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The Rise of Shams!

Rumi is considered the most famous muslim thinker and writer by the modern world. His message to dive into the soul to discover the Reality of God is an elaborate representation of the higher teachings of Islam. Something other famous sufis achieved with equal aplomb, in the face of objection from the orthodoxy.

The sufis were never intentionally controversial. They did not detract from the mainstream approach, except to define the actual purpose of shariah.

The movement evolved after the introduction of Ali, as its founder, by none other than Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ), declaring "Whoever's master I am, so is Ali his master!"

Great emphasis was placed on searching for the evidence and signs of the Creator, so Travel became a fundamental of the path in as much as the seeking of a teacher or a spiritual guide.

By Rumi's time sufism had reached its most brilliant period. Contemporaries like al-Jilani, Suharwardi, ibn-al-Arabi, and Muinuddin Chishty dazzled the world with their teachings and performances unraveling the mysteries of the Revelations and the lessons of the Apostle (ﷺ).

From such a background, emerged a seeker, also from Turkey, who had fulfilled a high level of religious education, memorising the Quran for one.. He was S a y y e d Shamsuddin and he also chose the sufi path. He was a keen follower of the great masters of the sufi world and took to travel so he could meet some of them, and perhaps discover a master, upon whose hand he would pledge bai'ah, in his quest for arriving at the ultimate Truth.

Closer to home, he would have first visited Islam's holy lands, including Jerusalem. Here he would have first learnt of Sheikh Fareed, or even visited a cave which attracted much attention after the Chishti master had sat in seclusion and prayed there.

Shamsuddin Turk, after passing through many lands and engaging with fellow travellers and congregations at the retreats of sufi masters wanted nothing but to meet Sheikh Fareed, desiring to achieve his spiritual apprenticeship there.

From Europe, crossing Africa, into Asia, the dervish eventually arrived at Ajodhan, in the forests of the Punjab, where he fulfilled his wish to meet Baba Fareed Ganje Shagr the leader of the Chishtiyya order. He was not successful in enlisting himself as a disciple, as he was re-directed to Sheikh Ala'uddin Sabir, the ecstatic and saintly deputy of Baba Fareed.

A new spiritual order, Sabriyya, grew from this meeting and connection. Khwaja Shamsuddin the Turk became the only disciple of his master, widely revered today as Sabir-Paak. He was the witness on whose evidence the Reality of Sabir-Paak and the Sabri Silsila achieved such credibility.

The urs of Khwaja Shamsuddin Turk (RA) occurs annually on 10 Jamadi-us-Sani and is celebrated lavishly at his shrine in Panipat, India.

In South Africa, the first official urs of the great saint is in its 23rd year of celebration. It will be hosted in Hazyview on 11 April 2015 by Irshad Ahmed Siddiqi Sabri, mureeds and well-wishers, Insha Allah.

BIRTH OF THE NEW MOON FOR RAJAB 1436 SAT. 18 APRIL 2015 @ 20:57

HAZRAT ABU BAKR AS SIDDIQ ﷺ

EARLY LIFE: Abu Bakr ﷺ's real name was Abdullah, and he was given the title of "As Siddiq" or "Testifier to the Truth." His father, 'Uthman, was known as Abu Quhafah and his mother, Salma, was known as Ummul Khair. He was two and a half years younger than Rasulullah ﷺ.

He was the first among the Sahaba to accept Islam. He accompanied Rasulullah ﷺ during the Hijrah to Madinatul Munawwarah. Abu Bakr ﷺ was a merchant. He freed many slaves, including Bilal ﷺ and Umayyah bin Qahaf ﷺ.

He participated in all the battles in which Rasulullah ﷺ had to fight the Kuffar.

He loved his faith more than anything else. At the Battle of Badr, his son, Abdur Rahman ﷺ, was fighting on the side of the Kuffar. After accepting Islam, Abdur Rahman ﷺ said to his father, "O Father, at Badr, you were twice under my sword, but my love for you held my hand back." To this, He replied, "Son, if I had you only once under my sword, you would have been no more." He was so uncompromising in his faith.

At the time of the Battle of Tabuk, he donated all his wealth to the war effort, and when Rasulullah ﷺ asked him, "What have you left for your family,?" he replied, "Allaah and His Rasool ﷺ."

AS A CALIPH: After his election as the Caliph, He addressed the Muslims with these words:

"O People! I have been chosen by you as your leader, although I am no better than any of you. If I do any wrong, set me right. Listen, truth is honesty and untruth is dishonesty. The weak among you are the powerful in my eyes, as long as I do not give them their dues. The powerful among you are weak in my eyes, as long as I do not take away from them what is due to others."

"Listen carefully, if people give up striving for the Cause of Almighty Allah, He will send down disgrace upon them. If people become evil-doers, Almighty Allaah will send down calamities upon them."

"Obey me as long as I obey Allaah and His Rasul ﷺ. If I disobey Allaah and His Rasul ﷺ, you are free to disobey me."

Such was the first Caliph of Islam. Indeed, the world would be a better place to live in, if we had leaders like Abu Bakr ﷺ.

He now sent Usamah ﷺ on the expedition to Syria to fight the Romans, even though he had to attend to all the internal problems of the Islamic State.

The news that Rasulullah ﷺ had passed away, made some new Muslims think that the Islamic State would crumble and they refused to pay the Zakaah. These new Muslims could not yet get used to their faith and its requirements until then. He declared, "By Allah! Even if a single thread is due from a man, he must give it. If he refuses, I will declare war against him."

