

WEEKLY BOOKLET:360

THE AMIR OF AHL AL-SUNNAH AND RESPECTING SAYYIDS (Part-1)



- Who is a sayyid?
- 2,500,000 rupees gift for sayyids
- 34-year-old will
- Special message to sayyids

Presented by: (DA'WAT-E-ISLAMI) AL-MADINAH-TUL- ILMIA Islamic Research Center

اميراهل سنّت او رتعظيم سادات

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids

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Translation Department (Dawat-e-Islami)

Aalami Madani Markaz, Faizan-e-Madinah, Mahallah Saudagran, Purani Sabzi Mandi, Bab-ul-Madinah, Karachi, Pakistan UAN: ☎ +92-21-111-25-26-92 – Ext. 7213 Email: 🖃 translation@dawateislami.net

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Aalami Madani Markaz, Faizan-e-Madinah Mahallah Saudagran, Purani Sabzi Mandi, Bab al-Madinah, Karachi, Pakistan

🕿 Email: maktabaglobal@dawateislami.net – maktaba@dawateislami.net

- **D** Phone: +92-21-34921389-93
- 🗏 Web: www.dawateislami.net

ٱلْحَمْدُلِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعُلَمِيْنَ وَالصَّلُوةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى حاتَمِ النَّبِيِّن اَمَّابَعْدُ فَاَعُوْذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطُنِ الرَّجِيْمِ بِسُمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

Dua for reading this book

R ecite the following before you read a religious book or begin an Islamic lesson; you will remember whatever you study ان شَاءَالله.

ٱللَّهُمَّ افْتَحْ عَلَيْنَا حِكْمَتَكَ وَانْشُرْ عَلَيْنَا رَحْمَتَكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَام

O Allah! Open the doors of knowledge and wisdom for us and have mercy on us! O He Who is the Most Glorious and Honourable! (*Al-Mustațraf, vol. 1, p. 40*)

Note:

Recite salāt upon the Prophet once before and after.

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A message from the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah

Upon the passing of a sayyid, the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah, Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri sent myself (the writer) a WhatsApp message.

Said message is presented here after adjustments suitable to this booklet. It contains many lessons and points of benefit for all Muslims. Read it carefully and preserve it in your heart and mind. He said:

If you wish to remain free of fear in the Hereafter, fear regarding the sayyids (as in, save yourself from any unsuitable matter concerning them). الن الن You will be without fear in the Hereafter.

On the Day of Judgement, sayyids shall be given a message of safety from the Prophet مَتَّاسَتُمَا لَعَانَ . We also hope he will say to us, "O you who loved my family! You are under my protection! Go and enter Paradise!" اِنْشَادَالله.

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah has penned numerous books, given many speeches, written abundant poetry regarding the Prophet's blessed family. He greatly emphasises respect towards sayyids, and profusely explains this to his murīds, students, and all Muslims in general. This is something those who remain in his company and who watch and listen to his Madani Muzakaras have witnessed on numerous occasions.

His own practice is to address members of the Ahl al-Bayt with beautiful titles and speak to them humbly.

1

Following the way of Imam Aḥmad Razā Khan ترتبية الله عنية، if there is something to be distributed and a sayyid is present, he gives them two-fold in comparison to others. In fact, onlookers noticed his manner of giving to sayyids is so full of humility, that it appears that though he is receiving, rather than gifting something.

There is a long list of stories regarding his respect for and decorum with sayyids, which is difficult to recount in this brief booklet. There is intention to release a second part to this booklet with at least 25 stories, in accordance with 25th Ṣafar, which marks the death anniversary of Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ.

May Allah grant us the ability to do this with sincerity. May He keep us loyal and respectful to the Ahl al-Bayt and grant us the intercession of their esteemed forefather, the Prophet مَتَى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّهُ. May He keep us close to the Prophet صَتَى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّهُ in Jannat al-Firdaws.

ا**مِيْنُ بِجَالِا خاتَمِ النَّبِيَّن** صلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَالِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

A seeker yearning for Madīnah, al-Baqī^c and forgiveness without accountability.

