

Āl Kaṇṣaṅ



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MAZAAR OF GREAT SAHABI ATTACKED BY SHIA



Miraculously the qabr mubarak of Hazrat Talha ؓ who was martyred in the Battle of Jamal remains intact, surviving the bomb planted by shi'ite antagonists. This great companion of our Nabi ﷺ is one of ten (ashra mubashara) who was given the 'good news' and assurance of Paradise.

(For more see page 3)

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“O Mankind ! Eat of the lawful and good things from what is in the earth, and follow not the evil. Surely he is an open enemy to you (S2: V168)

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UTHMAAN IBN MADHUN

The First Muslim to be Buried in Jannatul Baqi

Uthmaan Ibn Madhuun captured the honour of being the first Muhaajir to die in AL- Madinah and the first Muslim to be buried in Jannatul-Baqii. He was the fourteenth Companion to accept Islam. Uthmaan was thus amongst those chosen ones who had the pleasure of witnessing the Prophet ﷺ's first teachings on Islam in seclusion.

Uthmaan and his son Saai'b were part of the first emigration to Abyssinia. There they encountered a well-established and deeply entrenched Christianity. The emigrants however held firmly to their religion. They occupied themselves in the worship of ALLAH and the study of the Quraan, and yearned for their return to Makkah to be side by side with their beloved Prophet ﷺ. One day the news had reached them that the Quraish had turned to Islam and submitted themselves to ALLAH. They were overcome with joy and rushed back to Makkah. However on arriving at the outskirts of Makkah they realized that they had been tricked. It was merely a trap that had been set to lure them back to into the hands of the Kuffaar.

For most of those who returned it meant that the torture and abuse would resume immediately. There were however a few who were protected under the guardianship of a high standing man. This was a sacred Arab Tradition that allowed the weak to own the right of protection and support due to his linkage with a high-ranking man. Uthmaan Ibn Madhuun was under the protection of Al-Waliid Ibn Al-Mughiirah. He was thus left safe and untouched. Yet wherever Uthmaan looked he saw his Muslim brothers being abused, humiliated and tortured. It was unbearable for him. It felt as though he was being deprived of the bliss of enduring abuse for the sake of ALLAH. He yearned to be part of that spirit of faith through which his brothers were beaming. Uthmaan decided to renounce Al-Waliid's patronage. He thanked Al-Waliid for his loyalty but asked him to withdraw his protection. Al-Waliid was confused and enquired as to whether someone had harassed him into this. Uthmaan replied: "No, but I'm fully satisfied with ALLAH'S protection and sanctuary and I do not want to resort to anyone but him." He asked Al-Waliid to hasten to the Kabah so that his withdrawal of protection could be announced in public.

As Uthmaan left the Mosque (Kabah) he heard Lubaid Ibn Rabi'ah reciting poetry. In one verse Lubaid declared that every blessing is transient. Uthmaan called him a liar and responded that the blessings of Paradise are eternal. A man of the Quraish retaliated and stated that he does not deserve any acknowledgement, as he was a fool who turned apostate. Uthmaan objected and a quarrel ensued. The man became violent and brutally punched Uthmaan in the eye. Al-Waliid who was still nearby cried out to Uthmaan with regret that he should have remained under his protection, and urged him to return under his protection. Uthmaan boldly answered: "On the contrary, my healthy eye yearns for the pain of my abused eye. I am under the protection of ALLAH, who is far more capable than you..." The abuse merely strengthened, purified and matured his faith.

Another remarkable side of Uthmaan emerged when he emigrated to Madinah. There he was free of torture and this allowed his piety to flourish. He had become a devout ascetic. It was as if his whole life, night and day were one blessed prayer aimed at the glorification of ALLAH. He gave up the world and wanted nothing of it. He wore coarse clothes and ate only coarse food. Uthmaan once heard the Prophet ﷺ say to His ﷺ Companions: "Would you like if you were rich enough to have as many garments as you like and as much food as you like? Would you like your upholstery to be as expensive as the cloths used in covering the Kabah?" They answered -'yes.' The Prophet ﷺ further remarked: "You will be wealthy, but you are today far better in your piety and devoutness than you will be when you are wealthy." This drove Uthmaan Ibn Madhuun further into asceticism.

The Prophet ﷺ loved Uthmaan Ibn Madhuun dearly. As his soul departed towards Jannah, his Beloved ﷺ was with him. He ﷺ kissed his forehead as tears ran from His ﷺ's mubaarak eyes. The face of Uthmaan Ibn Madhuun became wet with the mubaarak tears. The Prophet ﷺ bid farewell to him saying: "ALLAH bestow his mercy on you Abu As-Saa'id. You are now leaving life that was not able to seduce or mislead you." Thus he was buried as the first Muslim in Al-Jannatul Baqii.

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MY TRIP TO IRAQ

MOULANA SAYED YUSUF

Attending the actual Giyaarwee Shareef of Hazrat Ghousul Aazam Sheikh Sayed Abdul Qadir Jilani (RA) seemed like a dream, a lifelong one at that. When good fortune fell upon me and I was offered the opportunity to go to Baghdad last month my joy knew no bounds.

Baghdad Shareef! Thursday 6th February 2014. 1:00 pm – A deserted airport, as though our plane was the only one that landed there. Entering the immigration building was where we saw other pilgrims from the U.K waiting for entry approval. We joined the queue and after a short while we were approved for entry into the city (Baghdad Shareef).

After refreshing at the hotel we proceeded to the mazaar complex of Shaikh Sayed Abdul Qadir Jilani and performed Maghrib salaah in the Masjid. Then we were ready to enter and present ourselves with salutation at the roza Mubarak of the great saint of Baghdad – a euphoric feeling! I could not believe that I had made it, to really be at the doorstep of this great saint. It felt like standing at the door of a king, and that here the distribution of whatever you desire is granted.

The mazaar shareef closed for Esha salaah, as with every salaah. Adjacent to the mazaar is the Masjid. After the esha salaah, the khatm-e qadria, zikr and the recitation of verses from qasida-e-ghosia takes place followed by salaatu salaam accompanied by the beating of the duff (drums). What a moment! Ecstatic and spiritually uplifting!

