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TO BE OR NOT TO BE. . .

Is this the final countdown? Is this the devil's ace up his sleeve, or is there another trump to fall? "And they plan, and Allah plans, and Allah is the best of all Planners." (Q)

The globalisation of everything, everything from lifestyles, trade, media, politics upto religion, is firing ahead on a mesmerising scale. Yes, Islam too, Islamic scholars (both orthodox uloomists and secularists), preachers, teachers, leaders of tareeqas, ambassadors of minority sectarian enclaves, occultists, sufis, jihadists, hadees-rejectors, and an array of every sample in the bazaar of modern religion.

Its there for the tasting. There for the taking. The good ones are there. The devils are there. The CIA ones too. The money-makers. The liars and pretenders. The hate incitors and the almost extinct unifiers.

In this globalized Islamic world someone will spend much time seeking friendship with strangers in other countries and will look past his immediate neighbour. He will affiliate with a foreign mission rather than a local. He will discard as thrash his own local historical Islamic roots and embrace another even making cultural adjustments.

This is the situation. If it is Truth you are seeking, then it has just become that much more difficult choosing where to find it. In SA as in the

rest of the world, we are still struggling with leadership issues. Still playing mud-fight. While this goes on new players are arriving. Sinister outfits. Seriously intent on hijacking a vulnerable market that has shown little progress and exceeded its sell-by date a long time ago.

Be careful. Wake up SA. Give up chasing money and duniya. Protect your children and the future now. Now, because by tomorrow its too late. Open your eyes and resist the "greener grass". Save your own fields that have sustained you and "those who came before you, so that you may be pious and righteous".

The world revolution has started. Muslim and Islam has forcibly been thrown in, straight into the front line. The firing line. Don't just become the cannon fodder for the war games that were practiced at virtual level, now ready to explode into a global catastrophe. To fulfill the Trust of Allah and Rasool (ﷺ), we shall have to do out part. Neither aggressive nor apologetic, we shall have to choose a common policy if we are to survive. In the time of the Prophet (ﷺ), only the hypocrites fled the war which was being fought to defend Truth!

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HAZRAT ZAID IBN THAABIT ﷺ

(THE COMPILER OF THE QURAN)

Whenever we read the Glorious Quraan verse by verse, chapter by chapter it is important to remember those who were responsible for its compilation. The name Zaid Ibn Thaabit stands out when it comes to this honour. His role in the compilation of the Quraan deserves much gratitude.

Zaid Ibn Thaabit was from amongst the Ansaar of Madinah. Zaid was only at the tender age of 11 when the Prophet ﷺ migrated to Madinah. He immediately embraced Islam along with his clan and already decided at the outset that he was going to play a prominent role in this religion. Zaid was taken by his father to join the Battle of Badr. He was however sent back by the Prophet (ﷺ) as he was too young. On the day of Uhud a group of youth eagerly approached the Prophet (ﷺ) with the hope of convincing Him (ﷺ) of allowing them to join the Battle. Amongst them was Zaid Ibn Thaabit. The first to approach the Prophet (ﷺ) was Raafi Ibn Khudaj. He skilfully swerved his lance in his hand and attempted to convey his potential as a refined spearman. The Beloved Prophet (ﷺ) received his maturity and enthusiasm well, and consented to his request. The others became all the more anxious on hearing this. The remaining youth were still far too young. They were promised the next battle. Thus Zaid Ibn Thaabit got his chance to emerge as a great warrior on the Day of Al-Khandaq. Besides his Skill as a warrior, Zaid also had amazing intellect. He was well reputed for his expertise on the Quraan. Zaid would memorise and inscribe each Quranic revelation. He was thus being continuously infused with knowledge and his wisdom shone brightly. In order to optimally spread the message of Islam Zaid was instructed by the Prophet (ﷺ) to acquaint himself with the different languages of each king and emperor. He was able to do this swiftly and easily. The respect and honour, which he accrued, grew even more. His superiority in knowledge earned him the title of 'Ulamaa.' This superiority was in preparation of assignment of one of the most honorable tasks in Islamic history – that of compiling the Quraan. From the very first day that the revelations began, there were a few special Sahabi who were keenly interested in it. Some of them learned its verses by heart and those who could write attempted to preserve the sacred verses. The Quraan was not sent down as a whole or in a composed form but it was revealed piece-by-piece, verse-by-verse – in response to the circumstances and needs of the new Muslim nation. It served as a guide for them, day-by-day. The revelations seemed to follow the advancement and ever changing challenges of the growing nation. Throughout the 23yrs of revelation the reciters and scribes remain steadfast and fulfilled their tasks with great success. Each competed with the other to recite and write the Quraan. Amongst these noble men were Aliy Ibn Abu Taalib, Ubaiy Ibn Ka'b, Abd Allah Ibn Ma'uud, Abd Allah Ibn Abbaas and of course Zaid Ibn Thaabit. In the last period of revelation, after the

Quraan had been completely revealed, the Prophet (ﷺ) recited the Quraan to the Muslims with its verses and chapters in order. Thus the ordering of the Quraan had become stipulated.