RENEGADES AND IMPOSTERS: Tulaiha, Musailimah, Maalik bin Nuwairah, Aswad Ansi and

a woman named Sajah claimed that they were prophets and caused a great deal of confusion. Abu Bakr ﷺ was quick to take action against these imposters.

Khalid bin Walid ﷺ was sent to deal with Tulaiha who fled to Syria and later became a Muslim. Maalik bin Nuwarah was killed. Ikramah ﷺ and Surahbil ﷺ were sent to take action against Musailimah, but they were defeated. He sent Khalid bin Walid ﷺ to tackle the notorious Musailamah who married Sajah. In the fight that followed, Wahshi ﷺ killed Musailamah. Musailamah and Aswad Ansi also claimed to be prophets while Rasulullah ﷺ was alive. Aswad was killed by the Muslims of Yemen.

He's swift and bold steps saved the Islamic State from the serious danger of chaos and confusion.

ERA OF CONQUESTS: During his Khilaafat, He had to take action against the Iranian Empire. The Emperor of Iran, Khusrou Parvez, was killed by his son, Shirooya, and the whole empire fell into chaos and disorder.

Hurmuz, the Persian governor of Iraq, was very hostile to the Arabs and he was also cruel to the Muslims living in that area.

Abu Bakr ﷺ sent Muthamia ﷺ to take action against the Iranians in Iraq. His forces were not enough and Khalid bin Walid ﷺ was then sent with reinforcements. The Muslim army captured vast areas of the Iranian Empire in several battles. Abu Bakr ﷺ then turned his attention to the Romans who were causing trouble in the North-West frontier. Abu Bakr ﷺ sent 4 separate armies under Ubaidah bin Jarrah, Amr Ibnul As, Yazid bin Abu Sufyaan and Surahbil bin Hasnal ﷺ to deal with the Roman power. The four armies joined into one unit to face the Romans more effectively. The Romans had amassed 150 000 soldiers, but the total Muslim army was only 24 000. Reinforcements were requested. He asked Khalid bin Walid ﷺ to take charge of the Iraqi front and Muthanna ﷺ to rush to the Syrian front to help fight the huge Roman army. The armies met in Yarmuk after Abu Bakr ﷺ passed away. In this battle, the Romans were totally defeated.

PASSES AWAY: He fell ill at this time and passed away on the 21st of Jamadi-ul-Aakhir 13 A.H. (22 August 634). His rule lasted 2 years and 3 months. He was 63 years old. One of his many contributions was the collection and Compilation of the Qur'an.

PERSONAL LIFE: He lived a very simple, pious and upright life. He was a true servant of Almighty Allaah and a meticulous follower of Rasulullah ﷺ. He wore ordinary clothes and his meals were very simple. He attended to house-hold work and would go out at night and seek the poor and destitute. Humility and modesty were the keynotes of his character. He felt embarrassed when people showered praises on him or showed him immense respect. He often fasted during the day and spent the whole night in Salaah and meditation. In personal life, he was a Saint. He used all his powers to promote the interest of Islam and the good of people

EXTRACTS FROM THE GREAT GUIDES

Sayed Ghulam Muhayudin Shah Saheb (Qibla Baboojee)

Never leave your Allah – object of worship under any circumstances.

Everything is in His (God's) hands.

Prayers are compulsory. Deliberately omitting even a single prayer leads to Kufr.

Form a habit of doing good deeds.

Treat all in a good way in the belief that they are God's creation.

Always abide by the rights of God (Haqooq-Allah) and rights of man (Haqooq-ul-Ibaad).

God has bestowed on you His infinite blessings. Hence always follow His commands.

Charity removes hardships.

In case you don not harm anyone and he harms you, he will be accountable before God.

In sincere devotion lies the spirit of Ibadat (Prayer).

Whet your spiritual appetite – With strong devotion the distance stretching over a thousand years gets reduced to no more than a mere step.

It is better for man to die rather than forget his Lord and Supreme Master even for a single moment.

Establish links with Him (Allah Almighty) – He is all forgiveness.

Be humble – abandon it not.

Abandon not the path of righteousness.

'Habal-e-Mateen' are those loved by God. Hold on to them.

Maintain purity (wazu-ablution) all the time. Don't give up "Namaz-e-Punj Waqt" (praying five times a day).

Exploitation and tyranny are not good things. Fear God. He is the Real King and kingdom belongs to Him.

Consider man nothing else but the creation of Allah and treat him accordingly.

Observe Haqooq-Allah (the rights of Allah) and Haqooq-al-ibad (the rights of mankind).

The poor and the aggrieved enjoy an early Hearing. You'll be asked about your deeds, and the relations you maintained with mankind.

Take mercy on His people blessing that they are His creation. Deal with them nicely so that they may feel happy and pray for you.

Cruelty and atrocity are not good. Fear God. Sovereignty belongs to Him (Allah Almighty). He has granted you a lot and can take all away if He so desires.

Eid in reality is for those who have become His; whose love is in their hearts, who are busy in carrying out His

orders and are working day in and day out seeking His acceptance and pleasure.

Since you've recited the verse (of the Holy Quran) that whatever comes, comes from Him (Allah Almighty), why should thou then feel aggrieved.

Strictly observe "Ikhlāq-e-Husna" (the code of nobility and proper conduct).

One should always ponder over the purpose for which he came in this world, and what he has so far achieved.

Spend your time in remembering Him. It was He who granted you this time.