By now the pangs of hunger were starting to set in. We then moved towards the langar khana (dining/kitchen hall). Here also the feeling is so different, the atmosphere filled with a spiritual presence. Meals are not served on the table at specific times – but whenever anybody feels hungry. The rich, the poor, aalim, layman, durwesh, all stand in the queue to fill his plate without bias or any discrimination. In fact, I saw some of the ulema trying to serve the guests of Hazrat Ghous Paak by bringing tea and cold drinks for them. They were even assisting in clearing up after the meal. Meals are served from after Zohar salaah till late at night.

Friday 7th February.

We spent almost the entire day at the darbaar shareef. The feeling of salaatul Jumuah was also unique – especially the recitation of the salaatu salaam after the salaah- with the beating of the duffs. And all this in the masjid. So electrifying!

Saturday, 8th February 2014.

We moved into the city. Holy places Baghdad was famous for. Ziyaarat of mazaaraats in and around Baghdad Shareef. This was really the karam of Ghous Paak. My intention was only to attend the Giyaarwee Shareef and maybe one or two other mazaars. Not realising just how rich with sufi legends is Iraq. Names and personalities about whom we had listened in awe, were right here in this sacred city of Baghdad!

Amongst those we visited were;

2. Hazrat Imam Moosa Kazim 3. Imam Abu Yusuf – student of Imam Abu Hanifa 4. Hazrat Imam Abu Hanifa 5. Hazrat Bishar Haafi 6. Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli – Khalifa of Hazrat Junaid Baghdadi. 7. Hazrat Junaid Baghdadi 8. Hazrat Sirri Sakti – Peer of Hazrat Junaid Baghdadi 9. Hazrat Yusha bin Noon رضى الله عنه 10. Hazrat Bahlol Dana 11. Hazrat Habib Ajmi- Khalifa of Hazrat Imam Basri

Sunday, 9th February 2014

12. Hazrat Salman Farsi 13. Sahaba Hazrat Abu Huzaifa bin Yamaan 14. Tabi'ee Hazrat Abdullah ibn Jabir Ansari – re-buried after 90 years 15. Hazrat Imam Tahir– grandson of Imam Zainulabideen 16. Hazrat Imam Ghazali 17. Hazrat Omar Soharwardi 8. Hazrat Maroof Karkhi – Peer of Hazrat Sirri Sakti

Tuesday, 11 February 2014

19. Hazrat Ayob رضى الله عنه & the spring of water that cured his ailment in Hilla 20. Hazrat Muslim bin Aqeel 21. Hazrat Urwa bin Hani 22. House of Hazrat Ali & rooms of Imam Hassan & Imam Hussain in Kufa 23. Hazrat Ali & the largest Qabrastaan in the world wherein are the Qabrs of Hazrat Hud and Hazrat Saleh رضى الله عنه in Najf 24. Hazrat Imam Hussain, his brother Hazrat Abbas & 70 other Shuhadaa of Karbala

Wednesday, 12 February 2014 – Basra

25. Hazrat Imam Hassan Basri – Khalifa of Hazrat Ali, his mother was a servant of Umme Salma, the wife of Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ 26. Hazrat Muhammad ibn Sireen – a great historian & a master of interpretations of dreams. 27. Hazrat Talha bin Ubaidullah- Sahaba amongst Ashara Mubashara- Shias bombed the Mazaar but the Qabr is still intact- became Shaheed in the battle of Jamal.

This was the highlight of the entire trip. To witness this karamat of the mazaar of the sahaba.

Friday, 14 February 2014 – Other Mazaars in Hazrat Ghous Paak (R.A)'s complex

28. Hazrat Shaikh Sayed Abdul Jabbar Jilani – son of Ghous Paak 29. Hazrat Sayed Shaikh Saleh – son of Ghous Paak 30. Hazrat Shaikh Zahiruddin Nageebul Ashraf 31. Hazrat Shaikh Abdur Rahman Jilani (mazaar entrance) 32. Hazrat Muhammad Ulfi Abdal (outside main gate) – the thief who came to steal from Ghous Paak's house & made him Abdaal instantly. 33. Hazrat Muhammad Idrees bin Abdul Ghamra Hindi Al Refaee – Mazaar in water where couples take Mannat to have children

Back home now, these visions fill my mind and feels like a lifelong inspiration to draw from whenever the ebbs of spirituality may set in. I thank Allah for blessing me with the chance to stand in front of these holy sites. I pray for the same in favour of anyone who entertains such a desire. Aameen!

THE DESTRUCTION OF NAMROD

Namrood's destruction was at hand. Allah Ta'ala had given him enough time to reform. But he imagined he had himself to thank for the respite he had been granted. He had become more and more cruel and unjust. His despotism knew no bounds. He summoned Hazrat Ibrahim (Alaihis Salaam) and said to him, "Tell your Allah that I neither fear Him nor need Him! Go tell Him that the whole world is in awe of me. All people are obedient to my command. If He is the God of heaven, I am God of the earth. Where are His armies? If the sky fell on my troops, they could hold it up with their lances. Tell Him I challenge Him to a battle. He has no say on earth. The whole earth belongs to me; it is my kingdom!"

The answer was revealed to Hazrat Ibrahim (Alaihis Salaam): "Let him come to such and such a place, where I shall do battle with him!" The venerable Ibrahim Khaleelullah (Alaihis Salaam) passed the news to Namrood.

On the day appointed, the brigades and regiments assembled on the battlefield, forming themselves in ranks. The Glorified and Exalted Rabb gave His army of mosquitoes their orders, and then sent these humble creatures into action against the proud and stubborn unbeliever who claimed to be deity. The skies turned black as Namrood's horde stood ready for battle. When the order was given, the host of mosquitoes hurled themselves in their hundreds of millions against the army of the enemy of Allah. They filled the soldiers' mouths, eyes and ears, biting with a vengeance. When the cavalry horses met the mosquitoes' onslaught, they started to bolt in all directions, unseating their riders as they fled. In the space of half an hour, destruction had overtaken Namrood's army, more than a hundred thousand strong.