Abu Muhammad Tahir Attari Madani

Saturday 8th Dhū al-Ḥijjah 1444 AH

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids ٱلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَلَمِينَ وَالصَّلُوةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى حَاتَم النَّبِيِّن اَمَّابَعُدُ فَاَعُوْذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيُطِنِ الرَّجُيُ بِسُمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحُمٰنِ الرَّحِيُّ

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids

The prayer of Attar's successor: O Allah! Whoever reads or listens to the 32-page booklet The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids, grant them the intercession of the Prophet on the Day of Judgement, and confer upon them صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَالِمِهِ وَسَلَّم proximity to the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهِ in Jannat al-Firdaws.

امِينُ بِجالا حاتَم النَّبِين صلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَالمِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

The Prophet's advice to 'Alī

The final Prophet صَلَّى التَّعْمَلَيْدِوَالِمِوَسَلَّم once declared:

يَاعَبِّ إِحْفَظُ عَبِّي خَصْلَتَدُين أَتَانَ بِهِهَا جِبُرِيْلُ عَلَيْهِ السَّلامُ أَكْثِرِ الصَّلاةَ عَلَيَّ بالسَّحْر، وَالْإِسْتَغْفَارَ بِالْبَغْرِبِ

O 'Alī! Remember two practices from me, both of which were brought to me by Jibrīl. Send an abundance of salāt upon me during sahr and make istighfar at maghrib.¹

صَلُّوْاعَلَى الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَبَّد

¹ Al-Qurbat Ilā Rabb al-ʿĀlamīn, p. 90

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids On the shoulders of the *mujaddid* of the era

The palanquin¹ had been set at the door. Hundreds were standing, waiting, longing for a glance, with their gazes fixed on the door. The esteemed passenger came out of his home with a dignified gait, having performed ablution, dressed in beautiful attire and wearing an *'imāmah*. His face was beaming with light. He made his way through the gathering and entered the palanquin.

It began to move and had only travelled a short distance when the passenger's voice was heard from within; "Stop for a moment." Carriers lowered it to the ground in accordance with the request. Silence enveloped the assembled crowd as Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān تحققاليليوعتيه emerged from inside, worried and anxious. He addressed the carriers with a voice filled with emotion:

> I adjure you for the sake of your forefather Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah أَسَنَّى اللَّهُمَلَيْمِوَ اللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّ which of you is from his lineage? My faith senses the fragrance of my master.

Hearing this unexpected question, a labourer sayyid from

¹ A chair for a passenger, made of wood, enclosed in its length from all four sides, with two doors. It would have two poles, one each at the front and back, which workers would lift on their shoulders and then carry from place to place.

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids amongst them cast his eyes downwards and quietly revealed:

Work is taken from a labourer. He himself is not inquired about. You asked me for the sake of my esteemed forefather and made apparent my secret. I am from the Ahl al-Bayt. I do not know any other craft, so I do this work to feed my children.

The sayyid had not yet completed his words, when those present witnessed an amazing sight. The *mujaddid* of the era, removed his 'imāmah and placed it at the feet of the sayyid. Tears were flowing from the great imam's eyes. With hands clasped together, in a state of great humility, he exclaimed:

Honourable sayyid, forgive my insolence. I erred without knowing. I was carried on the shoulders of he whose shoes I take as a crown upon my head. If your forefather asks on the Day of Judgement, "Aḥmad Raza, were the delicate shoulders of my son for carrying you?", what answer will I give? What humiliation I will then face!

Finally, after procuring the sayyid's forgiveness several times, he presented a request seeped in devotion. He mentioned that as the mistake was a result of not knowing, its expiation should be that the sayyid should sit and the imam should carry him.

People's eyes overflowed with tears, and some screamed with emotion when the sayyid was made to sit in the palanquin, The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids despite his repeated refusals, and the world witnessed the greatest jurist of his age; in fact, the *mujaddid* of his era, carrying a sayyid on his shoulders.¹



Wrote a treatise in seven days upon the request of a sayyid

This is not an isolated incident of reverence for sayyids. Rather, many pages could be written regarding Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān's respect for the Ahl al-Bayt. On 3rd Shawwāl 1329 AH, Sayyid Muḥammad Aḥsan Barelwī تَعَدَّ wrote to the imam تَعَدَّ stating that he was embarking for ḥajj on the 10th, and he would like for a written method of ḥajj and its etiquettes to be published. Fulfilling his request, the imam said:

> In fulfilment of the sayyid's request, I quickly penned (within only seven days) this 45-page monograph, which is renowned in the academic world.