During the Battle of Al-Yamaamah a great number of reciters were martyred. Umar Ibn Al-Khattaab urged the Caliph Abu Bakr (رضي الله عنه) to compile the Quraan before more reciters and scribes were martyred. The Caliph consulted with his Companions and then summoned Zaid Ibn Thaabit. He instructed Zaid to compile the Quraan with assistance from other knowledgeable Sahabi. The destiny of Islam was placed in the hands of Zaid Ibn Thaabit. He was undoubtedly assigned one of the most crucial and difficult tasks in the History of Islam. Zaid set about on his tremendous mission. He compiled from "reciter's memories and from written work comparing and investigating until he could gather the whole Quraan and put in order." His task was successfully accomplished. This was confirmed through the consensus of Companions –scholars, reciters, scribes who had heard the Prophet (ﷺ) recite the Quraan through the different phases of Islam. Zaid approached the task with utter care and precision. He exclaimed; "By ALLAH, if they had asked me to move a whole mountain from its place, it would have been easier than the task of compiling the Quraan..." Zaid would have rather moved an entire mountain than risk making the slightest error in the compilation of the Quraan. This represented the first phase in the compilation of the Quraan. At that time however the compilation was captured in more than one book. This resulted in minute variations in pronunciation. It was thus skill needed to write them all in a single compilation. The expansion of the Muslim empire spread like fire during the Caliphate of Uthmaan (رضي الله عنه). New groups of converts were embracing Islam daily. Each group would read the Quraan in a different tongue and thus the danger in the numerous compilations became more evident. A group of companions lead by Hudhaifah Ibn Al-Yamaan approached Uthmaan (رضي الله عنه) with the request that the Quraan be united into one compilation. Uthmaan (رضي الله عنه) consulted with his Companions and asked ALLAH for guidance. In the same way that Abu Bakr turned to Zaid, so did Uthmaan (رضي الله عنه). He was once again given the tremendous task. Zaid gathered all his helpers (Scribes and reciters) for the task. The different verses of the Quraan were removed from the house of Hafsah, daughter of Umar (رضي الله عنه), where they were kept safe. Once again Zaid had successfully accomplished his task.

Today we read and listen to the Quraan with great ease and enjoyment. It is only fitting that we remember and pay tribute to those noble Sahabi who endured great difficulty and sacrifice in order to preserve our fountain of knowledge- the Quraan. May ALLAH bless them eternally!

TRUMP'S ISLAMOPHOBIA RANT

BY DR. FIROZ OSMAN

President Donald Trump targeted Muslims stating "We will ... unite the civilised world against radical Islamic terrorism which we will eradicate completely from the face of the earth," during his Inaugural Address.

This set the stage to conduct American the policy to bludgeon and destroy Muslim countries as was the wont of the Bush and Obama administrations. In 2016 alone Obama dropped 26,171 bombs on seven Muslim countries, totaling to 72 bombs per day, 3 every hour! Conservative estimates are that 5 million Muslims have been killed since the the USA in 2001 declared "war on terror", which in reality is a war on Muslims.

And yet, the West constantly accuses Muslims of being violent. In 2015, the US have a military and defense budget of \$601 billion, which is more than the next 7 highest spending countries combined.

The 800 US bases around the world probably have more foreign military bases than any other people, nation, or empire in history. They have 11 aircraft carriers that control the seas, they also dominate the skies and have a fleet of drones that kill its purported enemies from the depths of Afghanistan to Yemen to Somalia.

With all the sophisticated weapons, technology and money, how could the most powerful military the world has ever seen, feel so threatened by the most powerless of all people?—?Muslims?The Muslim world has, to this day, not been able to make a single plane or tank? and worse, almost every single one is ruled by a brutal puppet killing their own Muslims at the behest of the West.

Journalist Nick Turse wrote in November 2015, "in recent years the U.S. military has, in fact, developed a remarkably extensive network of more than 60 outposts and access points in Africa. Some are currently being utilized, some are held in reserve, and some may be shuttered. These bases, camps, compounds, port facilities, fuel bunkers, and other

sites can be found in at least 34 countries—more than 60% of the nations on the continent—many of them corrupt, repressive states with poor human rights records."

With Trump's victory and Islamophobic rant, he has made public what was private - the anti-Muslim/Mexican/ Black racism; misogyny in a country that pontificates about women's equality; human rights; respect for international law; support for genocide, wars and weapons sales; and the hypocrisy of democracy-have all come out of the closet.

Among the marvels of modern technology is also the ability to track the missed calls which were made by our family, friends and foes and the likes. We do not get a good night's sleep, unless we have returned the calls of those who matter. We don't let any call go unanswered as long as we know that it matters. Don't we?

But how about the calls of "hay-yaa al-as-salaah and hay-yaa al-al falah" made from the neighborhood house of our master, the Almighty Allah..? Those calls are made five times a day and many a times they all go unanswered.

We do not either respond!!! Nor do we respect these missed calls. Do they matter?