Namrood himself left the battlefield, taking refuge in one of his castles. He thought he had saved his life by stopping up all doors and windows. In spite of the great miracle he had witnessed, he could not bring himself to repent and accept the Oneness of Allah Ta'ala. How could he do so, without overcoming his arrogance and pride? The scoundrel was wilfully obstinate in his disbelief.

One lame mosquito, with a damaged wing, had been unable to obey the Divine Command to attack this stubborn infidel. It now addresses itself to Allah Ta'ala, saying, "Oh Allah, what a sinful and luckless creature I must be, that You should deprive me of my share in this battle. If only my leg and my wing had been sound, I would have done my bit in fighting this enemy of Yours!" Almighty Allah, Lord of the worlds, then gave it the command, "Go now! You destroy that accursed one!"

The lame mosquito made its way, limping to the castle where Namrood was hiding. Getting in through a keyhole, it went and settled on Namrood's knee. There it rested, recovering from its exhaustion. Namrood spotted the insect and tried to kill it, but the mosquito settled on his other knee. As it rested there, it seemed to say, "You once told the venerable Ibrahim (Alaihis Salaam) that you had the power of life and death. You sought to prove it by killing one man and letting another go free. Come, what is stopping you from killing me now?"

Namrood could not kill the insect, no matter how hard he

tried. Allah Ta'ala was demonstrating his weakness to him, as if to say, "Unless I will it, you cannot kill! When you killed men by My will, you imagined that you had granted them death. Look, you are a nonentity. You used the kingdom I gave you as a pretext for disobeying Me. You are nothing! What has become of the arrogance of yours? Where are your armies? Where is your divinity? Look, you have been conquered by that humble creature of Mine, the mosquito. You have been disgraced!"

For all his efforts Namrood still could not kill the mosquito, which now went up inside his nose.

Once upon a time, Namrood had wanted to burn Hazrat Ibrahim (Alaihis Salaam) in the fire, but in that he had also failed. The fire would not burn. Fire is only the secondary cause, the Real Cause being Almighty Allah.

The mosquito started eating the membrane of Namrood's brain. The tyrant beat his head from rock to rock. Now he had really begun to feel the pain of his defeat. He had felt no sympathy for the hundred thousand soldiers he had left on the battlefield, nor for their bereaved parents. His only thought had been to save his filthy skin and rotten soul by running to hide in his castle; but hiding could not save him from the dreaded claws of death.

How many lives he had slaughtered, how many houses he had destroyed, how many brains he had dashed out. Now he was dashing his own head against the rocks and walls; now he was suffering himself the pain he had inflicted on others. Those people who oppress others should take heed of Namrood's condition and remember that Allah Ta'ala will give you enough time and respite, but the day His Wrath befalls you then there is no escape.

Namrood appointed salaried officials to hit him on the head with mallets. The blows gave him a brief respite, since they interrupted the insect's work. As soon as the mosquito began eating his brain once more, he would cry, "Help! Hit me!" He would get angry with those who did not hit him hard enough, while he increased the salaries of those who were hard hitters.

The so called 'God of the earth' was being beaten by his own servants. One day, one of these servants wielded the mallet too hard, and Namrood's evil soul departed. They laid his filthy corpse in the pit of hell which was his grave.

[Compiled from: Irshad: Wisdom of a Sufi Master by: Shaikh. Muzaffer. Al Jerrahi.]

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TEENAGE YEARS : Most Difficult For Parents

"I never asked to be born!" "Stop trying to control my life!" "I hate you!"

You thought you were over the hard part---changing diapers and being awakened throughout the night by your crying baby, dealing with an uncontrollable two-year old "monster," and trying to handle a mischievous child, who was always getting into trouble at school. But now comes the really hard part---coping with a rebellious, often rude and obnoxious, teenager.

Muslim Parents: Not Immune from Teenage Problems- The teenage years have historically been a difficult period for parents in America, with very few exceptions. Struggling to find their own place in the world, teenagers often rebel against the ways of their parents. They want to experiment to find out what is best for them. And, unfortunately, Muslim parents may also face many of the same problems with their teenagers that non-Muslim families face.

Muslim children can also be tempted to drink alcohol or take drugs, be physically attracted to someone of the opposite sex in their class, skip school, or get involved in the wrong crowd.

No doubt, it will be a traumatic experience for a Muslim family to find out that their son or daughter is taking drugs, secretly going out on dates with the opposite sex, or getting in trouble with the police, but it could happen. And what if they become addicts, contract AIDS by having unmarried sex, or become a mother or father before marriage. Our great dreams for our children could suddenly turn into nightmares. It has happened to other Muslim families.

This is, of course, a very frightening thought for most parents. Some will merely say that it won't happen to their Muslim child. But others will take action and look for ways to prevent these problems or to better handle them if they arise.

Although no two families have exactly the same situation, there are some general guidelines for dealing with Muslim teenagers that might be useful.

We should teach them from an early age about Allah Ta'ala , the Prophets, the Sahaba, and the great heroes of Islam. -If we develop in them a love for Islam and provide them with righteous examples for their heroes, they will be much less likely to go astray. A person wants to be like his heroes. If he admires Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alaihi Wa Sallam, Abu Bakr ؓ, and Ali ؓ, he will try to follow their example. If he admires a rock star or a gang leader, he will want to be like them. If we inspire our children with good examples, when they are tempted to do wrong, they will, InshaAllah, remember these examples and remain steadfast.

Although I was raised as a Christian and didn't embrace Islam until I was in my 20s, I was greatly influenced by the Biblical stories of Prophets like Nuh, Ibrahim, Musa, and Isa ؑ. Although the Biblical stories were not in their pure form, they still inculcated in me a love and respect for the way of the Prophets. Although I fell into many of the temptations of youth, Alhamdulillah, I always felt something within me holding me back from going too far. While many of my friends went headlong into a highly destructive way of life, I believe that my knowledge of, and affection for, the Prophets helped me to return to a better path.