> (كَتَوَارُ الْبِشَارَةِ فِي مَسَائِلِ الحَجِّ وَالنَّتِيَارَةِ (2018) - أَنُوَارُ الْبِشَارَةِ فِي مَسائِلِ الحَجِّ وَالنَّتِيَارَةِ (129) tidings Regarding Rulings of Hajj and Visitation)²

Blessings of Raza

The imam's family and students also had this admirable quality of respecting sayyids. To increase your passion in reading onwards, consider the etiquette of meeting and revering the Ahl

¹ Anwar-i-Razā, p. 415; Zulf-o-Zanjīr, pp. 76-78; summarised

² Fatāwā Ridawiyyah, vol. 10, p. 725; with Changes

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids al-Bayt Household displayed by one of the imam's foremost students, Shaykh al-Arab wa al-'Ajam, Quţb al-Madinah, Mawlānā Þiyā al-Dīn Aḥmad al-Madanī al-Qādirī al-Riḍawī رَحْتَةُ اللَهِ عَلَيَهِ

Sayyidī Quțb al-Madinah and revering sayyids

When the granddaughter of Quṭub al-Madinah was blessed with a son, he was named Walīd. When brought to Quṭb al-Madīnah for dus, he took him in his lap and recited ṣalāt for some time. He then kissed the feet of his grandson and said, "He is a sayyid." This is because his granddaughter was the wife of Sayyid Sāmī al-Barzanjī دَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ

Quțub al-Madīnah's loving manner with sayyids

Qutb al-Madīnah expressed great affection for sayyids. Whenever meeting one, the shaykh would kiss their hands without prior notice. Those present would then understand the person was a sayyid.

Respect towards Ghazālī al-Zamān

Despite Ghazālī al-Zamān, Sayyid Aḥmad Saī'd al-Kāẓimī تحمة الله عنيه preventing him, Quṭb al-Madinah would kiss his hands and stand up out of respect for him, despite it being

 $^{^{\}rm l}$ Sayyidī Þiyā al-Dīn Ahmad al-Qādirī, vol. 1, p. 532, with minor changes

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids difficult for him.¹ It would even occur that these two great personalities would compete with one another in trying to kiss the hand and even feet of one another.

صَلُّوْاعَلَى الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلى مُحَمَّد

The murid reflects the murshid

The purpose of mentioning the accounts of these personalities is to inform that just as a son resembles his father, a murīd reflects his murshid.

When a murshid expresses such etiquette and honour to the Ahl al-Bayt, the effect of this will be seen in the murid. By following his murshid, the murid will bear in mind the station of the Ahl al-Bayt, as he becomes a spiritual representative of his murshid when he emulates him in action, character, and method.

This attribute of love for the Ahl al-Bayt is seen overflowing in the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah, due to his wholehearted following of Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān.

Now, turning to the original subject, let us read stories of the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah's reverence for the Ahl al-Bayt. First, know that love and respect for them is a must, as their lineage goes back to the Prophet مَسَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهِ مَنْ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ مَنْ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ مَنْ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ مَنْ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ مَنْ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ مَنْ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ وَالَيْعُ وَالَيْعُ وَالَيْلُولُ وَالْعُ وَالَيْعُ وَاللَّهُ وَالْعُامُ وَاللَّا وَالْعُالَيْلُولُولُولُولُولُكُولُولُولُولُولُولُولُولُولُولُ

¹ Sayyadi Diyā al-Dīn Ahmad al-Qādirī, vol. 1, p. 531

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids affiliated with them. When the Ahl al-Bayt are affiliated with the Prophet's sanctified being, then one can imagine how much decorum a true person of love will show.

Respecting and loving sayyids is also mentioned in the Quran.

