



## EMBRACE ISLAM TOTALLY

**I**t is a well known fact that daily many people from all walks of life embrace Islam. Many come into *Deen* after having studied Islam and having understood the truth. However numerous people walk away from their previous faith and proclaim the *Shahadah* after having being attracted by the exemplary business dealings or social conduct of some Muslims. May Allah Ta'ala increase the likes of such people who are true ambassadors of *Deen*.

On the converse, there are many people who have become distanced from *Deen* as a result of the deception, fraud and swindling of some Muslim businessmen. Similarly, some Muslim's social conduct contrary to the teachings of the Qur'an and Sunnah has driven away many people from *Deen*. Apart from turning people away from *Deen*, such conduct also results in the breaking of close friendships and estranges family members.

### PART OF DEEN

There could be several reasons why some Muslims conduct their business and social affairs in a manner that contradicts *Shariah*. However, one of the primary reasons seems to be that many people do not even regard their business dealings or social conduct as being part of *Deen*. There is either ignorance or complete indifference to the detailed laws of *Shariah* that govern business dealings and the various aspects of social life. Many people are very particular with regard to Salaah, fasting, Haj, etc. This is indeed praiseworthy. However, it is necessary that while fulfilling the above acts of *ibadah*, one also upholds the injunctions of *Deen* in one's transactions and in one's interactions with people. Allah Ta'ala declares: **"O you who believe, enter into Islam fully, and do not follow the footsteps of Shaitaan. Verily he is your open enemy"** (S2:V208). This *aayah* clearly informs all Muslims that to ignore the dictates of *Shariah* in any aspect, even if only in one's dealings, is to follow the footsteps of Shaitaan. Following Shaitaan, our open enemy, will only lead to destruction in this world and the Hereafter.

### TWO-FACED POLICY

The two-faced policy of partly adhering to *Deen* and partly ignoring it often becomes apparent in matters of dispute. Disputes will invariably arise when mistakes occur, or in instances of sheer negligence, or especially in cases where there was deliberate wrongdoing.

Irrespective of the cause of the problem, when a dispute does occur what does a Muslim do? Exact maximum revenge? Get advice on how to thoroughly "fix him/her up?" Never! A true Muslim would merely want to know what is the decision of *Shariah* in the problem on hand and would then completely submit to that decision. Those who have the light of Imaan in their hearts will only opt for that which they are entitled to in terms of *Shariah* and nothing else.

### INHERITANCE

Among the common dispute situations where the dictates of the *Shariah* are often ignored, sometimes even by ostensibly pious people, is in matters of inheritance. If the deceased did not have an Islamic will drawn out, at times one or more of the heirs claim their "right" in terms of the laws of the country which oppose the laws of Islam. Often in such cases the inheritance of females is usurped. It should be clearly remembered that anything that opposes *Shariah* is not a "right." It is simply wrong. It is *Haram* for one to demand or take such "rights." Neither is it permissible to demand such "rights" nor is it permissible to assist anyone in any way to claim and take such "rights."

The same applies to business disputes. Irrespective of how complicated the matter may seem, the *Shariah* has established principles in the light of which a solution in accordance to the Qur'an and Sunnah can be found. One merely needs to refer to Ulama-e-Haq who are experienced in the relevant field and the solution will be spelt out.

### MAINTENANCE

Likewise in many matrimonial disputes that end up in divorce, one of the parties often demands "rights" that are in reality "wrongs" and *Haram* in terms of *Shariah*. At times the husband demands a "share" in the property that solely belonged to his ex-wife or vice-versa, on the basis of the kuffaar laws that oppose the laws of Allah Ta'ala. In many instances the wife demands maintenance from the husband even after the *iddat* period. Such demands are *Haram*. Consuming *Haram* spoils one's *ibadat* and ruins one's *Deen*. Whatever financial "gains" one may get in a *Haram*

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# EMBRACE ISLAM

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manner will only bring misery in this world and calamities in the hereafter.