Spend your life in His way.

Without "Yaad-e-Ilahi" (constant remembrance of Allah) "Rahat-e-Qalbi" (contentment of heart) cannot be secured.

Beware! This world is not a place of true happiness.

This world is a traveller's inn, none can stay here on permanent basis. Always keep in mind the long journey that you will have to travel.

Remember God wherever thou art.

Purchase from the shrines of Ahl-e-Allah (i.e., the saints). Abandon not the doorsteps which offer life-saving spiritual guidance.

Gallop towards Him even though are lame, disobedient and ugly-shaped. For God Almighty hath promised, "I am with those whose hearts are broken for my sake".

Consider the path of "Salaf-e-Swal-e-heen" the code of righteous people, as the straight path.

Be prepared all the time to return to your abode.

Never abandon your Lord in whatever state you may be.

May God grant you the ability to serve His people.

Spend your entire life in His way.

Never must ye abandon hope.

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NETANYAHU ELECTION VICTORY A BOOST FOR APARTHEID

BY IQBAL JASSAT - MEDIA REVIEW NETWORK -

Racism wins.

These two words encapsulate the results of Israel's latest election.

Though early exit polls indicated a tie between the two contesting blocs, official election returns give Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud a more decisive margin of victory.

"Against all odds: a great victory for the Likud. A major victory for the people of Israel!" Netanyahu posted on Twitter.

Likud has a distinct anti-Arab flavor and pundits believe that its vile racism will secure Netanyahu's fourth consecutive term of premiership as intense bartering behind closed doors proceeds. As Israel's main rightwing block, Likud's victory – though marginal – illustrates how rife racism is in the body-politic of the regime and its Jewish population.

While the Zionist Union led by Isaac Herzog scored equally well, it would be a mistake to perceive its narrow defeat as a loss for the "left wing". Indeed it's a misnomer to believe that Herzog or any of his colleagues embrace policies that could be defined as distinctly "anti-rightwing".

Undoubtedly western media coverage of the elections as a contest between "Left and Right" has been misleading. At best the elections may be described as a battle between warring factions of the same Zionist household trying to outbid each other in a race to entrench Israel's apartheid status.

It explains why Netanyahu has been able to successfully play the racist and Islamophobic card without any major fallout within the Jewish population. In a macabre sense, they seem to find resonance in his bizarre claims that a win for Likud will stave off existential threats from Palestinians whose rights he juxtapositions as a "danger to right-wing rule".

"I think anyone who is going to establish a Palestinian state and to evacuate territory is giving radical Islam a staging ground against the State of Israel," Netanyahu claimed in his usual unashamed rhetoric. When asked point-blank as reported in the JTA "If you are a prime minister, there will be no Palestinian state?" he responded without any hesitation, "Indeed."

Rejecting Palestinian statehood, raising alarm about "radical Islam", fear of Iran's nukes and Arab hordes voting "left", are the four pillars which paved the way for Netanyahu's decisive win. That each one of these are extremely racist and alarmist seemed not to bother the electorate who rallied and responded to give Likud the edge.

Netanyahu's current forthright rejection of the "two-state" solution is not new. Neither is his bigoted

Islamophobia. Back in 1994, Haim Baram, writing from Jerusalem, revealed that Netanyahu had embarked on a global tour to spread the "new gospel".

"The feared and respected enemy now is Islam: the demonization of Muslims is part of the same propagandist strategy reserved until recently for Palestinian nationalism."

Netanyahu's rejectionist stance back then was built on the reasoning that territorial concessions to Palestinians are absolutely pointless. His current rhetoric which Israelis have bought into is no different from his ancient position.

The only major difference is the tangible unprecedented levels of tension with the Obama administration, whose role as a key component of "peace talks" has regressed to a breaking point. All this due to Netanyahu's intransigence and insistence on expanding settlements and imposing severe measures to retain Occupation.

Not surprising that even collaborators within the discredited Palestinian Authority such as Saeb Erakat are forced to concede that the election results reflect success of the campaign based on settlements, racism, apartheid and the denial of human rights.

Does the election result present a dilemma for Israel's lobbyists around the world and particularly in South Africa? Indeed it does. Chiefly they are confronted with having to reconcile so-called "progressive" views with their support for a rightwing-led Israel whose leader has yet again been unmasked as a racist.

As is the nature of propaganda, expect their Hasbara campaign to focus exclusively on the Arab voter as proof that Israel is a democracy which does not discriminate and thus cannot be labelled as an apartheid state. Of course they will painstakingly avoid acknowledging plain truths as spelled out by author Ben White:

- Only one in seven of the total Palestinian population live inside Israel's pre-1967 borders and have citizenship;
- A third live under Israeli military rule in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and can't vote [though the Jewish settlers living among them can];
- Around half of all Palestinians are prevented from returning to their homeland by Israel;
- Expelled and denationalized, their forced exclusion is the reason why the majority of Israel's citizens are Jewish.

As the reality of disastrous policies by successive Israeli regimes since the dispossession of Palestine more than six decades ago becomes manifest, the all-important question of "where to from here" seems remotely detached from the aspirations of millions unjustly punished for not being Jewish.

THE BEAUTY OF ISLAM

Chelsea show garden aims to change people's perception of Islam

The show garden designs have been revealed for the RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2015 and there is a new woman on Main Avenue.

Making her Chelsea debut, Kamelia Bin Zaal will be the first Emirati landscape designer to appear at Chelsea and she is bringing her heritage to the forefront.