Love and respect for the Ahl al-Bayt

In the Quran, Allah declares:

قُلْ لَّآاسْتَلُكُمْ عَلَيْهِ أَجْرًا إِلَّا الْمَوَدَّةَ فِي الْقُرْبِي لّ

Say, "I do not ask you for any recompense for 'the message', except love for 'our' kinship.¹

In Khazāin al-Irfān:

Love for the Prophet \tilde{aution} and his relatives is from the obligations of the religion.²

Imam Ahmad Razā Khan said:

Respect for the Ahl al-Bayt is obligatory and insulting sayyids is haram.³

¹ Al-Quran, part 25, Al-Shūrā, verse 23; translation from Kanz al-Irfān

² Khazā'in al- 'Irfān, part 25, Al-Shūrā, under verse 23, p. 894

³ Fatāwā Ridawiyyah, vol. 22, p. 420

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids Four hadith regarding sayyids

ٱدِّبُوا ٱوْلاد كُمْ عَلى ثَلاثِ خِصَالٍ: حُبِّ نَبِيكُم، وَحُبِّ الله لِيَبْتِهِ، وَقرّاءَةِ الْقُرْ آنِ

1) Teach your children three matters: love of your Prophet, love of his Household, and recital of the Quran.¹

2) Whoever treats well any of my Household, I shall grant him its requital on Day of Judgement.²

ʿAbd al-Ra'ūf al-Munāwī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِمَ writes in the commentary of this hadith:

This narration indicates how the Prophet مَسَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَالِمِوَسَلَّم is he who gives (by the permission and power of Allah), in a way not hidden to anyone. Congratulations to he who has their worries removed by the Prophet مَسَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهِ وَاللَّهُ Glad tidings to those whose calls he responds to and whose needs he fulfils.³

To attain the intercession of the Prophet 28

3) Whoever seeks intermediation and desires to present some kind of service in my court, due to which I will intercede for him on the Day of Judgement, should serve my Ahl al-Bayt and make

¹ Al-Jāmi^c al-Ṣaghīr , p. 25, hadith 311

² Tarīkh Ibn 'Asākir, vol. 45, p. 303, hadith 9884

³ Fayd al-Qadīr, vol. 6, p. 223, under hadith 8821

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids them happy. $^{\rm 1}$

Loving the Ahl al-Bayt is compulsory

4) Cling fast to love for our Ahl al-Bayt, as whoever meets Allah whilst loving us, He will enter him into Paradise by my intercession. I take oath by He Who has power over my soul! A person's actions will benefit him only when they recognise our rights (referring to the Prophet's rights and those of the Ahl al-Bayt).²

صَلُّوْاعَلَى الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلى مُحَمَّد

Who is a sayyid?

Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān تَحَمَّةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ states, "The progeny of سِبْطَيْنِ كَرِيبَين (Imams Ḥasan and Ḥusayn (رَحِى اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا) are called sayyids."³

The linguistic meaning of sayyid is leader. In technical terms, the progeny of Imams Ḥasan and Ḥusayn ترضي are referred to as such.

In the Arab world, every honourable person is called sayyid, whilst the offspring of حسَنَينِ كَرِيَةُنُور ض المُعنهما are called sharīf or ḥabīb.

صَلُّوْاعَلَى الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلى مُحَمَّد

¹Al-Sharf al-Mu'abbad, p. 54

² Al-Mu'jam al-Awsat, vol. 1, p. 606, hadith 2230

³ Fatāwā Ridawiyyah, vol. 13, p. 361

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids "I have endless love for Imam Husayn"

In a speech given by the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah in Muḥarram 1445 AH, at Dawat-e-Islami's International Madani Centre in Karachi, he addressed the attendees somewhat as follows:

> All of you remain witnesses to the fact I love Imam Husayn تَوْمِيَا لللهُ عَنَهُ. I have loved him since my childhood, from the time I could not even pronounce his blessed name correctly. Even then, I used to think he is of immense stature.

> we all love Imam Ḥusayn آلَحَمْدُ لِلْهُ everything connected to him. آلَحَمْدُ لِلْهُ نَصَى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَالله وَسَلَّم I love sayyids, as they are the progeny of the Prophet آريون الله عَلَيْهِ Hearing the atrocities committed upon Imam Ḥusayn نوين الله عَلَيْهُ in Karbala, I too feel like bursting in to tears, but we have been commanded to be patient. Yet, if we cry involuntarily, that is a great blessing.¹



یاسیِّدی Do not address me with

As explained earlier, the linguistic meaning of sayyid is leader. For centuries, people have been addressing scholars and the pious with

¹ Shān-i-Shahīd-i-Karbalā, 10th Muḥarram 1445 AH

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids – "O my master". This can be seen in various Arabic books.