## ONLY ONE DECISION

Disagreements and disputes are bound to occur. The decision in any dispute is only one — the decision of the *Shariah*. A Muslim must totally submit to the decision of the *Shariah*. Allah Ta'ala declares: “***And it does not behove of a Believing Man and a Believing woman, that when Allah and His Messenger have decided in a matter, that they have any choice therein***” (S34:V36). Thus there is only one choice for a Believer — the law of Allah Ta'ala and His Rasul (*sallallahu alaihi wasallam*).

## MISGUIDED

Generally people are often overcome with emotions during disputes. As a result often the correct judgement of the person as a Muslim is clouded. Rather than look for guidance in terms of *Shariah*, the aggrieved party looks for revenge. In such situations one should resort to such people for advice who firstly have the fear of Allah Ta'ala and also the necessary knowledge of Deen. Otherwise one will be misguided and suffer the consequences in this world and the next.

## PLEASURE OF ALLAH TA'ALA

A true Muslim, hence, is one who together with fulfilling the injunctions of *Salaah*, *zakaah*, etc., also upholds the dictates of *Shariah* in his transactions and social dealings, even in situations of disagreement and dispute. In this way not only does one attract others to Islam and acquires immense *barakah*, one also attains the primary purpose of life — acquiring the Pleasure of Allah

# R36 000.00 AN HOUR

**C**an you imagine earning R36 000.00 an hour? If you were given such a job, how many hours a day would you work? Most people would opt for at least a few hours daily, if not the entire day. Why would anyone so eagerly grab such a job? Simply because we all understand the reality of rands and cents. The one who gets the job will have big dreams of what he would do with the money he will earn. A palatial home, top-of-the-range luxury vehicle, all the appliances and furniture he dreamt of and a thousand other items will flood his mind. Yet, even if he acquires all these items, it is not necessary that he will gain happiness and peace. True happiness and peace is only in *Jannah*. But *Jannah* also has to be earned by means of the currency of the Hereafter.

The currency of the Hereafter is *Imaan* and virtuous actions. Among the various actions of great virtue is the recitation of the *Qur'an-al-Kareem*. *Rasulullah* (*sallallahu alaihi wasallam*) is reported to have said: “The one who recites a letter from the book of Allah is credited with one good deed and the reward of each good deed is multiplied tenfold” (*Mishkaat*). Thus one receives 10 rewards for each letter recited. If one recites the *Qur'an-al-Kareem* at a very slow pace, one will recite at least one letter per second. Hence in one hour one will recite 3 600 letters. If this is multiplied by ten, in one hour one will receive at least 36 000 rewards!!! One reciting at a moderate pace will perhaps recite double this amount. These rewards will be for the Hereafter. Apart from the benefits of the Hereafter, in this world one will receive the great *barakah* and blessings of reciting the *Qur'an* and the showers of Mercy from Allah Ta'ala. As a result of the recitation of the *Qur'an*, one is enshrouded by the peace and tranquility that descend from above when one recites the *Qur'an-al-Kareem*. But ... are we as eager to grab these rewards as we were to grab the R36 000.00 an hour job???

## ACTUAL RECITATION

It is also necessary to note that the rewards and blessings of reciting the *Qur'an* are achieved purely by *tilawah* — i.e. reciting the exact words of Allah Ta'ala that were revealed upon *Rasulullah* (*sallallahu alaihi wasallam*). This special reward cannot be acquired in any other way. Indeed, studying the meaning of the *Qur'an* by means of an authentic commentary is also an act of virtue and immensely rewarding. However, it cannot supplement the actual recitation of the *Qur'an-al-Kareem* — just as food cannot supplement the need of drinking water.

It is therefore necessary that we devote time to the recitation of the *Qur'an Shareef* daily. May Allah Ta'ala enable us to do so.

# THE MUSLIM BUSINESSMAN

Hazrath Muaz bin Jabal (R.A) reports that *Rasulullah* (*sallallahu alaihi wasallam*) said: “The purest of income is the earnings of traders who:

1. When they speak, they do not lie
2. When something is placed in trust with them, they do not misappropriate the trust
3. When they promise, they do not renege on their promise
4. When they purchase something, they do not find fault with the merchandise (i.e. they do not try to reduce the price by exaggerating its defects)
5. When they sell, they do not praise the article (i.e. they do not exaggerate its good qualities in order to fetch a better price)
6. When they are indebted, they do not delay payment
7. When they are owed money, they are not harsh in asking for payment.