We must be very careful about our children's friends - During the teenage years, children often care more about what their friends say than what their parents or elders say. According to a hadith, "Man is upon the path of his intimate friend; so let each look to whom he takes as a friend." If our children have good, sincere, and righteous friends, the chances are good that our children will be like them. If, on the other hand, our children hang around with children who take drugs and get into trouble, our children will likely take drugs and get into trouble.

Therefore, it is essential from an early age that we try to get our children involved with good children. One way to encourage this is by regularly taking them to the mosque (be careful of not creating disturbance) or by sending them to an Islamic school where they will have the opportunity to meet and interact with Muslim children. We should be worried though if our children start hanging around with bad-mannered and disrespectful children.

We should encourage our children to participate in wholesome religious, social, and sports activities - Bored teenagers are more likely to look for fun and excitement in the wrong place. "Idle hands are the devil's (shaytan's) workshop," someone once said. If teenagers' lives are full of good and exciting things to do, they will not have the time or the desire to get involved in bad things.

We should try to channel their teenage zeal into constructive avenues - Sometimes, teenagers begin to criticize the way of life of their parents and society, and parents are often angered by this. However, we must keep in mind that sometimes they may be right. Our lives and our society are not perfect, and teenagers may have fresh insight into how to improve them. In *Living With Teenagers: A Guide for Muslim Parents*, Ruqaiyyah Waris Maqsood writes:

"Teenagers are idealists---they want to change the world, and make it a better place. These are not bad ideals, and it is a great pity that adults have forgotten their own ideals in the rat-race of daily life. You, the parent, may have ended up as just a hard-working nonentity in some quiet niche in life; a teenager who is a real idealist may end up as a famous person, a reformer, a politician, an aid-worker---who knows. The future lies there before them.

It is therefore a foolish parent who tries to ridicule and trample on that young idealism. If it is consistent with Islam, it should be fervently encouraged, and not set at naught."

If a teenager is idealistic and wants to improve the world, we should encourage him and help him. If he is full of zeal but lacks the proper direction, we should help him to use that zeal constructively. If we get teenagers involved in helping those in need and in working for important causes, their zeal could make a tremendous impact.

We should sometimes admit that we are wrong - Parents make mistakes. If we admit to our children that we are wrong at times, they will not always feel that they have to rebel against us and prove that we are wrong.

We should listen to our children - Sometimes, children act out in order to get our attention. If we give them our attention freely, they will not have to seek it in destructive ways. Also, by listening to our children, there is a greater chance that they will confide in us and ask us questions, rather than seeking answers from negative sources.

We should do what we say - Teenagers hate hypocrisy, and many of them seem to have a built-in radar for detecting it. If we want them to listen to us and take our advice, they must trust us. If we tell them not to drink, but drink ourselves, they will not respect us.

The teenage years are usually difficult, and parents need to prepare for them before they arrive. If parents have built a strong, trusting, and loving relationship with their children before the teenage years, their children will be less likely to go astray. It is very difficult to see one's child going in the wrong direction and not know how to stop him from destroying himself. But if we work hard to instill in them the right values early and try to help them develop a wholesome lifestyle without being overbearing, perhaps we can prevent such a tragedy from ever occurring.

MOULANA HAMID RAZA KHAN

HIS BLESSED NAME:

According to the family tradition, he was given the name Muhammed during his Aqeeqa, the value of which in Arabic numerals is nine two. His was affectionately called Hamid Raza, and his title is Hujjat-ul-Islam.




HIS BRIEF GENEALOGY:

He is the son of the Muijjadid of the fourteenth Century, A'la Hadrat Ash Shah Imam Ahmed Raza Khan Qaadir Barakaati Radi ALLAHu Ta'ala Anho.


HUJJATUL ISLAM'S EDUCATION:

He attained his knowledge at the feet of his blessed father, He attained proficiency in the fields of Hadith, Islamic Jurisprudence, Tafseer etc. and graduated with distinctions at the tender age of nineteen. His blessed father admired Hujjatul Islam for his sincerity and dedication in gaining knowledge.

HIS EXCELLENCE:

When He travelled to the Holy cities of Makkatul Mukarramah and Madinatul Munawwarah for Hajj and Ziyaarah, he was blessed with meeting great scholars such as Hadrat Sheikh Sayyid Husain Dabbaagh  and Sayyidi Maaliki Turki . After meeting Hujjatul Islam , both these learned scholars said:

“From the Learned and Talented Personalities in India, we have never met anybody that was more fluent and commanding in the Arabic Language, than Hujjatul Islam.”



He was the combination of many inner spiritual qualities. He was not only a great scholar, but he was the best teacher of his time. He was famous for his lectures on the topics of Hadith and Tafseer. He held a unique position in the command of the Arabic Language. He was an excellent poet and his poetry was pure and gentle. His poems (Naats) were written in the deep love of the Holy Prophet Muhammed Mustafa . He served the Maslak-e-Ahle Sunnat, and the Silsila-e-Aaliyah Qaaderiyah Barakaatiyah Razviyah with complete sincerity and humility. He spent his entire life in striving for the upliftment of the Muslim Ummah.



HIS BLESSED HABITS:

He was a bright example of his pious predecessors and his illustrious forefathers. He possessed a beautiful character and all good habits. He was a very pleasant and gentle person, and would always smile when he spoke to anyone. His respect for the elders and love for children was one of his blessed qualities. He always lowered his gaze when in conversation, or when walking in the street. He spent most of his time in the recitation of Durood Shareef. He, like his blessed father strongly opposed the British and their allies. He was always firm in his belief and never compromised his principles, which were based on the Quran and Hadith.