Everybody can tell, if these really matter. May be not today nor tomorrow, but surely in the hereafter. Let us look at ourselves. Can we afford to let these calls of the muezzin be missed, day after day, after day.

The call from our chersihier, sustainer and the ultimate master. Just think about it. Next time one hears this call, just ask yourself how good a night's sleep can I have by missing those calls from the house of Allah

Think about it....the answer may come from the inner heart.

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TEACHINGS OF SHAIKH AHMED KABIR RIFAI

BEFRIEND THE HOLY SAINTS (AULIYA)

And make friends with the auliya. Without doubt those friends of Allah are free from fear and worries. Walis are those who love Allah, have faith in Him and follow the path of piety. Therefore do not make enemies of these friends of Allah commands that those who hurt Him Walis then from His side it will be a declaration of war against them. Allah will take revenge on those who humiliate or hurt His saints. And He favours those who love his saints & blesses those who come under their protection. Make the love of holy men (walis) obligatory for yourself. Seek their company.

For, then you shall be blessed. They (Auliya) belong to the party of Allah. Join them and remember, it is Allah's faction that will triumph. (Al Burhan al Muaiyad p 19).

O' men! Whoever befriends an auliya befriends Allah. Similarly those who are enemies of auliyas are enemies of Allah. My dear, if somebody loves your enemy can you then love him? Definitely not! Towards the enemies of auliyas, Allah sends his wrath and revenge. By God, you will not. So remember Allah is Most Merciful and Compassionate. Therefore he shall never hate the friend of His auliyas, but will surely shower His blessings & favour on him. (Al Burhan al Muaiyad p 36)

AND KEEP IN TOUCH WITH ULEMA

The sages of knowledge advise you to keep in touch with the ulemas. I do not say that you should study philosophy but only ask you to acquire the knowledge of religion. If Allah wants to favour some one then He gives him understanding of religion. Allah has never made any ignorant a saint and if He does do it, then he makes the ignorant learned. Saints (walis) cannot be ignorant of the science of religion. They know very well how to calculate Zakaat, how to keep fast and how to perform pilgrimage. Such a person consolidates his relationship with Allah. Even if such a person is ignorant, he is not devoid of knowledge of religion.

DEVOUT ULEMAS ARE AULIYA

All alims (Islamic scholars) are worthy of respect & prestige. According to the Prophet (May peace & blessing of Allah be upon him) those who practise their beliefs Allah grants them such knowledge (which was unknown to them before). The same knowledge is also with the auliyas. Thus, it is established that devout ulemas are really auliya.

And the Prophet had said that ulemas are the inheritors of his legacy. This is a great virtue with which devout ulemas are honoured. Such ulemas are exalted men among all humanity. (Al Burhan al Muaiyad p 72)

ADVICE TO THE ULEMA

O' Ulema you should not enjoy the deliciousness of

knowledge and forsake the bitterness of action & practice. The deliciousness of knowledge without the bitterness of action is not fruitful. The fruit of bitterness is sweetness for ever (that is, the pleasure of paradise that shall never end).

Some Quranic verses make it clear that Allah does not let a good work go waste & rewards all good conduct. If they are performed with good intentions. But such work should be in the way of Allah alone, not for this world or for the sake of Hereafter. Such action should be done with full faith in Allah and with a favourable view. In practice, it is important to achieve perfect sincerity.

ADVICE TO THE SUFIS

Dear elders! Why do you quote Haris, Bustami and Ibn e Mansur? What has become of you? You should be referring to Imam Shafi, Imam Malik & Imam Abu Hanifa. The quotes of Haris & Bustami can neither reduce nor enhance your stature. For, they only talk about incidents & events which are faced by individual differently. Imam Shafi & Imam Malik discuss the wise ways of the shariah with knowledge & practice, then go into the intricacies of knowledge & action and mysteries. One congregation of knowledge is better than seventy years of worship. (Al Burhan al Muaiyad p 74)

SUFIS ARE OF FOUR KINDS

The sufis can be divided into four types:

One, there are sufis who seek followers, try to attract people towards them and feel happy at their followers, Khaniqah and prestige.

Second, are those who seek a spiritual guide because they have respect for the party of the sufis. They love it and wants to follow the system with all their true faith.

Third, are those who after having found a spiritual teacher, start moving around but halt on listening to the world of Allah: "We shall show Our signs in this world and in their lives."

Now sometimes he considers Allah's creation as His sign and in this attempt to understand becomes indifferent towards Allah. And sometimes he succumbs to his desires thinking that in it may be Allah's wisdom & power.

Forth type are those who follow on each step and in their words & deeds. In all conditions, the tradition of Prophet Muhammad (May peace & blessings of Allah him),, raise the flag of devotion and lowers their head in all humility in the court of Allah and travel on path in the belief that 'Except for Allah everything shall perish' And "Allah alone is Creator and His will shall prevail.' They understand their limits and their attention is always towards Allah. The first kind of sufis is unfortunate, the second type is only is love, the third one is busy travelling on the path but has not reached his goal, the fourth type is perfect. (Al Burhan al Muaiyad p. 113).

