



WHO DO YOU LOVE?

Fifteen centuries ago, in the month of *Rabee'ul Awwal*, an orphan was born who would be the greatest personality of all time. His exalted status and position surpassed that of every human being and even the greatest angel. No woman had given birth to a child more beautiful than him. His character was most sublime. His servitude and devotion to his Creator was the most outstanding while his service, compassion and kindness to the creation was most exemplary. His dealings were impeccable while his character and conduct were most lofty and on the peak of excellence. He was the epitome of every good in every respect. He was *Habeebullah* (the beloved of Allah Ta'ala) and *Rahmatul lil Aalameen* (a mercy unto the universe) — may Allah Ta'ala's countless blessings shower endlessly upon him, his family and his Sahaabah (radhiyallahu 'anhum) till eternity.

Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) loved his Ummah dearly. Like an extremely compassionate mother who feels great agony and distress upon the difficulty of her beloved child, Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) was greatly anguished over any difficulty of his Ummah. At the same time, he was extremely desirous of every good for them. Allah Ta'ala describes this extreme love of Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) for his Ummah: "**Indeed a Messenger has come unto you from among you, hard upon whom is your suffering, he craves for your good and for the Believers he is most kind and greatly merciful.**" (Surah Taubah v.128)

ALWAYS REMEMBERED HIS UMMAH

The intense love of Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) for his Ummah was manifested in all his actions. He prayed for his Ummah, he cried for his Ummah and he sacrificed for his Ummah. Once, upon the request of Sayyidah 'Aishah (radhiyallahu 'anha), Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) made du'aa for her in the following words: "*O Allah, forgive 'Aishah (radhiyallahu 'anha), whatever has passed or what may come in the future, whatever may have happened secretly or happened openly.*" Noticing Sayyidah 'Aishah's (radhiyallahu 'anha) extreme joy upon this

du'aa, Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) said to her, "***This is the du'aa I make for my Ummah after every Salaah.***" (Saheeh ibni Hibbaan #7111)

There are likewise many ahaadeeth which relate the crying of Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) out of concern for his Ummah. As for his sacrifices, no words can ever describe the reality and the extent of the suffering he underwent for his Ummah so that they could succeed in this world and attain everlasting success in the Hereafter. He had to tie stones to his mubaarak belly to ease the pangs of extreme hunger, he was mercilessly stoned till he bled, his mubaarak teeth were made shaheed, he saw his family members and beloved Sahaabah (radhiyallahu 'anhum) being martyred and numerous other difficulties were heaped upon him — all in the cause of guiding his Ummah towards the success of both worlds.

PLEA TO THE BELOVED UMMAH

Our most perfect Nabi (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam), who loved his Ummah intensely, and who sacrificed so much for them, also fervently *pleaded* with them. His impassioned plea... in the last moments of his mubaarak life... and among the very last words that he spoke were: "***Salaah! Salaah! And treat your slaves well.***" Our most beloved Nabi (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) *pleaded* with his Ummah... while his life was ebbing away... and while in the state of *sakaraat* (pangs of death)... TO BE VERY CONSCIOUS OF THEIR SALAAH, TO PERFORM IT REGULARLY AND CORRECTLY AND TO MAKE IT THEIR GREATEST PRIORITY IN LIFE. **Has the Ummah paid attention to the impassioned plea of their most beloved Nabi (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam)?** Actually, every person should daily question himself: "Have I given due regard and shown due respect to the ardent plea of my Nabi (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) which he made while in the state of *sakaraat*? If I have not given due regard to his plea, how will I face him on the Day of Qiyaamah?"

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WHO DO YOU LOVE?

(FROM PAGE ONE)

For males, it is *waajib* to perform *salaah* with *jamaat*. The extent of emphasis upon this, and the deep plea of Rasulallah (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam) that the *salaah* with *jamaat* be upheld, can be gauged from the hadeeth reported by Sayyiduna Abu Hurairah (radhiyallahu ‘anhu), that Rasulallah (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam) said: “I intended to order some youngsters to gather a bundle of firewood and set fire to the homes of those who perform their *salaah* in their homes without a (valid) reason” (*Sunan Tirmizi #217*). On the Day of Qiyaamah, we will be pleading for the intercession of Rasulallah (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam) and pleading to be granted the most blessed water of Kauthar from his *mubaarak* hand. Let us take his pleas to heart here (in this world). Insha-Allah our plea will be heard there (in the Hereafter).

Rasulallah (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam) also pleaded with his Ummah to take good care of their slaves. Slaves had the least rights, yet in the state of *sakaraat*, Nabi (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam) emphasised that they be treated well and not be oppressed in any way. If this is the extent of emphasis with regard to *slaves*, how much more important it will be to give good treatment to all other servants, employees and subordinates? How much more greatly does this instruction not apply to treating one’s wife and children with compassion and kindness?