HIS HUMILITY:



Due to his humbleness, his dress was also the same. Not withstanding his status and knowledge his lifestyle

remained the epitome of simplicity. Even though he was a great scholar and the son of the Muijjadid of the Century, he never showed any pride over his knowledge. He respected all the Ulama and Masha'ikh and humbled himself in their presence. His humbleness was another example of his exemplary character. An example of his humbleness can be determined from the following statement of Qutbe Madinah Hadrat Sheikh Ziauddin Madani  who was amongst the esteemed disciples and Khulafa of A'la Hadrat :

“Hujjatul Islam  was a very bright and handsome personality. He was such a humble person, that when I would journey from Madinatul Munawwarah to Bareilly Shareef, he would be such an excellent host, that he would even take a cloth and personally shine my shoes. He never allowed anyone else to serve me and he would personally serve my meals to me. I have difficulty expressing the extent of his hospitality. When I would prepare to return for Madinah Shareef, he would humbly say, ‘Please Convey my Salutations in the Exalted Court of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah , and pray that He invites me to the Holy City.’”

HIS BLESSED CHARACTER:

He was a radiant personality. Likewise, his character was also admirable. He was exemplary in every way, be it in looks, habits, character, knowledge, piety, actions and in words. He was always generous and merciful. Not only did those who knew him praise his character, but those who opposed him were also forced to accept the blessed nature of his character. Even though he was very gentle and kind, he became very firm and strong against those who insulted Allah and His Rasool .

For those who were true servants of Allah and His Rasool , he was like a rose, which brings pleasure at all times, and for the enemy of Allah and His Rasool  he was a naked sword.

When Shab-e-Baraat (the eve of the fifteenth of Shabaan, would arrive, He would ask for forgiveness and pardon from all those around him. He was so sincere in this, that he would even ask forgiveness from children, servants and his disciples by saying:

“If I have been the cause of any pain to you, then please forgive me, and if I owe anything to anybody, then please inform me.”

He was an excellent example of “Al Hubbu Lil Laahi Wal Bughzu fillah” (Love for the sake of Allah and Hate for the sake of Allah) and “Firm against the disbelievers and gentle towards your own”.

He showed much love and gentleness towards his students and disciples, and every one of his mureeds felt that he was the most loved of Hujjatul Islam's mureeds.



**BY MOULANA
SHAH FAISAL
KHAN SAHEB**

Q1) Does wudhu break if one speaks lies, backbites or uses vulgar language?

A1) No, but it is Mustahab (desirable) to make a fresh wudhu. Salaah will be valid if it is performed with such wudhu. The Shari'ah (rulings of Islam) doesn't prefer the performance of Salaah with such wudhu.

Q2) Can any Muslim make Esaale Sawaab for himself while he is alive?

A2) Yes, he can by secretly giving charity to the destitute. It is the most excellent to secretly give charity to the needy. The Holy Hadith states, " Secret charity saves you from bad death and cools the wrath of Allah. (Lisan al Meezan).

To give Sadqah on your behalf while you are alive is better than Sadqah given on your behalf after death. Our Master, Sayyiduna Rasool ﷺ states, "A person came to the prophet of Allah and enquired: What is the greatest form of charity? The Prophet ﷺ replied, the best Sadqah is when you give charity while in good health and when you are in possession of wealth, when you desire to be wealthy and fear of being poor." Don't wait for the moment when your soul is stuck in the throat and then say, "Give so much charity to certain person and give certain person that much, etc."

It is useless to distribute your wealth on your last moments because it is already destined for the inheritance of others. (Muslim Shareef).

Q3) What is the meaning of the following Hadth- If Nabi Moosa was alive, he would have no choice but to follow me.

A3) if Nabi Moosa had to come and you happen to leave me and follow him, you would go astray. If there is no difference regarding prophethood, then the question is why would one go astray? The reason is simple. This is so because the Shari'ah of the Holy Prophet ﷺ is the last and final complete law and testament which cancels and supersedes all previous laws. Our Shari'ah Muhammadiyya has nullified numerous rules and regulations of the Shari'ah of Nabi Moosa and Nabi Esa (A.S). Hence ,we will surely go astray if we leave the Shari'ah Muhammadiyya and follow the others.

Hazrat Abdullah ibn Salaam (R.A) and many other Jews embraced Islam. They were great scholars of the Taurah so they requested permission to recite the Taurah in their Salaah instead of the Quraan. The following verse was revealed in answer, " O people of Islam, enter into Islam in totality and don't follow the footsteps of the devil, verily he is your open enemy."

Q4) If sadness is beyond ones control, then would it be permissible to mourn the death of one's relative?

A4) People make it uncontrollable, whereas if one controls one's emotion, then one can certainly make Sabr. The Holy Prophet ﷺ was passing by a lady who was crying bitterly upon the death of her son due to being overpowered by sorrow. He ordered her to make Sabr but she was engrossed in sorrow and did not realize who was talking to her. In this state of unconsciousness, she said, "Go away and leave me alone." The Holy Prophet ﷺ left and went away. When she returned to her senses, the people rebuked her and said that she had shown disrespect to Rasoolullah ﷺ. She was terribly embarrassed and ashamed of her action. She tearfully hurried to the Prophet ﷺ saying, "Ya Rasoolullah ﷺ, I was not aware that you forbade me, now I make Sabr." The Prophet ﷺ replied, "The real patience is at the first stroke of calamity." (Bukhari Shareef).

The intention of gaining reward itself creates Sabr in the heart.

Q5) Is it a waste or abuse of wealth to decorate a venue for celebrating the Meelad Shareef of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah ﷺ with chandeliers and carpets?

A5) The noble scholars of Islam states, "There is no virtue in waste and no waste in virtue." It is said that this is a saying of Sayyiduna Imam Al Hasan. Anything that is honourable to the sacred remembrance of the beloved prophet of Allah is not forbidden.

Imam Ghazali (R.A) in his famous book of Ihya-ul-Uloom Shareef quotes Sayyidi Sheikh Abu Ali Raad Baari who said that once a pious man organized the sacred Moulod Shareef celebration of Nabi ﷺ. He lit up the venue with a thousand lanterns. A short sighted person came to the venue so he saw the expenditure of the function and turned back, as he was leaving, the host grabbed his hand and brought him inside. The host then said to him, "Extinguish all those lanterns which I lit up for other than Allah." The guest tried to extinguish the lanterns but couldn't put off a single one. He was dumbfounded and hence, rectified his heart which was misled by the devil.