10 WAYS TO HEAL CRACKED FEET

COMPILED BY HASINA BEGUM SAYED

1. Scrubbing

Scrubbing the hard, dead skin away helps a great deal in getting rid of cracked feet. Before scrubbing, soak your feet in warm soapy water to help soften the skin and make it easier to scrub. Before going to bed, mix some liquid soap in a foot tub filled with warm water.

- * Soak your feet in this warm soapy water for about 20 minutes.

- * Use a pumice stone to gently scrub off the loosened dead skin cells.

- * Rinse off your feet with clean water and pat dry with a soft towel.

- * Apply some foot cream or moisturizer and wear a pair of clean cotton socks overnight.

Follow this remedy daily until your cracked feet are healed completely.

2. Coconut Oil

Coconut oil is another incredible remedy for dry, cracked feet. It helps moisturize your feet and also fights fungal and bacterial infections, thanks to its antimicrobial and antifungal properties. Before going to sleep, soak your feet in warm water and scrub with a loofah. Dry your feet thoroughly and then apply coconut oil generously on your feet. Put on a pair of clean, cotton socks for the night. The next morning, remove the socks and wash your feet. Do this daily for several days until you are satisfied with the results.

3. Mentholated Rub

This is another popular home remedy for cracked heels because of the many essential oils that it contains. It also helps heal toenail fungus. Apply some mentholated rub on clean, dry feet before going to bed. Put on a pair of socks and leave it on overnight. The next morning, remove your socks and wash your feet with warm water.

4. Paraffin Wax

You can also use paraffin wax to remove the dead, dry skin and cure cracked feet. It will also work as a natural emollient to soften the skin and retain the natural oils on the skin. Heat some paraffin wax in a microwave or double-boiler and add an equal amount of mustard oil or coconut oil to it. Apply this thick creamy paste on the cracks and put on a pair of socks. Leave it on overnight and wash your feet thoroughly in the morning. Follow this remedy daily for one or two weeks.

5. Glycerin

Due to its moisturizing and humectant properties, glycerin works as a great remedy to get rid of cracked feet. Make a mixture of equal parts of glycerin and lemon juice. You can also add some rose water. Apply it on your feet. Leave it on for 20 minutes and wash it off with water. Follow this remedy daily for about two weeks.

6. Epsom Salt

Epsom facilitates the process of healing cracked feet as it promotes circulation. Plus, the magnesium in Epsom salt promotes skin health and draws out toxins. Add one-half cup of Epsom salt in a foot tub filled with warm water. Soak your feet in it for 10 minutes. Gently rub your feet with a pumice stone for a few minutes. Put your feet back in the Epsom salt soak for another 10 minutes. Finally, dry your feet thoroughly and apply a moisturizer or petroleum jelly. Repeat daily for two or three days.

7. Vinegar

Vinegar can also be used to treat cracked feet as the acetic acid in vinegar helps soften the skin which in turn makes exfoliation easier. Vinegar foot soaks are also beneficial for tired feet. Mix one-half to one cup of white or apple cider vinegar in two cups of water. Soak in it for 10 to 15 minutes and then slough off the dead, dry skin with a pumice stone or foot scrubber. Then, wash your feet and pat dry thoroughly. Finally, apply a moisturizer or petroleum jelly. Another option is to make a natural foot scrub. Mix a handful of coarse rice flour, a few tablespoons of raw honey and apple cider vinegar to make a thick paste. You can also add one tablespoon of olive oil to it. Wash your feet well and then gently massage your feet with this paste for a few minutes. Wash it off with lukewarm water. Repeat once or twice a week.

8. Lemon

Lemon juice has a very mild natural acidic property that can help get rid of dead and dry skin cells from your feet. It will also make your skin soft and beautiful. Add some lemon juice to warm water. Soak your feet in this solution for about 10 minutes. Gently scrub your feet with a soft foot brush. Wash and dry your feet completely and then apply some moisturizer. Another option is to add the juice from one lemon to one teaspoon of petroleum jelly and apply this mixture to your dry and cracked heels. Before applying, it is essential to wash your feet and pat them dry. Follow this remedy once or twice daily. You can also create a foot scrub by mixing together five tablespoons of sea salt, one tablespoon of olive oil and juice from one lemon. Apply it on your cracked feet. Leave it on for 15 minutes and then rinse it off with lukewarm water. Follow this remedy once or twice a week to get positive results.

9. Banana

Overripe banana can be put to good use by blending them into a paste and applying on your cracked feet. They will help soften and moisturize your skin. Blend one or two overripe bananas in a blender to form a thick, creamy paste. You can also add half an avocado. Apply this paste on your feet. Leave it on for about 15 to 20 minutes. Wash your feet thoroughly, alternating with lukewarm and cold water.