The show garden, titled 'The Beauty of Islam', aims to meld modern and classic materials with planting from countries influenced by Arabic and Islamic culture. It is an ambitious attempt to bridge Middle Eastern and Western cultures.

Recognising the tensions of Islam in the west Bin Zaal said, "In my family I have grown up seeing Islam as a religion of tolerance, peace, and love, with respect for humanity, and the world around us. I am continuously inspired by our heritage and wanted to creatively translate my interpretation of our peaceful religion and culture into a beautiful garden design."

Whilst Arabic and Islamic culture are the predominant themes of the garden, Bin Zaal cites influences from elsewhere. "I think I'm more influenced by contemporary architecture and interiors from all over the world. Whether it's a resort in Thailand, a building in London or a piece of art I see in a gallery here in Dubai."

Perhaps it is unsurprising that Bin Zaal takes inspiration from international design, as she is currently the creative director and head of marketing for the Zaal Group. The group are behind the luxury residential development Al Barari in Dubai, which attracts an international crowd.

The garden aims to reflect that diversity: "I wanted to show how as a culture we have touched so many other societies and vice versa, from Europe to China and even Madagascar."

The planting is intended to represent the growth of the Arab Empire through the spice trade. Orange, olive, fig, pomegranate trees and plants such as cardamom, pepper and jasmine will permeate the garden with scents evoking the Arabic trade routes.

Bin Zaal knows from personal experience that it is possible to connect western society with Arabic culture; her mother is Scottish and her father Emirati. "I spent half my life growing up in the UK and the other half in the UAE. So I have learnt from both cultures and appreciate the values of both."

The main challenge facing the team behind 'The Beauty of Islam' is the use of plants more at home in a Middle Eastern climate. They are aware that temperamental British weather tests all Chelsea designers even when using planting native to England, "We are being practical and have backups just in case certain plants don't look good or, for some reason, probably the weather, don't make it at all."

'The Beauty of Islam' promises to be an original show garden. Not only will the planting be refreshing, if they pull it off, but the use of poetry and calligraphy carved into stone is inventive. It is an art form that will offer an accessible way to appreciate Arabic culture.

"I hope that my garden will be something that resonates with the public and will have a positive effect on people's perception of Islam. It is the chance to show that Islam and Arabic culture really is as many other religions and cultures, a way of life and that we share the same values and morals as other religions and cultures."

If it succeeds, 'The Beauty of Islam' will be a beautiful reminder of how gardens can play a part in understanding other people and cultures. As a project clearly close to Kamelia Bin Zaal's heart, let's hope it does.

Never again will I.....

I was waiting at the airport one night,
With several long hours before my flight.
I hunted for a book in the airport shop,
Bought a bag of cookies and found a place to drop.

I was engrossed in my book, but happened to see,
A hijab clad lady beside me, as bold as could be,
Grabbed a cookie or two from the bag between,
Which I tried to ignore to avoid a scene

I read, munched cookies, and watched the clock,
This gustly "Muslim cookie thief" diminished my stock
I was getting more irritated as the minutes ticked by,
If I wasn't so nice, I'd blacken this terrorist eye!

With each cookie I took, the terrorist took one too.
When only one was left, I wondered what she'd do.
With a smile on crook's face and a nervous laugh,
The thief took the last cookie and broke it in half.

She offered me half, and she ate the other.
I snatched it from the thief and thought, "Oh sister",
This thief has some nerve, and she's also so rude,
Why, she didn't even show any gratitude!"

I had never known when I had been so galled,
And sighed with relief when my flight was called.
I gathered my belongings and headed for the gate,
Refusing to look at the "thieving Muslim terrorist ingrate".

I boarded the plane and sank in my seat,
Then sought my book, which was almost complete.
As I reached in my baggage, I gasped with surprise.
There were my bag of cookies in front of her eyes!

"If mine are here," I moaned with despair.
"Then the others were hers and she tried to share!"
Too late to apologize, I realized with grief,
Never again will I call any Muslim a "terrorist or a thief"!!!!

 Naz's Fabrics 

Q&A

BY MOULANA
SHAH FAISAL
KHAN SAHEB

Meaning of Niyyah Intention

Q1. Someone stood up to read Zohr Salaah and while making the Niyyah he said Asr by mistake. Kindly tell us if this Salaah is valid?

A1. Niyyah is the intention of the heart. Therefore if his heart is intending to read Zohr Salaah, and mistakenly he mentioned the name of another Salaah, then his Salaah will still be valid. And like that also when one intends to read a Fard Salaah, but he mentions the name of a Sunnah Salaah instead, then too his Fard Salaah will be valid. In brief, the heart and realization is considered in the Niyyah and not the tongue. (Shaami, Durre-e-Mukhtaar)

Esaale Sawaab

Q2. Can someone convey the Sawaab (reward) of his deeds like the Salaah, the Roza, the Haj and Zakaah to his marhooms or living ones?

A2. Yes, it is permissible to send the reward of one's good deeds, to both the living and the deceased, as it has been stated in Fatawa Hindiyyah as follows: it is permissible to convey the reward of one's deeds, salaah, fasting, zakaah, haj, recital of the Holy Quraan, Zikr, and the reward of visiting the Holy shrines and graves of prophets of Allah, the martyrs, Aulia-e-kiraam etc.

The Nose in the Posture of Sajda

Q3. If someone's nose does not touch the ground in the state of Sajda, is his Salaah valid?