Courtesy of: Al Malfuz Al Shareef by Imam Ahmed Raza Khan Barailly, Imam Ahmed Raza Academy.




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Think a bit O YOUTH

MOULANA BAS HIR KHAN QADIRI

Sincere Piety

Once there was a woman travelling in a vehicle. She saw a minor child who was walking bare feet and he looked tired. Seeing this, the pious lady told the driver, "Sit the boy down in the vehicle, I shall pay his fare."

Twenty years later, on the same street a captain was travelling in a vehicle. Accidently his sight fell on an elderly woman who was walking in slow motion. Looking at her state, the captain ordered the driver, "Stop the vehicle and sit that elderly woman down in the vehicle, I shall pay her fare."

Thanking the captain while they jumped off the vehicle at station the elderly lady said, "I do not have money to pay the fare at the moment".

The captain told her, "Not to worry, I have already paid the fare; because I always feel sorry when I see an elderly lady walking. Reason for this is that about twenty years ago, when I was a poor child, a soft-hearted lady sat me down in the vehicle when she saw me walking bare feet somewhere along the very same street. The elderly lady spoke taking a deep breath, "Mr Captain! I am that unfortunate woman whose state is now so horrible that she is not even able to pay her own fare."

Do not grieve my fortunate mother! I have earned a lot of wealth and now I am returning to my hometown to spend the remainder days of my life in peace. I will happily serve you for as long as you live. Hearing this, the elderly lady thanked him and cried whilst making supplications for him. And then the captain helped her all her life.

O readers Look at how true the message of our beloved Prophet (peace be upon Him) is!

"The reward of every good deed is valued ten times more." (Bukhari)

Half a blanket

When the wife of a wealthy trader died, he also got afflicted with asthma after a short time, then he granted his young son all his wealth.

Having gained the treasure of thousands, firstly, the son, his wife and children served the trader very well, but after the duration of about a year, the situation arose to the extent that he neglected his medical treatment and the food he was given, was also of a very ordinary standard. One day, it happened so, that the son clearly told the father, "It would be better if you put your cot in the portico and sleep there since there is a probability of the children afflicted by your regular coughing.

The sickly father did not have a choice but to be patient! "I shall make an excuse but I need a blanket for the winter is not over yet", said the father.


The Youngman told his younger son, "Bring the cow's blanket for the grandfather". The child quickly went and brought the blanket and told his grandfather to take half of it and give him the other half. "How am I to manage the cold with just half a blanket?" asked the grandfather. His father also told the child to give him the whole blanket, upon which, the child replied to his father, "this is the only unique blanket of its kind in this house, if you give it all to grandpa then what shall I have to offer you when you grow older and sleep in the portico due to your illnesses?!"

The child's father was dumb founded hearing this innocent talk from his child and seeking the apology of his father, he served and obeyed sincerely which made his father pleased as well as his own hereafter got improved.

Beloved youngsters! See, how beautifully our beloved Prophet (peace be upon Him) once preached whilst advising Sayyiduna Umar (may Allah be pleased with Him):

Obey your parents for as long as they are alive and do not disobey.

Musnad Ahmad Ibn Hambal, Hadeeth



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PROACTIVE-DIVERSITY

BY SHEIKH ZUZE IS HAAQ - HEAD OF DAWAH ACTIVITIES AT ORANGE FARM

In some point of life, we are confronted by problems or loss, and each day we live as it comes embracing every situation to make most of it, as you look around you will find amazing love and possibilities, so let's not forget this passing day because on its horizon lies a crimson glow of blessings.

Here at Saaberie Chishty Dawah Centre, we have continued to work hard. We have created dialogues in every avenue on daily basis, creating a safe, inclusive and respectful networking, since the more people here can work in these issues the more likely it is that we will see changes.

The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect, and understanding that each individual is unique and plays a certain role in this community in along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious beliefs or ideology.

With praise of Almighty Allah before anything, Islam emphasizes on strong belief in Him, following His commands and the sentiment of this day is echoed with beautiful recitation of the Holy Quran. Our daily activities have attracted a lot and have always worked as a grand benefit to all here, namely Pre-school, afternoon, Madresa classes, weekend secular study classes, adult female and male classes, five times day prayer facility, and Dawah days...etc

Dawah days engagement are to raise awareness as it serves as a source of information to the community, proactive and reactive, in order to strive and excel so that freedom of thought and expression is upheld, exchange of ideas and getting feedback as the effective means to educate people, dispelling myths and wrong ideas. And this can be only be done in the classroom and our platform of education here is providing a big room for the community to participate collectively - seeing Islam as an ideal religion to solve our social problems.

Islam cares a lot about these ideas, using a value based approach in which today our topic of discourse is 'Problems affecting our social life', Being mindful as a fresh start of the year. It is good that Islam is a way of life. We must submit our whole to the commands and teachings of Allah and His Prophet Muhammad (saw). Our commitment to Islam must not only be lifelong but also life-wide. Islam aims to build a society which is a model of civility, courtesy, and consideration of others, and it does so by emphasizing these attributes as a matter of faith.

From amongst the audiences, there stood a lady in explaining all factors that lead to these problems such as, drugs, alcoholism, lack of respect and discipline in a family, and many others which are all prone to deadly diseases, killings, rape or one will end up in jail. The dialogue that went on this day was constructive and beneficial and its teachings were with regards to our social relations and dealings with others, and show a great enthusiasm religious duty, 'One must become a good human being before one can ever become a good Muslim'.

We appreciate the value of these teachings by realizing that most problems in our lives our man-made. Life

can be a living hell if there are problems within the family, the tension between the spouses, the friction between parents and children, the fights between brothers and sisters and other relatives. Today these are common stories everywhere. If everyone were to genuinely concern about not hurting others, problems won't occur and reach to this intensity they do.

And what makes Dawah work more amazing is that it's all done in a respectful manner, people give in their time to this, to discuss and have solutions to make a difference. It is again a positive thing to see this community of Driezik-Orange Farm becoming firm in doing what is good, and fortunately the Saaberie Chishty Society is defined as a home of respect and mutual admiration that always ensure the lifetime love of education.

