throne.” Mercy is the overarching rule of the universe. Even when we face hardship His compassion gives us hope because the "ceiling" above us is Mercy. Rasulallah (saws) further emphasized this verse in a Hadith-i Qudsi: “My mercy overcomes my anger.” This teaches us that Allah’s power is always exercised through mercy.

What about the foundation of Arsh-i Ala? Rasulallah (saws) says: “Beneath the Throne lies the treasure of Paradise: La hawla wa la quwwata illa billah (There is no power or might except by Allah).” This is the foundation covered by the ceiling. It acknowledges that human beings possess no inherent power. Every heartbeat, every breath, and every success is borrowed from the Creator. This establishes humility in believers.

So above the throne, Allah’s mercy is written. Beneath the throne lies no power or strength but Allah. Between the mercy above and the strength beneath, we learn the meaning of true power. We draw strength not by overpowering others, but by surrendering to the one who holds the throne itself. Any use of power without respecting the divine principles of the creation will certainly be punished, such as are the tyrants who opt for using the power that is entrusted to harm the creation of Allah.

In the last ten days of Ramadan-i Serif, there is a hidden treasure. It is called Lalatul Qadr, The Night of Decree or the Night of Power. On this glorified night, the words of Allah-u Ta’ala started descending from the skies and were delivered to Rasulallah (saws). As the sunlight breaks open the darkness of the night, the darkness in our lives is also lifted with the revelation of the Qur’an, with the light of the words of Allah-u Ta’ala. The root word of Qadr also shares the root of power. That is why Laylat-ul Qadr is also called “The Night of Power”. This night is declared by Allah as better than 1000 months, which is approximately 83 years. The meaning is that any good deed that is done on this night is equivalent to performing the same deed for 83 years, a lifetime. A prayer that is performed on this night is considered as if it is performed continuously for 83 years.

Laylatul Qadr is a perfect manifestation of Allah’s power, which is the foundation of His throne, paired with His Mercy, which decorates the ceiling of His throne. He has the power to decree for everyone, forgive everyone, monitor everyone, and record everyone, all in one night. Who other than Allah is able to change the whole world while filling the heavens with angels who descend and ascend at His command, without missing a single thing?

Whether it is regarding your personal affairs or the state of the Ummah, Allah’s power knows no limit. For an individual, He can forgive every wrongdoing, rectify every situation, and record a lifetime of good deeds without hesitation or restriction. For the

Ummah, He can overthrow tyrants, topple empires, and restore the oppressed in an instant. His command requires nothing more than His word “*Be*” and it is.

Yurdaer Al Latif Al Jerrahi