A3. It is compulsory to press one's nose until the bone in Sajda and if a person performed his salaah without his nose being touched to the ground or the bone of the nose does not touch the ground, his salaah is makrooh-e-tahreemi and it is waajibul-iyadah (must be repeated). [fatawa razawiya & bahare shariat]

The Physical reality of Sajda

Q4. In Sajda, if both feet were lifted from the ground or the tip of the toe touched the ground and the inner toe did not, is the salaah still valid?

A4. If both feet were lifted from the ground, or only the tip of the toes touched the ground and the inner part of any toe did not stretch in Sajda, the salaah is not valid at all. And if the inner part of one or two toes touched the ground, and most toes did not, then in this case Salaah is Makrooh-e-Tahrimi and Waajibul Iyadah (must be repeated). [Ash'atul-Lam'aat, Durre Mukhtaar]

It is written in Fatawa Razawiyah that it is fard in Sajda for the inner part of one toe at least must touch the ground and it is waajib that the inner parts of most toes touch the ground.

Janaza Salaah in Abstania

Q5. Can funeral salaah be performed for one whose body is not present?

A5. According to the Hanfi Mazhab the presence of a corpse in front is necessary. Janaza (Funeral) salaah in absence of a corpse is invalid. It is mustahab for the Imaam to stand in front of the chest of the corpse. [laws of Swalah p216]

Zakaat on the Value of the House

Q6. Mr X bought a house which he does not need presently. He neither lives in it, nor is he giving it on rent, his intention is to accommodate his children for the future. The price of the house is R300 000.00. Is zakaat fard on the price of this house or not?

A6. Answering a question of the same nature, Ala Hazrat Imam Ahmed Raza Khan from Bareilli Shareef, wrote in his book, there is no zakaat on houses although the price is 50 caror (1 caror= 10 million) and he referred to the house which was bought to rent out solely. From this it becomes evident that there is no Zakaat on the house, it is only to rent it out. So obviously, the above mentioned house which has been purchased for the accommodation of the children in future there won't be any zakaat on it. Yes, except from those houses which were purchased or bought solely for the purpose of gaining profit after selling them indeed Zakaat will be fard on these houses.

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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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KNOW YOUR ENEMY. . . IBLEES

- Q: How many times are the Jinns mentioned in the Holy Quran?
A: 32 times in 31 different verses.
- Q: What is the actual name of Iblees?
A: 'Azaazeel.
- Q: What does the name Iblees mean?
A: it means "extremely hopeless".
- Q: What permission did he sought from Allah Almighty after being thrown out from paradise?
A: To mislead the human race and manipulate their minds towards wrongdoings.
- Q: Who is the greatest enemy of the humans?
A: Iblees (devil):
- Q: Who was Iblees?
A: He was a Jinn. (Quran)
- Q: What reason did he give for not obeying Allah's command of prostrating before Hazrat Adam – peace be upon him?
A: He said, "I am better than Adam, for You have created him from fire and created Adam from dust.
- Q: What misled Iblees?
A: His arrogance.
- Q: What is the ultimate consequence of arrogance?
A: Disgrace.
- Q: Why did he not apologize after he disobeyed Allah's Command?
A: His arrogance held him back from doing so.
- Q: What else wrong did he do after refusing to prostrate?
A: Instead of apologizing he was persistent on his wrongdoing and became boastful.
- Q: What was his status prior being thrown out of paradise?
A: He was the teacher of all the angels.
- Q: For how long did he make Sajdah?
A: For 600,000 years.
- Q: What is Iblees known as on the first sky?
A: By the name "Aabid" (Worshipper).
- Q: On the second sky?
A: Zaahid (Pious).
- Q: On the third?
A: 'Aarif (One who recognizes Allah Almighty).
- Q: On the fourth?
A: Wali (Friend).
- Q: On the fifth?
A: Taqi (One who fears Allah Almighty).
- Q: On the sixth?
A: Khaazin (The treasurer).
- Q: On the seventh?
A: 'Azaazeel.
(Tafseer Jumal 'Ala Al-Jalaalain Vol. 1, p. 41)
- Q: What is he described as in the "Lauh Mahfooz" (The Tablet)?
A: Iblees.
- Q: For how long did he remain a treasurer of paradise?
A: For forty years.
- Q: For how long did he make Tawaaf of the Sacred 'Arsh of Allah Almighty?
A: For 14,000 years. (Tafseer Saawi, Vol. 1, p. 22)
- Q: Name the devil who ignites a man and a woman on adultery?
A: A'war. (Tafseer Saawi Vol. 3, p. 17)
- Q: What are the tasks of his offspring called "Laafas" and "Walhaan"?
A: To cause interruption in Salah and Tahaarah. (Tafseer Saawi, Vol. 3, p. 17)
- Q: Where do the devil and his army reside?
A: Sijjeen, below the seventh planet.
- Q: For how long did he remain a teacher for the angels?
A: For 80,000 years. (Tafseer Jumal Ala Al-Jalaalain vol. 3, p. 1)
- Q: How does he bear children?
A: His male organ is in his right thigh and the female organ in the left and he becomes intimate by joining the two and lays 10 eggs a day and from each egg 70,000 male and female devils hatch. (Tafseer Saawi, Vol. 3, p. 24)



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HOME REMEDIES

COMPILED BY HASINA BEGUM SAYED

Honey and Lemon Juice for a Sore Throat
Lemon dries up congestion and honey provides a soothing coating. A recent study found that a spoonful of honey eased kids' coughs even better than cough medicine. Mix together a tablespoon of each, microwave for 20 seconds until warm (not hot), and have your child swallow the mixture a teaspoon at a time. Caution: Honey is not safe for babies under 1 year.