10. Oatmeal

You can treat cracked feet with a homemade foot scrub made from oatmeal. It will help remove dead skin and also keep your feet moisturized. Mix one tablespoons of powdered oatmeal and some jojoba oil to make a thick paste. Apply the paste to your feet, with special attention to the heels and callused areas. Leave it on for about 30 minutes. Rinse it off with cold water and pat dry your feet. Do this every other day until your cracked feet are healed completely. Another option is to mix one-quarter cup each of honey and olive oil and one-half cup of all-purpose flour in one cup of ground oatmeal. Soak your feet in warm water, exfoliate and then apply this paste. Leave it on for 30 minutes before washing it off with lukewarm water and follow with a moisturizer or foot cream. Repeat a few times a week.

Subscribe to reading. .

Assalaamu alaikumall !

Time and again we hear that reading is extremely beneficial; educators stress this point continuously and professionals speak about its innumerable benefits. They know what they are talking about because they work with this daily. But, do we understand how it will help us? This is important because if you don't understand how something can be of benefit to you, you will not use it to obtain your maximum from it. Then, the next question would be: How can we make it work for us? I will try my best to address both issues.

The most obvious benefit from reading is that it increases your vocabulary. You are exposed to new words and ideas and it encourages you to look up the definitions and you will find yourself using these new words in your conversations. As your vocabulary increases, your understanding also increases.

It is now obvious to you that the next step would be for your spelling and sentence construction to better itself. This is because as we read, the mind subconsciously recognizes patterns in spelling and sentence construction; and, when we write we recognize errors easily. So, your writing and expression will improve. This mans that your marks at school, will improve.

Reading forces you to sit down, shut out everything around you and drift into another world. This can also be considered as your "time out", it is very relaxing as it removes you from your environment, thus shifting your focus away from your daily stressors. This "time out" is refreshing, almost like a stolen holiday!

Reading is also known to increase ones memory and analytical skill. This is due to you

remaining focused and maintaining your attention for a long period of time.

With so many benefits to reading, don't you think it is about time you picked up a book and started reading?

Let's look at ways in which you can easily incorporate this into your lifestyle.

For the younger child, Moms and Dads need to be very active in instilling an atmosphere of reading. They have to be the ones who initiate and maintain the process. Setting an example is very important. Parents also need to be active readers. Children will fall in step with you, yes you may have to force and coerce them into participating but, it won't be long before they are bitten by the reading bug! You have to make the time!

Parents should encourage discussions about the books being read. This will encourage analytical thinking. Young minds sometimes miss out important pieces and you may be able to help them put things into perspective.

Set aside 45minutes (or more) in a day for your reading.

Start a book club with friends or family members where, you all read the same book and have a discussion about it.

Try reading different types of books so that you are exposed to different types of writing. The newspaper and magazines hold a diversity of topics and writers. That's good exposure.

It's gonna make you smarter and sharper, start NOW! C'mon be adventurous ... explore new worlds! --Yasmin Omar

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HAZRAT KHALID BIN WALID ﷺ

THE SWORD OF ALLAH

"I die even as a camel dies. I die in bed, in shame. May the eyes of cowards never find rest in sleep!"

These were the last words of a man who did not have a span of a hand on his body that was not scarred by a wound from a sword or arrow or spear. A man who said ; *"I have sought martyrdom in a hundred battles. Why could I not have died in battle?"*

"You could not die in battle", replied his friend. "You must understand that when the Messenger of Allah, on whom be the blessings of Allah and peace, named you Saifullah - the Sword of Allah, he predetermined that you would not fall in battle. If you had been killed by an unbeliever it would have meant that Allah's sword had been broken by an enemy of Allah; and that could never be."

The conversion of two members of the Quraish, perhaps, made the greatest difference to the fortunes of the early Muslim community. Hazrat Umar and Khalid bin Walid were powerful men who commanded great influence among their people. Their acceptance of Islam was a great moral victory. To the Quraish, on the other hand, it proved to be a death blow in their campaign against Islam.

Khalid-bin-Walid was a born soldier. He was born into a rich family of the Bani Mukhzum and consequently had no need to work for a living. He concentrated on improving his natural ability in the martial arts. An anecdote relates that as a young man Khalid's father wanted his son to be the best warrior of the Quraish so he fed little doses of certain poisons to fortify his immune system. Later as a muslim warrior when a messenger from Persia tried to poison him and failed, the messenger went back to his people and convinced them to surrender since not even poisons could stop the muslim army.

Khalid-bin-Walid is the only man to have inflicted a tactical defeat on the Muslim armies under the Holy Prophet at the Battle of Uhud. Khalid, although initially bitterly opposed to Islam, was noted for many excellent qualities. He was an extraordinarily resolute and temperate man. This prompted the Holy Prophet ﷺ to

mention that Khalid bin Walid could not be totally unmoved by the message of Islam. Indeed, when this was conveyed to Khalid, it changed his heart and he came to the Holy Prophet ﷺ and gave his allegiance to Islam. He recited the shahada and requested the Holy Prophet ﷺ to ask Allah to forgive him for his early antagonism towards Islam.

From that day onwards Khalid bin Walid became the foremost champion of Islam. He fought many decisive battles, humbling his opponents and bringing victory to the religion of Islam. He was the first Muslim commander to leave Arabia to conquer foreign lands and humble two great empires. Almost all his battles are studies in military leadership, especially Uhud, Kazima, Walaja, Muzayyah, Ajnadein and Yarmuk.