During Madani Muzakaras etc., many use this term to address the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah, which is perfectly permissible according to Islamic law. Due to his humility, he requests, "Do not address me in this way, as people may begin to suspect I am a sayyid, whereas I am a Memon."¹

Taking on the conduct of Imam Ahmad Raza

When distributing sweets etc., Imam Aḥmad Razā Khan would give sayyids twice as much as normal people. Acting upon this, The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah also gives sayyids double the amount of Eid money or a gift. Not only this, but he uses respectful words when addressing them.²

Some methods of manners and respect for sayyids

It is a reality that in love for Allah's Messenger مَتَى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللهِ وَسَلَّمَ , the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah has reached the station of 3.

is that a person always bears فَنَافى الرّسول states: The meaning of رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ

¹ Madani Muzakara number: 2261

 $^{^2}$ ٱلْحَدَّى لِنْه The religious work of Dawat-e-Islami is taking place worldwide and people do not understand the meaning of the word bāpū everywhere. Therefore, the term sayyid şāḥib is encouraged in place of it. This latter wording is even more respectful, and most people can understand it.

³ Definition of نَنَانِ الرّسول: Imam Sirāj al-Dīn al-Rifā'ī al-Makhdhūmī

A person has love for everything associated with the one he loves. When the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah has such immense love for the Prophet's city and resting place, what will be the extent of his love for the Prophet مَلَى المُعْمَلَيَهِ وَاللهِ وَسَلَّهُ himself?

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah has great respect for the Ahl al-Bayt. He even considers it disagreeable for him to sit in a raised place in the presence of sayyids. On many occasions, he requested for sayyids to come and sit alongside him. According to the western calendar, his age is 74 and his advanced age does not allow for him to sit on the floor.

Otherwise, when younger, he would also sit on the floor. Sometimes he would say, "People make me sit above, whilst the Ahl al-Bayt are seated below. How can I, their servant, be seated above them?"

صَلُّوْاعَلَى الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَبَّد

in mind the Shariah of the beloved Prophet مَسَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَتَلَّم and outwardly and brings to mind his methodology at every time and in every act. He should consider the beloved Prophet مَسَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَتَسَلَّم the means of approach in all his affairs, the centre of all his hidden affairs and the one who solves every affair. He should have certainty that every aid, every concern and every grant for every person from Allah Almighty is for the sake of the beloved Prophet مَسَنَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَتَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَتَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَتَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَتَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَتَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهُ مَنْيَا وَتَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَتَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَتَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَتَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهُ مَالَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهُ مَالَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهِ وَلَيْهُ وَ وَالْعُولُولُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَلَيْهُ وَالْعُولُ وَالْعُولُ وَالْعُولُولُ وَلَيْهُ وَالْعُولُ وَالْ

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids Sayyids should come forward

There is a proverb amongst the Arabs; التَّفَسُلِ ذَوَرُهُ – "Only people of virtue recognise the virtuous." In relation to expressing etiquette and respecting the Ahl al-Bayt, this proverb applies to the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah.

His great reverence means he has been heard saying, "Love for the Ahl al-Bayt runs in my blood." He does not suffice in just acting upon this personally, but he also extols their rank and virtue before others. During the days of Dawat-e-Islami's international Sunna-inspired gathering in Multan and in different regional gatherings, he would announce prior to making dua: "Please, can all the sayyids in this gathering come forward, so our prayers are accepted because of their presence."

Foundation stone of the first Faizan-i-Madinah laid by sayyids

Haji Muhammad Ali Attari مئۇنىڭد سەلە, a member of Dawat-e-Islami's Executive Committee, states:

Love and respect for sayyids in members of Dawat-e-Islami is due to the training of the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah. المحيدي I entered the Islamic environment of Dawat-e-Islami in 1989.