Cayenne Pepper for Nosebleeds
This spice helps blood clot, and it has been used medicinally in cultures around the world. Keep your child's head upright and pinch his nostrils together for several minutes. Then sprinkle a pinch of ground cayenne pepper on a moistened cotton swab and dab inside the nose on the area of the bleeding. It seems like it might sting but, surprisingly, it doesn't.

Bubble Wand for Anxiety
Breathing slowly and deeply will help your child relax when she's feeling stressed. Have your child blow long, slow streams of bubbles from the soapy wand.

A Bandanna for Headaches
Wrapping several ice cubes in a dish towel will help soothe your child's head pain (never place ice directly on his skin because it'll burn), but it'll be hard for her/him to hold it in place for long. To keep the towel-wrapped ice from slipping, press it against his forehead or temples and secure it with a bandanna tied at the back of his neck.

A Sock for Tummy or Neck Pain
Instead of buying a heat wrap, make one by filling a sock with uncooked rice and tying it closed with a string. Microwave the sock for one minute or until warm, and place it wherever your child has pain. When it cools off, microwave it again.

Your Hair-Dryer for Swimmer's Ear
This painful inflammation of the outer ear traps liquid and possibly bacteria. If the area has become infected, your pediatrician will probably prescribe antibiotic drops. But for mild cases, you can try evaporating the trapped water by standing a foot away from your child and aiming the dryer -- on the warm (not hot) setting -- at their ear.

Fresh Ginger Tea for Car Sickness
Ginger stops the stomach contractions that tell your child's brain he feels nauseous.. For children ages 2 and older, add a teaspoon of shredded fresh ginger to four ounces of boiling water, and let it steep for four to five minutes. You can add a bit of honey to make it taste better. After it has cooled, have your child drink it a half hour before getting into the car.

A Credit Card for a Bee Sting
If a bee or wasp stings your child, remove the stinger to prevent additional venom from entering the wound. In order to avoid squeezing the stinger, which can spread the venom, use the flat edge of a credit card to gently scrape across the area until the stinger comes out.

A Stick of Gum for Indigestion
If your child is age 4 or older, have her chew some gum when she complains of a full stomach after a big meal. "The extra saliva she'll produce will neutralize the problematic excess stomach acid," says gastroenterologist Anil Minocha

Maintain proper hygiene
Make sure that your child washes his hands regularly using warm water and soap to get rid of flu bugs. This should be done after using the toilet, as soon as he gets home from a friend's house, daycare, or the playground, and before taking any meals or snacks. Parents and other caregivers should also be vigilant about hand washing, especially after wiping a runny nose, changing diapers, and before preparing meals.

Teach your child to avoid touching his eyes, nose, or mouth
Unwashed hands usually carry thousands of germs, and when a child rubs his nose or eyes, he deposits those germs directly onto the body's mucous membranes where they are quickly absorbed into the bloodstream. Putting his dirty fingers in the mouth is, like when biting nails, is also risky behaviour. So, in addition to teaching your child to wash his hands regularly, show him how to use a clean sleeve or tissue to dab an itchy nose or teary eyes, as opposed to touching them directly with his fingers.

You may also teach him to use tissues when he coughs or sneezes, or to block his coughs in the crook of his arm to stop the virus from spreading.

Get your kid vaccinated
An annual flu shot and keeping other vaccinations up to date can also help to protect your toddler from catching viruses and bacteria.

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THE WOODEN BOWL

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law, and a four-year old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered. The family ate together nightly at the dinner table. But the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating rather difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass often milk spilled on the tablecloth. The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about grandfather," said the son. I've had enough of his spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor. So the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There, grandfather ate alone while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner at the dinner table. Since grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl. Sometimes when the family glanced in grandfather's direction, he had a tear in his eye as he ate alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions when he dropped a fork or spilled food. The four-year-old watched it all in silence.

One evening before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?" Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and mama to eat your food from when I grow up." The four-year-old smiled and went back to work. The words so struck the parents that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though no word was spoken, both knew

what must be done. That evening the husband took grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table.

For the remainder of his days he ate every meal with the family. And for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled. Children are remarkably perceptive. Their eyes ever observe, their ears ever listen, and their minds ever process the messages they absorb. If they see us patiently provide a happy home atmosphere for family members, they will imitate that attitude for the rest of their lives. The wise parent realizes that every day that building blocks are being laid for the child's future.

Let us all be wise builders and role models. Take care of yourself, and those you love, today, and everyday!

"And We have enjoined on man to be good and dutiful to his parents" [Soorah al-Ankaboot (29): 8]

"And your Lord has decreed (commanded) that you worship none but Him. And that you be dutiful to your parents." [Soorah al-Isra (17): 23]

"The Lord is pleased with the pleasing of the parents, and the Lord is angry with him who angers the parents." [Saheeh al-Jamee (3500)]

A SIN THAT LEADS TO JANNAH

IBN AL QAYYIM (رحمته) said...

"Sin may be more beneficial for a person, if it leads him to repent, than doing a lot of acts of worship. This is what is meant by the words of one of the salaf:

'A person may commit a sin and enter Paradise because of it, or he may do an act of worship and enter Hell because of it.'

They said: 'How is that?'