COMPASSION AND KINDNESS

Another ardent plea of Rasulallah (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam) to his Ummah was to oppose the ways of the *Yahood* and *Nasaaraa* (Jews and Christians) and not to emulate them in any way. The question for each person to ask himself/herself is: Have I taken the heartfelt plea of my most beloved Nabi (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam) to heart, or has it fallen on my deaf ears? He loved me dearly as part of his Ummah. He wept and prayed for me and sacrificed so much for me. What have I done in return? Do I follow his *mubaarak* way of life or do I incline to the way of his enemies?? Do I dress in a way that will please his *mubaarak* heart, or does my appearance and dressing resemble that of the *Yahood* and *Nasaraa*? What about my manner of doing business, conducting a marriage, etc.? Has the time not come for me to abandon the ways of his enemies and emulate his modesty, simplicity and humility?

Another extremely important aspect for reflection is that Rasulallah (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam) remembered us — his Ummah — all the time. How much do we remember him in the day? Ask oneself: “How much Durood Shareef do I recite upon him? How many times in the day do I speak about him? How much have I studied his *mubaarak seerah*?”

The issue is really all about love. Rasulallah (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam) loved his Ummah dearly. Therefore he did his utmost for them. How much do we love him? The reality of this will show in how much we take to heart his impassioned plea of being punctual with *salaah*, how we dress, how much we remember him through emulating his *mubaarak* sunnah and by means of reciting Durood Shareef upon him, etc.

May Allah Ta’ala fill our hearts with the love of Rasulallah (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam), bless us with the ability to emulate him in every aspect of life and help us to shun the ways of his enemies, aameen.

UNREST REFLECTIONS

The week of unrest experienced in South Africa in July 2021 brought experiences and scenes that most people had never witnessed before, and hope to never witness again. May Allah Ta’ala protect us and the entire Ummah from such situations in the future. Nevertheless, it opened people’s eyes to many important aspects and taught us many valuable lessons.

One of the most fundamental lessons imparted to us was that of the absolute power and control of Allah Ta’ala. Man is often seduced and deluded by his wealth and ‘power’, leading him to believe that he is in control and wields great influence. However, these events reminded us that our wealth, cars, influence, etc. will be of no avail at all — unless Allah Ta’ala wills. In this period, even a millionaire could find no bread to buy and no fuel to fill his tank. Likewise, many of those who would normally protect him and rush to his aid were cut off from him and were inaccessible. At this time, his eyes opened to the reality that we are completely powerless and helpless before the power and decree of Allah Ta’ala.

TAKEN FOR GRANTED

We also opened our eyes to the value of ‘simple’ commodities, normally taken for granted by many, such as milk, bread, eggs, etc. It was only when the shortage set in that most people began to truly value these bounties — to the extent that every individual slice was safeguarded and appreciated. At this time, we may have reflected on the difficulties experienced by people in impoverished lands, or war-torn countries, who face food shortages every single day of their lives, making us realize how fortunate and blessed we are.

Similarly, the great benefit and wisdom of the Islamic teaching and sunnah of inculcating contentment and living within our means was understood.

(Cont. On page 4)

SMOKING WEED

Q My husband often smokes weed (cannabis). He says that many of his cousins and friends also smoke it and it has become “a norm” in many circles. Nobody bothers about it much. It has also been legalised in this country so there is no problem with it. I do not know how to advise him.

A Muslims adhere to a code of life called Islam. Islam is a complete way of life and is the only Deen that has Divine approval. Any other way of life is rejected in the court of Allah Ta’ala. Therefore, all a Mu-min’s (Believer’s) morals, ethics and values are shaped by what has come to him from Allah Ta’ala and Rasulullah (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam). The norms of people and the legalising of governments does not change his beliefs and values.

HARAAM ALTHOUGH “LEGAL”

Consumption of pork has always been legal in terms of South African law. It is the norm in many circles. Would that make the haraam pork permissible to consume? The extremely grave sin of consuming interest has been described in the Quraan Majeed and the noble ahaadeeth in such strong words that make interest a greater vice and more disgusting than consuming pork. Not only consuming interest, even paying interest is equally condemned. Despite the severity of the sin, it is totally legal in almost every country of the world. It is tragically a norm even among many Muslims as well. Will this make the abomination of interest permissible? The same goes for gambling, fornication, drinking, free intermingling between the genders, using vulgar language, etc. In many circles these “legal” vices are common and many people don’t care anything about them. Will that make it permissible? Never, never... and never a million times. No changing norms of society, nor any government legislation, nor anyone or anything can change the law of Allah Ta’ala. Whatever Allah Ta’ala has given us in the Quraan Majeed and through His last and final Messenger, Sayyiduna Rasulullah (sallallahu ‘alaihi wasallam) in the form of the sunnah, is *the* law. The supremacy of the law of Allah Ta’ala will remain unchanged till the Day of Qiyaamah.