Dawat-e-Islami's honouring of the Ahl al-Bayt first became apparent to me in 1989 or 1990, when land was

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purchased in Hyderabad for Dawat-e-Islami's Madani Centre, the first of its kind in the world. A splendid gathering was arranged on this occasion, and it was announced that the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah would come to initiate construction work, accompanied by Mushtāq Qādirī تنهة الله عنه (former Chairperson of Dawat-e-Islami's Executive Committee)

I was there when the foundation stone was laid. Islamic brothers requested for the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah to do this, but with great humility he replied, "This is the first Madani Centre of Dawat-e-Islami. I am not worthy of laying the foundation stone." Despite the requests of responsible brothers, he continued to refuse and said, "In accordance with the 12th of Rabī^c al-Awwal, the foundation stone will be laid by 12 young sayyids."

The foundation stone of Dawat-e-Islami's first Faizani-Madīnah was then laid by hands of the sayyids that could be found at the time.

Foundation stone of Dawat-e-Islami's International

Madani Centre

When the opening ceremony of Dawat-e-Islami's International Madani Centre took place, its foundation stone was also laid by 12 sayyids. There are several doors leading into Faizan-e-Madinah, one of which was named بنيمان مدينه.

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The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids The Companions and Ahl al-Bayt

The Companions and Ahl al-Bayt منى الله عنهم are a means of salvation and safety for this Umma.

The Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَالله عَمَدَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ عَلَيْهُ ع

مَثَلُ ٱهْل بَيْتِي مَثَلُ سَفِيْنَةِ نُوْمٍ مَّن رَّكِبَهَا نَجَا، وَمَن تَخَلَّف عَنْهَا غَن ق

The example of my Household is like the ark of Nūḥ. Whoever boarded it was saved, and whoever was left behind was destroyed.¹

The final Prophet مَسَّلَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَالِمِ وَسَلَّم also mentioned, "My Companions are safety for my Umma. When they leave this world, the time my Umma was promised shall come upon them."²

صَلُّواعَلَى الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَبَّد

Not extending one's feet towards a sayyid

Islamic brothers accompanied the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah during the latter's ḥajj in 2019. His age at the time was approximately 69. When in a tent in Mina on the 8th of Dhū al-Ḥijjah, he felt need to stretch his legs due to tiredness. Yet, a sayyid was in front of him.

¹ Al-Mustadrak, vol. 1, p. 81, hadith 3365

² Sahīh Muslim, p. 1051, hadith 6466

He also handed the writer of this account a note in which he mentioned about refraining from stretching his feet towards the sayyid, out of respect. In short, as long as the sayyid remained there, the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah did not stretch his feet towards him.

Beautiful expression of devotion

Not only does the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah refrain from stretching his feet towards sayyids, if he is informed during meeting and greeting that the person before him is a sayyid, he spontaneously kisses his hands. He shows great love and compassion for sayyid children, to the extent that he has been seen placing their feet on his head.

Remembrance of the Ahl al-Bayt

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah's three deceased sisters all had the same names as members of the Ahl al-Bayt.

His older sister was named Khadīja Bai¹, the middle sister Fāțima Bai, whilst the youngest was Zahra Bai.

His daughter's vestment

When the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah's only daughter got married, he could have amassed a large and expensive vestment from his well-wishers. Yet, his heart and mind were fixed upon what the final

in the Memon tongue is a word of respect like بائ is for males.

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ مَاللَهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ مَاللَهُ عَلَيْهُ مَاللَهُ عَلَيْهُ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْ

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah strove to conduct his daughter's marriage simply and in accordance with the Sunna. When providing said vestment, he referred to books and attempted to arrange the same as given by the Prophet مَنْ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ to Lady Fāțimah.

In this there is a fine example for those who are preoccupied in giving and taking large dowries etc. It comprised of a silver bracelet, a mat, a stone mill, leather waterskin, earthenware, and a leather pillow, amongst other items.

2500,000 rupees gift for sayyids

In happiness, sadness, good times, hard times; whatever the occasion, the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah always reminds others to have empathy and act well towards the Ahl al-Bayt by supporting them financially. Many times, he encourages doctors to treat sayyids without charge and medical stores to provide medicine without fees.

In 1444 AH, someone conveyed a message to the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah via a member of the Central Executive Committee. The person said he would cover the shaykh's ḥajj expenses expenses (approximately 25 lakh rupees) and that of one more Islamic brother.