Our engagement to the community featured the MAP, Muslim Aids Programme, whose main objective is to equip the general community on matters of sex, sexuality, HIV, and AIDS. And to offer Aids education based on moral values (abstinence before marriage) to the broader community (focus predominately on prevention). Sheikh Isa had a lot to teach the people on this day in simpler explanations to these infections and how MAP helps in these concerns, however with the mark of weekly mobile clinic every Monday in helping the affected ones with treatment absolutely free, and a door to door campaign on home based care visits and assisting those who are sick to seek treatment as soon as possible.

The question was 'how can we help those who are sick? Everyone at this stage of time and day must have knowledge on how to handle a sick person. Most of all love and care is the important shield weapon to show support on each other. We should help and support those infected to be in a better position to make healthy decisions that will increase their quality life. We have learnt a lot on this, accepting various things about life and our lifestyle and what it means for the future...

Sheikh Muhammad Imtiyaz Khan in his kind words, remarked, 'Saaberie Chishty Society, and its Dawah centre-is taking interest to improve the community, together we can strive for the betterment of this community'. I believe to say that what happened today is regarded as ihsaan, which applies to all our endeavors in life. Therefore, means striving for excellence in achieving piety, right actions and goodness in all sincerity and through an overwhelming feeling of closeness to almighty Allah.

Over 150 community members who were present on this day stood for Salami and Duaa was made invoking Almighty Allah to bless us all and guide us aright, Ameen! It's all happiness sharing such life sentiments with the community as all get seated for a delightful lunch and refreshments.

Work, inform, enlighten, and uplift people-proactive diversity, it is a defining trait of a Muslim

Natural ways to regulate your menstrual cycle

BY HASINA BEGUM SAYED

Symptom: Heavy, frequent bleeding.

If your period suddenly starts coming more frequently for a few cycles in a row (say, every 20 days instead of your usual 28), or lasting longer (say, six days instead of three), or brings abnormally heavy bleeding that prevents you from doing your usual activities, it's often a sign that your body is not producing enough progesterone to balance estrogen, the lining keeps thickening until it breaks off and repeatedly sheds in fragmented pieces, she explains.

Common culprits

1. Polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS).

About 1 in 15 women has PCOS, a hormone-imbalance condition associated with insulin resistance. In PCOS, egg follicles form but they don't release, leading to insufficient progesterone and sometimes heavy bleeding. Even if you don't have PCOS or insulin resistance, it's important to shed excess weight. Women who have a lot of belly fat have a lot of estrogen.

2. Perimenopause. The earliest menopause signs—including hormone imbalance and failure to ovulate—can start in your late 30s and lead to heavy bleeding. Chronic stress worsens the imbalance, because the adrenal glands direct cortisol production toward stress response instead of using cortisol as a building block for progesterone.

3. A health condition or infection.

Structural problems, such as endometriosis, uterine polyps and fibroids; low thyroid function; prolonged antibiotic use; and even infections like chlamydia and gonorrhea can lead to irregular, heavier periods.

Restore balance

1. Reduce body fat through diet and exercise.

2. Manage stress. Try meditation or a gratitude journal. "You can't feel gratitude and stress at the same time."

3. Apply warm castor oil. To stabilize flow, moisten a flannel pack (available at natural products stores; a folded, old T-shirt will do in a pinch) with warmed castor oil; place oil-side down on your lower abdomen with a hot-water bottle on top; cover with a towel. Do this daily for an hour (but not during your period) for a few months; then gradually reduce frequency to twice a month. Your period might initially become heavier or more painful, but that's just stagnation clearing from the uterus.

If your period comes infrequently, gets very light, or seems to stop altogether—and you're not yet menopausal—stress of some sort is likely a primary factor.

Common culprits

1. Low hormone levels. Intense

exercisers often have very low body fat, which can diminish hormone levels and prevent the uterus from building up a lining. Chronic or extreme stress can worsen the problem by reducing effectiveness of the brain's hypothalamus, which signals the ovaries to produce hormones. Women may not be aware of "invisible" stressors such as food allergies, toxins, and unstable blood sugar, she adds. Stress can also lead to PCOS, says Pick. Although the syndrome can create very heavy periods, it sometimes has the opposite effect, she explains.

2. Insufficient nourishment. When nutrition and sleep levels are chronically low, the body prioritizes survival over reproduction, Welch says. The most common stress-related nutrient deficiencies include essential fatty acids (such as omega-3s), B vitamins (especially B6), and minerals (especially magnesium and zinc).

3. Early menopause. "If you're in your 30s and suddenly have low or scanty periods, get your hormone levels checked. Family history, illness, and certain medical procedures can cause some women to go through menopause well before age 51."

Restore balance

1. Eat a healthy diet. Cut out empty calories from processed and sugary foods, and aim to eat lean protein (along with vegetables and whole grains) every two to three hours. It'll help stabilize your blood sugar and reduce cortisol demand.

2. Sleep well. Aim for at least 7 1/2 hours nightly. Supplement with a high-quality multivitamin and fish oil. You may want to look for a multi that targets stress, or take additional supplements of B vitamins, magnesium, and zinc. Ayurvedic and Chinese herbs such as shatavari, vidari, and dong quai may also help.

3. Do forward bends. During your period, Clennell recommends practicing forward bends, which reduce tension in the abdomen, boost circulation in the pelvis, strengthen the internal reproductive organs, and help glands function properly during menstruation. Save back bends, lateral twists, and inversions for the rest of the month.

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STARTING FROM SCRATCH

BY FAIZEL KHAMKAR

In accounting and economics a concept of "zero budget" is a norm. This form of budgeting is based on the concept of starting from scratch and with the base being zero the budget is then developed in terms of the needs or requirements of the business. This then gives the optimum or maximum requirements of the business around which a business plan is devised. This works very well in the field of economics but when it comes to obtaining the optimum requirements for the development of society then this untried and untested method is foolish to implement.