# Questions "REALITY SHOW"

**Q** Presently a "reality show" on T.V. has gripped the nation. A group of men and women have been confined to a house where they will live together for many weeks. T.V. viewers get to see the goings-on between them, including any illicit contact. Is it permissible to watch such programmes?

**A** Before commenting on the specific programme that you have mentioned, consider a few aspects about the television itself.

The television is perhaps the most lethal weapon that has ever been unleashed upon the Ummah. It has wreaked havoc with the Imaan of Muslims. In the guise of entertainment, the rotten culture and morally and spiritually bankrupt lifestyle of the West has been made to seem acceptable. Thus millions of Muslims have gradually succumbed to much of the subtle indoctrination and propaganda and now live their lives in the manner that the West dictates. As a result often one cannot distinguish a Muslim from one who is not. The attack on Imaan has been so severe that several children unhesitatingly blurted in reply to a question from their teacher that their cartoon characters were greater than Allah Ta'ala?? *Wal iyazu billah* (we seek refuge with Allah from such blasphemy).

Have you ever considered what the T.V. brings into your home? By means of the T.V., at times you have a brothel in your house, or you are an advertising agent for the beer companies, or you have almost naked men and women dancing for your daughters, sons and even your spouse and a host of other evils take place in your home — though it is all happening on a screen. Hence any sensible person, especially any Muslim who is concerned about his Imaan and the Imaan of his family, will throw this evil box out of his home. He will not dare risk having such filth polluting the hearts and minds of his family and destroying their Imaan.

As for the specific programme you have referred to, if you throw out the T.V. there will be no question of watching it. However, let alone watching it on T.V., you should not even follow what is going on in any way whatsoever. Everything about the show is evil and sinful. Enthusiastically following what a group of depraved people are doing is an indication of the level of moral decline. People who follow such programmes and take enjoyment and pleasure in doing so should take heed of the Hadith wherein Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) declared: "When a sin is committed on the earth, the one who witnessed it but abhorred it is like the one who was never there (i.e. he is totally free of that sin). However, the one who was absent (from the scene of the sin) but was happy about it (i.e. he was pleased or enjoyed its occurrence) is like the person who was at the scene (i.e. he was part of the sinful act)" (Abu Dawood).

The purpose of these programmes is merely to spread immorality and perversion. Those who participate at any level in the spreading of immorality — even by merely being eager followers of the goings-on — could fall under the ambit of the verse wherein Allah Ta'ala declares: "Verily those who love that immorality should spread among the Believers, for them is a painful punishment in this world and the Hereafter" (S:V).

May Allah Ta'ala save us all from such immorality, Aameen.

## THE SAHAABA (R.A.)

Allah Ta'ala has praised the Sahaaba (R.A.) in various verses of the Qur'an. They have been blessed with the glad tidings of having received the pleasure of Allah Ta'ala while they walked on the surface of this earth. Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) also showered great praise on the Sahaaba (R.A.) and warned against reviling them. Hence it is reported in a Hadith that Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: "When you see those who revile my Sahaaba (R.A.), say to them: "May the curse of Allah be upon your evil action" (Mishkaat).

However, the Shia harbour great hatred for most of the Sahaaba (R.A.). Muhammad Ya'qoob bin Kulaini is among the most highly ranked scholars of *Hadith* among the Shia. He attributes the following to Imam Baqir regarding the beloved companions of Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam): "After the demise of Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) all the companions became *murtad* (gave up Islam) except Miqdaad bin Awad (R.A.), Abu Zar Ghifari (R.A.) and Salmaan Farsi (R.A.)" (Furu'ul Kaafi, Kitabul Rawdah, pg.115).