The shaykh was unable to travel that year for some reason. He immediately sent a message to the donor via the Central Executive Committee, that all this money should be divided amongst sayyids, which was done.

Announcement to serve 12 households of sayyids

In Rabī^c al-Awwal 1445 AH, during the days of nationwide inflation in Pakistan during 2023/2024, the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah announced that wealthy individuals should present a gift of 12,00 rupees monthly or provide household groceries for 12 months, to 12 sayyid families.

Many phone calls were received immediately with intentions of donating, which were played live on Madani Channel. Concerning serving Ahl al-Bayt, the shaykh writes in his booklet *Blessings of the Ahl al-Bayt*:

O wealthy individuals! Traders! Physicians! Serve the family of the Messenger, i.e. the sayyids, in accordance with your means. Convey peace to the sacred heart of their beloved grandfather صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ مَعَلَى اللهُ and earn a home in the gardens of Paradise. If possible, every shopkeeper should give free goods to sayyids, or at least sell it to them at cost price. Undoubtedly, this is a great way of showing kindness towards them and wishing them well.

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids If only every doctor would agree to offer free check-ups for sayyids and give them free medicine if possible. This will make them happy to no end. Take some of the fine dishes that are prepared for *suhūr* and *iftār* during the blessed month of Ramadan, or during the days of qurbani, and respectfully present them to the sayyids living in your neighbourhood.

How unfortunate would it be if descendants of the Prophet مَتَنَ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَلامِ وَسَلَّم through whom we attain blessings, do not benefit at all from our luxury-filled lives. Sacrifice your possessions, wealth, and beloved things at the feet of the sayyids today, and then witness how their beloved grandfather صَنَّاللْمُعَلَيْهِ وَلامِهِ مَسَلَّم graces you tomorrow on the Day of Judgement.

By Allah, when neither wealth nor status will save us from punishment, the intercession of Allah's Messenger مَدْ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَالمُ

If we treat his noble family in a good manner in the world, and perhaps offer free treatment to an ailing sayyid, then how amazing would it be if that very sayyid was to make a request in the court of his grandfather مَتَى اللهُ عَاتِيهِ وَاللهِ عَالَى and become the means of our intercession.

Remember! Only offer your assistance with the intention of pleasing Allah. In the end, His blessings are endless. Also, never allow the whisper to enter your

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heart that you do not know if the person in question is a sayyid or not. We are totally not permitted to delve into people's lineages; it is sufficient for us that he be widely known as a sayyid.

Starting with sayyids when recording messages

Daily via WhatsApp, the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah gives condolences and solaces the ailing, with good intentions of wellwishing the grief stricken Umma. Despite different religious preoccupations through the night and tiredness, his passion for this call to righteousness does not allow him to forgo it.

Until now (14th June 2024) he records approximately 100 messages daily. He says, "Many names come to me asking for prayers. Yet, I try to start this pious work of mine with the names of the sayyids. Then, a name of a sayyid is found, and I begin messages with him."¹

34-year-old will

In 1411 AH, corresponding to 1990 CE, sitting before the Green Dome in Medina, the Amir Ahl al-Sunnah arranged his will. Maktabat al-Madinah published this as the *Madani Will.*² Within this, he has written various legacies.

¹ Madani Muzakara, 26 October 2023, Number 2275

² Visit Dawat-e-Islami's website <u>www.dawateislami.net</u> or scan this QR code, and with good intentions, share this with others.

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids **Respecting sayyids even in death**

On page 4 of this *Madani Will* at point number 9, the shaykh writes:

If my shroud is wettened with Zamzam, the water of Madinah, or with both, this will be a privilege for me. If only a sayyid adorns my head with an 'imāmah!

Under point 18, he writes:

My funeral prayer should be led by any practicing Sunni scholar holding correct beliefs, a Sunnah-conforming Islamic brother, or by any of my sons if capable. Yet, it is my wish that a sayyid be given preference.

Start of new home

In Muḥarram 1445 AH, the shaykh shifted to a new home. This was also conducted in unique fashion. He invited a few sayyids, began reciting Qaṣīda Burda, took hold of their hands, and entered the new home. In tears, he then said, "I moved into my new home in the company of sayyids, so they may leave me to

"in my grave." أَرْحَمُ الرَّحِيِيْن in my grave."