In 629 A.D, the Holy Prophet ﷺ sent an expedition under the command of Zaid bin Harith against the Syrians. In the confrontation that took place at Muthah, Zaid bin Harith was martyred. The command passed to Jafar bin Abu Talib and then Abdullah bin Rawahah who too were both martyred. At that critical juncture, Khalid bin Walid took over the command and by superb strategy he succeeded in retrieving the position and bringing back the Muslim forces safely to Medina. During the battle, Khalid bin Walid broke 8 swords. Because of this, the Holy Prophet ﷺ gave him the title of "Saifullah" or "The Sword of Allah." The sword that could not be broken !

"I am the pillar of Islam! I am the Companion of the Prophet! I am the noble warrior, Khalid bin Al Waleed!"

Khalid bin Al-Waleed passed away at the age of 55 during Omar bin Al-Khattab's command. His wisaal was on the 29th Jamadi ul Awwal.

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THE DEAF MAN AND THE SICK NEIGHBOUR

MOULANA JALALUDDIN RUMI

A man asked a deaf friend. Did you know that your neighbor is gravely ill? I did not know that, said the deaf. Are you not going to visit your neighbor? There is a great reward on visiting the sick; Said the man. But I am deaf how can I visit some one? I will not hear what he tells me.

It is not that hard, the conversation is fairly standard when one visit a sick person. I will tell you what to say; said the friend. A typical scenario goes like this; Once you enter the house watch his lips if they are moving then that means he is conscious. Then you ask him; how are you feeling today? He will say I am fine thank you. You answer that is very good Alhamdulillah. Then ask him what have you been eating? He is going to say a soup or something like that you say that is good for your body Alhamdulillah. Then ask him have you seen a doctor and what is prescription or diagnosis? He will say yes I have seen such and such a doctor then you say some good word and give him hope. That will bring you lots of blessing.

The deaf man being convinced went ahead to visit the neighbour. His friend was right the sick man lips moved, he softly answered his salaam. He sat next to the sick man and compassionately put his hand on the head of the neighbor. Unfortunately the answer came in different order.

Deaf man; How have you been feeling lately?

Sick man; Miserable, I feel like I am dying

Deaf man; That is very good Alhamdulillah

Deaf man; Have you been eating anything ?

Sick man; Yes I ate poison that is why I am in this shape.

Deaf man; Masha Allah that is very good for you, very good for your body.

The sick being annoyed by his neighbours comments feels very upset.

Deaf man; Have you seen a doctor, and what was the diagnosis?

Sick man; No, I feel like the angel of death is coming to visit me.

Deaf man; That is very good Alhamdulillah. Every house that he steps in brings good Insha Allah

It would seem that Moulana Jalaluddin Rumi (R.A) refers to occasions where incompetent or defective people while intending good may actually cause harm. Apply this to people who sometimes attempt propagating Islam when unqualified to do so.

Dear son/daughter...

The day that you see me old, have patience and try to understand me.

If I get dirty when eating.....if I can not dress.....have patience. Remember the hours I spent teaching it to you.

If, when I speak to you, I repeat the same things a thousand and one times.....do not interrupt me.....listen to me.

When you were small, I had to read to you a thousand and one times the same story until you got to sleep.....

When I do not want to have a shower, neither shame me nor scold me.... Remember when I had to chase you with a thousand excuses I invented, so that you would want to bath.....

When you see my ignorance on new technologies. give me the necessary time and not look at me with your mocking smile.....

I taught you how to do so many things.....to eat good, to dress well.....to confront life.....

When at some moment I lose my memory or the thread of our conversation. let me have the necessary time to remember....and if I cannot do it, do not become nervous.....as the most important thing is not my conversation but surely to be with you and to have you listening to me.....

If ever I do not want to eat, do not force me. I know well when I need to and when not.

When my tired legs do not allow me to walk.....
.....give me your hand.....the same way I did when you made your first steps.

And when someday I become mood y, and say a few nasty things.....do not get angry.....some day you will understand.....

Try to understand that my age is not lived but survived.

Some day you will discover that, despite my mistakes, I always wanted the best thing for you and that I tried to prepare the way for you.....

You must not feel sad, angry or impotent at seeing me near you. You must be next to me. Try to understand me and help me as I did with you when you started your life.

Help me to walk.....help me to end my way with love and patience. I will pay you with a smile and by the immense love I have had always for you.

I love you my child.....

Your Father/Mother

HAZRAT IBRAHIM BIN ADHAM

Hazrat Abu Is'haq Ibrahim Adham, a ninth century Sufi, was the Prince of Balkh who governed a large northeastern province in Persia. He lived in a luxurious palace, and his soldiers carried swords and shields made of pure gold.

One night, while he was sleeping in his palace in a room decorated with silk, gold, and gemstones, Ibrahim heard footsteps on the roof. He called for his guards and soldiers, but received no reply. He then called to the man who was walking upon the roof: "Who is there? What are you doing on the roof of my palace?"