It appears as though this may become a reality as a result of the chipping away of the structure of society as it stands. A lobby group has already approached the health department to legalise marijuana and cannabis for medicinal purposes. This was then followed by a passionate plea by a Democratic Alliance member of parliament who appears to be terminally ill with cancer in his address to parliament recently to legalise these drugs. We know that in certain European countries the legalising of these drugs as already taken place and "social bars" where these drugs are freely available can be found is patronised unreservedly. From press reports it appears that there is a positive response to these pleas. The question which would be on everyone's mind is: After that where will the line be drawn? Undoubtedly some obscure scientific base will be found to support this.

We are aware that the ANC's women league has been calling for prostitution to be legalised. This call is being made despite the fact that after a discussion paper was issued to investigate this possibility. Sunni Ulama Council amongst a host of other organizations had responded to the white paper and objected to its implementation. The objections were vociferous enough for the discussions to be put on the back burner.

The Satanist of this country is also advocating that they be accepted as a religion and are pushing for the rights as a minority to be legally recognized in terms of this country's constitution. The horror crimes which are being discovered have allegedly been attributed to the philosophy and practices of this group. The list goes on and on.

All of these are the programmes of the neo liberals who have gone publicly stated that they intend to push to boundaries of societal values to the brink. They have

been relatively successful in a number of areas and will continue to "push boundaries" until society falls off the edge of the boundaries into a never ending abyss. It is at this juncture which can be described as the point of no return. The law of the jungle will then apply.

Morality will then have to be developed from scratch from that point onwards. Who will be authorised to define morality? Who will be authorised to police the new morality? On what bases will such morals be based on? Numerous questions will arise to which no answers will be available. It is only religious values that can succeed. The problem however lies in the fact that these views has already been rejected and will not readily be accepted. This is when the moral code will be established from a zero base in anticipation of success. The picture painted is one of sheer hopelessness and utter despair. The neo liberals will obviously gain immensely from a financial position but will end up as desperate as everyone else. The whole new moral model will then be focussed on saving this ill gotten gain.

The clergy who had assumed the role of protecting morality have already come up with views directly opposite to the teachings of their scripture in support of redeveloping morality. The determination to change to a new world order of morality can be gauged by the threats which were levelled against Uganda to force it to abandon passing strict anti gay/lesbian laws. Thus as custodians of the only true, fair and just moral system we are duty bound to exert ourselves to the utmost to preserve these values as well as propagate it. In order to do that however we need to change our mindsets and actions to bring about a lifestyle which reflects such moral values. We will achieve nothing by propagating a set of moral values and on examination we find that our lives are playing out a tune contrary to our expressed viewpoints. The starting point must be the embracing (with extreme love and respect) the perfectionist of practical morality our Beloved Prophet (SAW). Furthermore we should not shun away from our collective duty and assume that the next person will be doing it for us. The drug lords have proven that they thrive on this kind of attitude.



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOCUS

BY FAKIR HASSEN

Jeddah, SAUDI ARABIA - More than 25,000 Muslims living in Denmark will have to stop eating Danish meat after Denmark banned the religious slaughter of animals in a controversial decision that effectively ends the sale of halal and kosher meats. Many Gulf countries, including Saudi Arabia, import frozen beef and poultry from Denmark. Danish Halal, a group that oversees the authenticity of halal meat in the country and which launched a petition against the ban, said the decision was "a clear interference in religious freedom limiting the rights of Muslims and Jews to practice their religion in Denmark."

New York, USA - New York City's secret police surveillance of mosques, Muslim businesses and a Muslim student group in New Jersey did not violate the US Constitution, a federal judge has ruled. US District Judge William Martini threw out a lawsuit brought by several New Jersey Muslims who claimed the New York Police Department illegally targeted them for undercover monitoring solely because of their religion.

Strasbourg, FRANCE - A French Muslim legal organization is suing a French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo after it published inflammatory cartoons insulting the Qur'an. The magazine is charged with blasphemy, even though the crime of blasphemy has not existed since the French Revolution.

Plovdiv, BULGARIA - Police arrested over 120 people after nationalists and

football fans attempted to storm a mosque. A police cordon prevented attempts by the crowd to storm the mosque during Friday prayers, which resulted in the injury of a one policeman and several protesters. Prosecutors in the capital Sofia prosecutors said they had charged eight people with hooliganism, crimes against religion and xenophobia.

Cologne, GERMANY - German politicians have condemned a new attack on the Central Mosque in Cologne, the third in a week, describing it as an attack on 'democracy' and 'freedom'. According to a statement by the Turkish Islamic Association, the attack occurred when the assailant slammed a car into the door of the central mosque. He also tried to torch it by throwing combustible material at the door of the conference hall of the mosque.

Dubai, UAE - The United Arab Emirates has opened its first smart mosque in Dubai. The Department of Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities launched the Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Mosque in Jumeirah 3, using the Quick response (QR) code technology which offers digital access to mosques. Through the QR code technology, people can get general information about a mosque — its history, capacity, nature, area, prayer timings, lectures or courses offered by the mosque, as well as information about Friday Khutbas round the clock.

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Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA – A hundred orphans were married at a glittering wedding ceremony. The 100 young men were brought up by the Ensan Charitable Society for Orphan's Care, headquartered in Riyadh. The wedding ceremony was held under the aegis of Riyadh Governor Prince Khaled bin Bandar. The young couples were given gifts, purses and a three-night stay at a hotel or resort. The society also conducted a marriage counseling program for the benefit of the young couples. During the program, they were told about the values of marriage and the regulations laid down in Islam for a successful alliance.

Makkah, SAUDI ARABIA –A British woman minister visiting Saudi Arabia took part in the challenging and intricate process of embroidering a Kiswa, the black silk cloth that covers the Holy Kaaba. Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, the UK's senior minister of state at the Foreign Office and Minister for Faith and Communities, made the attempt during a visit to a factory that produces the Kiswa. During her tour of the facility, Warsi was given a detailed lecture on the history and advances in the manufacture of the cloth that veils the Kaaba. In a Twitter post, Warsi described her taking part in the making of the cloth as a "huge privilege."

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