He said: 'He may commit a sin and continues to think about it, and when he stands or sits or walks he remembers his sin, so he feels ashamed and repents and seeks forgiveness and regrets it, so that will be the means of his salvation.

And he may do a good deed and continue to think about it, and when he stands or sits or walks he remembers it and it fills him with self-admiration and pride, so it is the cause of his doom.

So the sin may be the factor that leads him to do acts of worship and good deeds and to change his attitude so that he fears Allah and feels shy before Him and feels humiliated before Him, hanging his head in shame and weeping with regret, seeking he forgiveness of his Lord. Each of these effects is better for a person than an act of worship that makes him feel proud and show off and look down on people. Undoubtedly this sin is better before Allah and is more likely to bring salvation than one who admires himself and looks down on others, and who thinks that he is doing Allah a favour. Even if he says words that indicate something other than that, Allah is the Witness over what is in his heart. Such a person may feel hatred towards people if they do not hold him in high esteem and humiliate themselves before him. If he were to examine himself honestly, he would see that clearly."

-Madarij as-Salikeen, 1/299

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EMPOWERING THROUGH ISLAMIC KNOWLEDGE

BY SHEIKH ZUZE ISHAAQ - HEAD OF DAWAH ACTIVITIES AT ORANGE FARM

Knowledge is such a pure and high attribute that on its basis Allah Almighty granted superiority to man over all other creatures. Alhamdulillah, we have the opportunity every day and for all of our lives to hold the flag of Islamic education high. Our progress as a nation is our progress in education, so we have a duty to ensure that children live by Allah's principles and we must work together to instill moral and Islamic cultural values to sustain knowledge upliftment.

Discussing the meaning of life without education is meaningless. Life is more appealing when one gather pure Islamic education and total understanding towards it. Here we empower Madresa Children through education with knowledge that is so vital to growth, as from an individual level to community degree and finally at global magnitude. Our children belong to us and they should be shown the special way to Allah Almighty spiritually with education. 'Knowledge is power- seeking it becomes compulsory' and it is for this reason that it becomes important part of life and is what allows us to advance to a better living.

Islamic knowledge development has an impact in support of social life to children in such a way that, as it is spreads- they become active participants for the sake of its principles as they will give up Bad deeds and inherit a selfless devotion, high quality of discipline, as they will be pulled irresistibly forward towards the light of intellectually truth.

Just imagine a pre-school child is able to read Duaa before eating and a supplication before sleeping- an integration practice of reading, a combining operation practice of learning they do regularly...keeping their hearts attentive towards Allah and their tongues and most of all, it is based on sincerity and good intention always to seek the pleasure of Allah. This is ultimately the development of a social spiritual life that will gradually flourish through their bodies and minds with compassion of love and observing endless blessings. Our Madresa incorporates of an innovative methods that use tools in every initiative, so essential that it

provides sustainable support at local level in understanding of children, through reciting of the Holy Qur'an- knowing and understanding that Allah Almighty is talking to them, Presentations- that boost their confidence, self-esteem and having good qualities to with-hold the crowd and lastly they will write notes as evidence of what they have learnt and so that they may have good memory...Much effort here have been done to keep these young ones off the street and currently they advertise the goodness of acquisition, that have built a strong relationship with Almighty Allah and develop affectionate love of our beloved Nabi Muhammad ﷺ.

The community of Drieziek has transformed in a totally distinguished system flow(education is a preparation of life) from the way we now observe these students are dressed in humility, behavior with nobility and chastity in such a way that portrays absolute hygiene process that have changed their lives daily. Practicing Muslims indeed! These magnificent children have been grown, stigmatized and being advanced to a better sprightliness with a social process that captures development, sharing and effectively using and applying of good beneficial knowledge.

Islamic education here in Orange Farm is also shared to the community through local visits and invitations to programmes that opens to discussions, questions and answer, and however this have attracted a lot in pursuing the knowledge of Deen as well as in gratifying compliments we receive from day to day, activities that this Centre provides- that empowers humans logically, socially and spiritually.

A lot of learning interventions are being set up to make and improve learning methodologies a success. Dedicated teachers and all staff members of the Dawah Centre are so vigilant by contributing tireless efforts of transformation to Empower Madresa Children with proper Islamic life and education. May Almighty Allah instill in us all the spirit of goodness and May he accept all our good Deeds. Ameen!

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LAND

BY FAIZEL KHAMKAR

At President Jacob Zuma's recent address to parliament he made a policy statement which urged a refocus on the issue of land. The shift in policy could have been forced by the Economic Freedom Fighter's advocacy of their land policy. None the less the new stance taken by the government is that foreign nationals no longer will be allowed to acquire land and that farm workers be given fifty percent of farmlands. The finer details still need to be clarified.

Why is land such a crucial issue? For the ordinary person it gives a sense of security, independence and well being. Land cannot be seen in isolation but should be seen together with what lies below the surface. We have numerous resources such as oil, gold and water reserves. The imperialist and colonialist showed that whoever controls the land controls the people and the economy. This is reflected in Africa and other parts of the world where the legacy of the greedy power hungry zealots left their footprint. This is borne out by the fact that three percent of the people control more than eighty percent of the land in South Africa and other parts of the world which were dominated by the colonialist. In most instances these lands were acquired by the barrel of the gun and not through the so called willing buyer willing seller principle. This principle is further borne out by the fact that most wars have historically been fought for the control of land. It is noteworthy that since the President's statement that the Rand has spiralled on a downward trend similar to Zimbabwe situation. Is it sheer coincidence?