The man replied: "I am a friend looking for my camel!"

Hazrat Ibrahim Adham said: "You fool! How do you expect to find a camel on the top of a palace?"

The man replied: "My action is as strange as yours. You think that I am crazy to search for a lost camel on the top of a palace, and yet you consider yourself sane when you search for divinity in the depth of your luxurious attachments!"

Hazrat Ibrahim Adham realized that this was a sign, and understood that so long as he prayed in his elaborate room, and remained deeply attached to these luxuries, his hopes of finding Allah were as futile as searching for a camel upon the palace's rooftops.

When he awoke the next morning, he found that he was still upset about his experience of the night before. Nonetheless, he went to the audience room of his palace and carried on with his usual schedule. A poor man barged into the palace with such force that the guards were afraid to throw him out. The man addressed Ibrahim abruptly: "Who lives in this inn?"

Insulted, Ibrahim angrily retorted: "This is not an inn, this is my palace."

Seeming not to notice the remark, the man asked: "Who lived in this house before you?"

Hazrat Ibrahim Adham answered: "My father.

The man continued to question Hazrat Ibrahim Adham: "And before him, and before him, and so forth?"

Hazrat Ibrahim Adham replied: "My father, and his father, and so forth for a few generations."

The man then asked, "Where are they now?"

Hazrat Ibrahim Adham answered, "They have all died."

Then the man said, "So is this not an inn, where one comes and goes, and leaves his place for another to come and go? Why are you holding so tightly to something that will not remain in your possession forever?"

The man, who was said to be Khidr (also spelled Khizr), seemed to disappear after he made this statement.

Hazrat Ibrahim Adham knew that these were divine

teachings, yet he still couldn't believe that these signs were happening to him. One day he went for hunting with some of his servants, but on the way to jungle, he lost them. Hazrat Ibrahim Adham heard the divine voice, saying: "O Ibrahim! wake up before your death." He heard that divine voice continuously for some while. Suddenly a deer appeared before him, and when he targetted the deer by the arrow, the deer began to speak to him in a pleasant manner, saying: "Were you created for this, or were you commanded to do this?" After hearing that, Hazrat Ibrahim Adham felt a great change in himself.

Later he gave up his realm & wandered in the desert. And finally he went stayed in a cave near Nishapur (Iran), where he lived for nine years cutting himself from outer world. After some period when people came to know that a dervish lives in the cave near Nishapur, many people started to visit him. So then he left that cave & wandered in the desert, where Hazrat Khidr met him again, and Hazrat Ibrahim Adham took Bay't from him & became his disciple. After living wandering many years in the desert, he left for Makka to perform pilgrimage. So he joined a caravan, but no one recognized him. Later the news spread all over Makka that Hazrat Ibrahim Adham is on the way to Makka, so they anxiously started to wait for him. When Hazrat Ibrahim Adham knew about that, he left the caravan, so that no one could recognize him. After reaching Makka, he saw group of people who were waiting for Hazrat Ibrahim Adham. When he asked them that for whom they are waiting? They replied that they are waiting for Hazrat Ibrahim Adham. Hazrat Ibrahim Adham said: "Why are you so anxious to see a heretic man?" After hearing this, those people started to beat him by saying: "Hazrat Ibrahim Adham isn't an unbeliever, but you are!" Hazrat Ibrahim Adham replied: "Yes, I also said that." Later when people came to know that he is himself Hazrat Ibrahim Adham, they were ashamed. Many people became his disciple after taking Bay'at from him. Hazrat Ibrahim Adham lived there some time by working in the field for the livelihood, and then became a woodcutter.

He passed away in 782 A.D., in Syria.

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OURS

BY FAIZEL KHAMKAR

The word “ours” is normally associated with a relationship, possession, love or obsession. This like most other concepts can be either good or bad. It is good if it is a facilitator of love, compassion and results in humanity and builds communities. This concept on the other hand if viewed from a different light can create discord, hatred and facilitate the destruction of communities. The downfall is largely as a result of arrogance and prejudice. Adolf Hitler is a typical historic case of this. On the other hand rejection of the “our” concept and taking the individual path can be just as disastrous when good can be instituted. This attitude of “ours” is largely self based.

Donald Trump (today's Hitler) the newly elected President of the United States is a typical case of the wrong that can be achieved by adopting the erroneous view of this attitude. In accepting the narrow view of the Aryan philosophy of the superior race or the chosen people a course of self destruction has been chosen. The irony of the view that migrants will dilute the Aryan race (read as the American nation) should be seen on the backdrop of the fact that the American nation evolved from mass migration from a number of other countries fleeing from the same bigotry which is now being established. It is even rumoured that Donald Trump's mother was an illegal migrant. In order to bring about a furthering of division by race classification even some of the “ours” which had made “us” great are being sidelined and scorned for no reason other than bigotry. Fortunately for Trump the superior intellect line is not pushed too hard for if that becomes the case then he would by default exclude himself from the “our” group. The naked hatred for Islam and its followers has become more manifest in America and the proof lies in the intimidation of Islamic institutions and the burning of a mosque. The old North/South divide in America of the sixteenth century is now being resuscitated.