**HAZRATH ABU BAKR (R.A.)**  
The Qur'an categorically declares Hazrath Abu Bakr (R.A.) to be the Sahabi of Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam). However, another very highly revered scholar of the Shia, Mullah Baqir Majlisi writes the following regarding the greatest personality of the Ummah: "After every *salaah* one should say: "O Allah curse Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthmaan, Aisha and Hafsa" (Ainul Hayaan, pg.599).

May Allah Ta'ala save us from the evil of those who hate the Sahaaba (R.A.).

## SALAAH WITH JAMA'AH

Hazrath Anas bin Malik (R.A.) narrates that he heard the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) saying: "A person who in all sincerity is constant in his salaah with jama'ah for forty days, without missing the first takbeer, receives two awards: one for deliverance from Hell and the other for freedom from nifaaq."

Hazrath Sahl bin Sa'd (R.A.) narrates that he heard the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) saying: "Give glad tidings to those who go to the Masjid frequently during hours of darkness, for they will have perfect light on the Day of Judgement."

### WARNING AGAINST DISCARDING JAMA'AH

Hazrath Abu Hurairah (R.A.) narrates that he heard the Prophet (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) saying: "I wish I could ask the boys to collect a huge quantity of firewood for me and then I would go around and set fire to the dwellings of those who say their salaah at their own houses without any excuse." (*Sahih Muslim*)

In another narration it is reported that somebody asked Ibn Abbas (R.A.): "What about a person who keeps fast all day and offers nafl salaah all night, but does not go to the masjid for jama'ah and Jum'ah?" He is doomed to Hell," replied Hazrath Ibn Abbas (R.A.). (*Tirmizi*)

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From the pen of ...



## FAQIHUL UMMAH

The sterling advice of Faqihul Ummah Hazrath Mufti Mahmood Saheb (*Rahmatullahi Alaihi*) has helped thousands of people to overcome many problems and difficulties — especially in the line of *Islahun Nafs* (inner-self reformation). Hereunder is a reply to a letter seeking guidance.

### REGRET AND CONCERN

#### SUMMARY OF LETTER: *Bismihi Ta'ala*

Respected Mufti Saheb

*As Salaamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakaatuh*

My excessive sins have overwhelmed me and I have lost control. I greatly regret this and sometimes wish that the earth will split and swallow me up. Please comment.

#### SUMMARY OF REPLY: *Bismihi Ta'ala*

Respected Brother

*As Salaamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakaatuh*

Whatever regret and remorse you have expressed over your conditions, may the same remorse be deep down in your heart. Indeed, if a person is truly concerned about his *islaah* (reformation), his concern in itself is more effective in bringing about his reformation than any wazaif (recitations of various zikr's, etc. However, the concern that is merely expressed with the tongue but does not exist in the heart does not have this effect ... May Allah Ta'ala assist you.

#### SUMMARY OF LETTER: *Bismihi Ta'ala*

Respected Mufti Saheb

*As Salaamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakaatuh*

I recall my previous sins and feel much remorse over them. Please advise me whether it is in order to recall one's sins in this manner.

#### SUMMARY OF REPLY: *Bismihi Ta'ala*

Respected Brother

*As Salaamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakaatuh*

It is not sufficient to merely remember one's sins in this manner. Sometimes recalling the previous sins itself very subtly incites the person to commit the same sin again. May Allah Ta'ala save us all. It is therefore necessary to instead visualize the Day of Qiyamah when an account of one's deeds will be taken in front of all mankind. How utterly disgraced would one be! Every deed committed would be clearly recorded on one's book of deeds. Moreover, one would be made to personally read out his book of deeds. In this world we feel greatly embarrassed if what we had done secretly is exposed. One should therefore consider how terribly embarrassing it will be to personally read out one's sins in front of Allah Ta'ala. Hence if anyone wants to be saved from this unimaginable disgrace, it is essential that the sins are washed off from the book of deeds. The tears of regret and remorse in solitude is the water that washes off the sins from the book of deeds. May Allah Ta'ala grant us such tears of regret that washes off our sins from our books of deeds.

Hence merely recalling one's sins is not sufficient. One must firmly visualize the Day of Qiyamah to gain the desired effect (*Tarbiyatut Taalibeen*, pg.122).