When we look at ISIS they only declared their Caliphate once they had control over a large swath of land. Without control over land this declaration would not have been possible. Those that have previously funded and armed them are no longer the in the driving seat. The monster which was fed by those wanting to control that very same land as ISIS has grown up to be an uncontrollable freak. The brazen inhumane acts of this group reflect the power that control of land gives.

Benjamin Nethanyu just won an election that he was predicted to lose. Public opinion polls showed that he

was trailing in the race to be re elected. Furthermore he had deliberately antagonized the White House and that action was showing negatively on his candidacy. A few days before the election he played the land card and as a result narrowly came back into power. His discarding of the two state solutions for the Palestinian issue as well as reflecting his intention to steal more land from the Palestinians suddenly made him a winner. This clearly shows that further loss of life of innocent Palestinians who's only wrong is that they legally own land which is desired by nefarious people.

The two examples cited above clearly shows that those that have land have power. The situation clearly reflects that those that are immoral and inhumane have clear agendas for land grabs and will do whatever it takes to hold onto such power. We only have to see the abuse been perpetrated by the Israelis with the control of the water. This would not have been possible had the control over land been restricted. Food security is the buzz word at the moment. How many realize that the danger created by this insecurity finds its roots in control over the land. This monopoly and economic enslavement can have disastrous consequences for vast majority the ordinary people in the street. Unless there is more equitable distribution of land the future will be marked with anarchy, loss of life and unstable communities leading to a disastrous catastrophe. It is clearly time for supporting the moral upright as well as the ordinary citizen to own land. The question is" Where are those morally upright people having such resources?

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOCUS

BY FAKIR HASSEN

London, UK - Catering to the growing influence of social media among Muslims, a new Islamic social media platform, "Muslim Face", is set to be launched during the second quarter of 2015 to connect Muslims in a socially responsible network. Muslim Face was co-founded by two Muslim entrepreneurs, Shoab Fadie and Rohail Amin M. Shoaib. It was developed to be a social media site that, according to the founders, is socially responsible, safe for families and respectful of Islamic religious values. The beta version of Muslim Face is currently being tested by over a thousand users around the world and with a successful completion of the beta testing; Muslim Face will be launched soon. Muslim Face, said Fadie, is teen-friendly and allows youngsters of 13 years to use the platform because of its highly safe and socially responsible content and filters. This emphasis on family values minimises parental concern over children using the social media outlet. He also said that the new social media platform will be launched in several languages including English, Arabic, Persian, Urdu, the Malaysian language Bahasa, Turkish, and Indonesian. Additional languages will be added to the platform as the translation becomes available.

Canberra, AUSTRALIA - Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop has announced that the government will contribute \$ 500,000 for a new arts and culture education program, as well as the Islamic Museum of Australia to disseminate proper understanding of Islam. The program aims to promote an understanding amongst children and the general public about Islam in Australia, including through the Museum's collection of Islamic art and culture. "Partnerships, such as the one

between the Islamic Museum of Australia and the Australian Government, are vital as we work together to promote social cohesion and expose the lies peddled by terrorist propaganda that seek to divide our harmonious society," Bishop said.

Copenhagen, DENMARK - Hundreds of Muslims, Jews and Christians formed a human chain around a synagogue where a volunteer security guard was killed last month. "We want to send a clear signal that we want a peaceful society in Denmark," said organiser Niddal el-Jabr, a Copenhagen Muslim. A separate Danish Muslim group held a peace vigil in Copenhagen's City Hall Square on February 27 that was attended by an estimated 300 people.

Brussels, BELGIUM - The third Annual International Conference on Islam and Contemporary Ethical Dilemmas saw renowned researchers and academics from within Belgium and a number of European and other countries around the world presenting an insight on Islam and global ethics. This year's conference focuses on four main areas: Islam & Science, Economics & Finance, Islamic Discourse and Gender Issues.

Melbourne, AUSTRALIA - An exhibition, to be launched soon at Melbourne's Jewish Holocaust Centre, will show how Muslims saved the lives of many Jewish people in Albania during World War II. The exhibition is in part an attempt to combat the rising Islamophobia in the Western world, as well as to counter recent incidents of anti-Semitism such as the attack on a Jewish kosher supermarket in Paris just days after the Charlie Hebdo massacre. Ali



10-13 DECEMBER 2015

Sheqer, whose father is a devout Muslim and rescued Jews, says that the Albanians risked their own lives to save and shelter Jews from Hitler's regime.

California, USA - In a historic first step for the United States, the non-profit Zaytuna College has now joined the nation's community of accredited institutions of higher education. This effectively affirms Zaytuna's strong educational mission and organisation as well as its commitment to institutional quality, financial stability and accountability. It helps ensure that Zaytuna successfully fulfils the objectives outlined in its curriculum, which grounds its students in both the Islamic and Western scholarly traditions.

London, UK - A Muslim-themed garden will be part of the Chelsea Flower Show 2015 to clear misconceptions surrounding the faith. The show, the world's most prestigious flower show, will be held at the Royal Hospital in Chelsea in May. Making her Chelsea debut, Kamelia Bin Zaal will be the first Emirati landscape designer to appear at Chelsea and she is bringing her heritage to the forefront. "It is the chance to show that Islam and Arabic culture really is, as is the case with many other religions and cultures, a way of life and that we share the same values and morals as other religions and cultures," Bin Zaal said.



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