We find a situation in Bangladesh where the rejection of the “our” is taking place. The terrorised,

abused and maligned Muslims of Myanmar are in reality Bangladeshi in every way. Yet to relief them from their nightmare the Bangladesh government has taken their “ours” and offered them refuge on an island called Thengar Chan. It should be borne in mind that it has been reported that the army of Bangladesh had fired on fleeing Rohingya Muslims to stop the “ours” from reintegrating with their own. The major problem with this solution is that the said island is known to flood extensively to the level of covering the island with water during the raining season. Is this the humanity that the attitude of “ours” should aspire towards?

We also find leaders globally had embraced the “our” attitude, solely or primarily in order to enrich themselves and/or to establish power for themselves. This embracing is on the back of the enterprise and resources of the adopted “our”. This “our” becomes further from “our” the greater and more successful the selfish enrichment programmes progress. The egomaniacal Donald Trump is a typical case in point and the same can also be said for Jacob Zuma. The potential and development of the “our” as a community then evaporates into thin air. It should be borne in mind that the two said leaders are not exclusive nor is this illness limited only to the political arena.

The practical application of the good side of the theory of “ours” can only be established by Islam through its established protocol and historical proven regime of the true “our” philosophy. The question which must be dealt with is the will of the Muslims to establish this in the daily practical lives going through all the strata of society. Being humanitarian, compassionate and just are key cornerstones of Islam. Accepting one another irrespective of race, tribe or colour is established within the framework of Islam. Rejection, abuse of one another, isolation and subjugation of those belonging to “our” is foreign or should be foreign to the Muslim. The resolve to set the example must therefore come from us.

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YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

BY MOULANA SHAH FAISAL KHAN QADRI MISBAHI



Q.1.) (A) Is it permissible to read Qaza Salaah after Asr Salaah?

(B) Can one read Qaza Salaah after Fajr before sunrise?

A.1.) (A) Yes it is permissible, there is no fixed time for making Qaza Salaah. Whenever you read it then you will be free from the responsibility. However no Salaah can be performed at the time of Sunrise, Zawaal and Sunset. It is not permissible to read Nafl (optional) salaah after Asr Salaah.

(B) Yes after performing the Fard of Fajr and if there is time before Sunrise, you could perform the Qaza Salaah, however it is forbidden to perform any Salaah whilst the sun is rising, at its zenith or while setting. It is not permissible to read nafl salaah after Fajr Salaah.

(Fatawa Aalam Giri with reference of Qanoon-e-Shariat Pg 151 Vol 1- Allama Shamsudeen Ahmed Razvi)

Q.2.) What is the ruling regarding people who stop others from standing and reading Salaami, and making Melaad of the Nabi (S.A.W.) and celebrating the Urs of the Aulia Allah?

A.2.) They are amongst those who are ignorant reason being that to stand and recite Salaami and attend Melaad and Urs gatherings is permissible in Islam. Melaad is a gathering in which the excellences of Nabi Muhammed (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), his miracles, his biography, his advent and his practices. All these things are mentioned in the Holy Quraan and in Hadith Shareef so therefore anyone who stops others from these teachings are ignorant. (Qanoone Shariat Page 407 Vol 2- Allama Shamsudeen Ahmed Rizvi)

Q.3.) Are men allowed to wear gold jewellery?

A.3.) No, Nabi (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) has forbidden men to wear gold jewellery. In

Fact men are not allowed to wear any jewelry except one silver ring which weighs less than one Mithqaal i.e. 4.25g.

(Qanoone Shariat Page 308 Vol 2- Allama Shamsudeen Ahmed Rizvi)

Q.4.) Is it allowed for Muslim sisters to recite Naat Shareef in the presence of Men?

A.4.) No, since a women's voice is also regarded as aurah (covered). Women's voice creates a attraction and may lead to evil temptations. Those temptations which lead to haraam actions are totally Haraam.

(Tafseer Nurul Irfaan Imaam Ahmed Yaar Khan Naeemi Translated Darul Uloom Pretoria -Pg 69 Vol 2)

Q.5.) Can a Husband see the face of his deceased wife, carry her Janaaza or go into the Qabr?

A.5.) Yes he can do everything of the above except He is not allowed to touch her body without a cloth/chaadar.

(Qanoone Shariat Page 179 Vol 1- Allama Shamsudeen Ahmed Rizvi)

Q.6.) Is it permissible to play cards without gambling?

A.6.) No ! Since all games are wasting of time. The ruling for checkers, chess, cards Etc.. is the same. Not Allowed.

(Qanoone Shariat Page 355 Vol 2- Allama Shamsudeen Ahmed Rizvi)

Q.4.) Are Muslim Females allowed to visit the graveyard (Qabrastaan)?

A.4.) Answer will be given in detail in next months issue! (Insha-Allah)

For any further clarification kindly contact Moulana Shah Faisal Khan Misbahi on 072 456 8473

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BY FAKIR HASSEN

