

Fasting 6 days of Shawwal

صيام ستة أيام في شهر شوال



قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم: "من صام رمضان ثم أتبعه ستاً من شوال كان كصيام الدهر".

رواه مسلم في كتاب الصيام بشرح النووي (8/56). و المقصود بالدهر هو السنة.

It is reported that Prophet Muhammad (Peace & blessings be upon him) said: That who fasts Ramadan, then follows it with fasting six days of Shawwal is like [gets the reward of] the one who has fasted the entire year.

Narrated by Muslim.



وهذه الأيام ليست معينة من الشهر بل يختارها المؤمن من جميع
الشهر ، فإذا شاء صامها في أوله ، أو في أثنائه، أو في آخره ، وإن
شاء فرقها ، وإن شاء تابعها ، فالأمر واسع بحمد الله.

*The six days of Shawwal do not have to be consecutive
days; instead fasting any six days of Shawwal will
suffice.*



The scholars commented on this hadith by pointing out that Allah Almighty records a good deeds 10 times its worth. So fasting Ramadan earns a person a 10-month reward, and fasting another six days adds 60 days worth of reward. Thus the net result is 12 months.



What do I do if I have missed a few days of Ramadan fasting?

In such case, it's preferable that you start by making up the missed days, since obligatory fasting supersedes "nafl/optional". However if you've missed many Ramadan days and the makeup may jeopardize your ability to fast the 6 days of Shawwal, then you can complete the 6 days and do the makeup later in the year. At any rate, the makeup needs to be completed before next Ramadan, unless you have a permanent inability to fast in which case Sadaqah is given out instead.

May Allah help us fulfill this great Ibadah & gain its complete reward.

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