Smoking “weed” is haraam. It is an intoxicant – and all intoxicants are forbidden. It is reported in a hadeeth that if one consumes any intoxicant, he is deprived of the rewards and the noor of his ‘ibaadat for forty days! While the greatest concern for a Muslim is to refrain from anything that will displease Allah Ta’ala, intoxicants destroy a person’s dunya as well. How many marriages have been wrecked, how many families ruined, how many people’s respect was rubbed in the mud, how many businesses were destroyed, how many people sold their honour, how many committed murder – some even of their own parents, how many... and how many, many more heartbreaking episodes have taken place – all due to drug addiction! May Allah Ta’ala protect us all, and help us all to give up all vices and sins!

SEEK HELP

Your husband should seek help from an experienced ‘Aalim. There are many Muslim organizations also that offer counseling to those who are caught up in the web of drugs. He should sincerely seek their assistance. Make du’aa for him. Also daily have ta’leem of the Fazaail A’amaal by Shaikh Muhammad Zakariyya (rahimahullah). Insha-Allah this will become a means of hidaayat for him.

Weed is a weed — it is not a flower. It has no fragrance. Instead it makes one stink (literally as well as in one’s manner and conduct). It makes the consumer’s brains shrink. Hence he cannot think. It has taken many marriages and lives to the brink. Many others did not survive.

Nevertheless, your husband should not lose hope. If he immediately takes heed, and stops taking weed, and becomes a true Muslim indeed, insha-Allah he will succeed.

UNREST REFLECTIONS

(FROM PAGE TWO)

Overnight, many people lost their sources of income. Those who lived within their means and did not go on buying properties and luxuries on credit were far better off, despite losing even everything, compared to those who lived an opulent and luxurious lifestyle but largely floating on credit. For them it has become an even more difficult task to restart (may Allah Ta'ala make it easy for all).

RESOLUTIONS

With reflections come resolutions to improve on our weaknesses and learn from our mistakes. Hence, though we may employ security companies, we must place our trust and reliance on Allah Ta'ala alone, reciting the masnoon du'aas of protection and begging Him for safety. If we were wasteful before, we must resolve to show full appreciation for every bounty going forward. Not a single drop or crumb should be wasted. Let us bring some simplicity in our lives and live within our means. Never buy any luxury or indulge in anything which one does not already have the money for. There is no limit to expenses while income is limited. Always curb one's expenses to within one's income, even if it means that luxuries have to be cut down. Unless really necessary for some basic need, totally avoid borrowing money.

Most importantly, we must ensure that we sincerely repent from all our sins and change our lives for the better. If we lead sinful lives, we will be deprived of the mercy of Allah Ta'ala and will never enjoy peace and prosperity, no matter where in the world we go to.

AMR BIL MA'ROOF AND NAHI 'ANIL MUNKAR

Together with correcting our own lives, we must help one another towards success in both worlds by means of *Amr bil ma'roof* and *nahi 'anil munkar* (enjoining the right and forbidding the wrong). If the majority of people are engaged in vices of whatever kind, this will draw down divine punishment which in this world will

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FAQEEHUL UMMAH

The sterling advice of *Faqeehul Ummah* Hazrat Mufti Mahmood Saheb (*rahmatullahi 'alaihi*) has helped thousands of people to overcome many problems and difficulties — especially in the line of *Islaahun Nafs* (inner-self reformation). Hereunder is an answer to a question posed to him.

GREED AND ITS CURE

Bismih Ta'ala

Letter:

Assalaamu 'alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa barakaatuhu

How must greed be eliminated?

Reply:

Wa 'alaikum salaam wa rahmatullahi wa barakaatuhu

Every person must have the conviction that whatever Allah Ta'ala has destined for him, he shall certainly receive it. Nobody can prevent it. However what is not destined for him, he shall never get it. Sustenance pursues a person just as his death pursues him. If a person hides in a very strong fortress, then there too his death will find him. In the very same way a person's sustenance will reach him wherever he may be. As long as a person has not received all of his sustenance, death will not come to him. Nabi (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) has said, "Behold, verily no soul shall ever die until it has received all its sustenance."

May Allah Ta'ala shower us with lawful sustenance which is full of blessing, and may Allah Ta'ala bless us with the quality of contentment. Otherwise, a person's greed will never end. (*Maktoobaat vol. 1, pg. 26*)

engulf the good and the bad. In the Hereafter the good will be rewarded for their patience while the evildoers will be taken to task.

Thus to save ourselves from the worldly chastisement, the entire society must turn to Allah Ta'ala in sincere repentance, as Allah Ta'ala declares: "And repent unto Allah, all of you, O believers, so that all of you be successful." (*Surah Noor v. 31*) All sins must be abandoned and our lives must come onto the total obedience of Allah Ta'ala. This will guarantee us peace and tranquility in this world and everlasting success in the Hereafter.