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ Madani Waşiyat Nāma, pp. 4-5, with changes

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids The Ahl al-Bayt and Dawat-e-Islami's love for them

Here are two important activities of Dawat-e-Islami:

1. Acting upon the *72 Pious Deeds*¹ booklet, in order to tread the path of piety and account oneself.

2. Travel in a Madani Qafilah for at least 3 days every month.

If you reflect, you will find the mention of the Ahl al-Bayt in these two important activities.

In fact, one of them is openly apparent, as the name of the Pious Deeds booklet for Islamic brothers is *72 Pious Deeds* - in relation to the martyrs of Karbala. The duration of the second important activity has been kept as 3 days monthly, which is 72 hours.

It is as though the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah is giving his murīds, students, and those who love him, a lesson in always keeping the Ahl al-Bayt in mind.

His speeches about the Ahl al-Bayt

Many programmes have been broadcast concerning the Ahl al-Bayt, on the Islamic world's 100% Islamic channel, Madani Channel.

¹ Review the 72 *Pious Deeds* booklet daily at the appointed time and submit it to the responsible brother in your area. There are separate booklets prepared for students, children and special persons etc. In order to view them visit <u>www.dawateislami.net</u> and with good intentions, share this with others.

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids Prior to the launch of Madani Channel in 2008, when audio recordings would be made of speeches, the shaykh explained the virtues of the Ahl al-Bayt, standing for 3 hours at a time.

Many times, in his speeches and writings, he includes the exegesis of the Quran written by a sayyid, namely Sayyid Muḥammad Naʿīm al-Dīn al-Murādābādī تحتة الثوعتيّة



Six books of the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah on the virtues of the Ahl al-Bayt

Until the time of writing, the shaykh has written approximately 244 pages across various forms of literature on various topics regarding the Ahl al-Bayt. They are as follows:

1. *Faizān-i-Ahl-i-Bayt* (37 pages). 40 sacred hadith concerning the virtue and rank of the Ahl al-Bayt.

2. *Karāmāt-i-Sher-i-Khudā* (98 pages). A booklet discussing the rank and marvels of Sayyiduna 'Alī زيني اللهُ عَنْهُ اللهُ

3. *Imam Ḥasan تَجْعَ*َانلُمُعَنَّهُ *kī 30 hikāyāt* (28 pages). A booklet on the biography of Imam Ḥasan تَجْعَانلُمُعَنَّهُ.

4.5.6. *Imam Ḥusayn kī Karamat* (41 pages), *Ḥusaynī Dulhā* (16 pages), and *Karbalā kī khūnī manzar* (24 pages).

Three booklets on Imam Husayn's selfless bravery and various accounts of Karbala. Apart from these, there are many accounts and narrations about the Ahl al-Bayt mentioned within various other booklets¹. All of these can be purchased from Maktabat al-Madinah.

Construction of Faizan-e-Ali masjids

On 21st Ramadan 1439 AH (6 years ago), on the date marking the martyrdom of Sayyidunā 'Alī, the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah encouraged the building of 2121 masjids in memory of this illustrious personality.²

According to the information from Dawat-e-Islami's Masjid and Madrassa Department, 121 masjids have been constructed with these names: Faizan-e-Ali, Faizan-e-Haydar, Faizan-e-Mushkil Kusha, Faizan-e-Hasan, Faizan-e-Husayn, Faizan-e-Fatimah, Faizan-e-Ali Akbar, and Faizan-e-Ali Asghar.

How he visited Medina

When the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah went to perform hajj after 16 years, time eventually came for him to visit the Prophet مَسَ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَتِسَمَّ again. Engrossed in love, he expressed his emotions to sayyids as thus:

¹ To read these booklets, scan the QR code:

² Monthly Magazine Faizan-e-Madinah, Dhū al-Qaʿda 1439 AH, August 2018, p. 53

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids Time has come for me to visit the Prophet مَسَنَّا لللهُ عَنَيْهِ وَاللهِ وَاللهِ عَالَى اللهُ If only a sayyid would be prepared to place a rope around my neck and pull me there, whilst saying, 'O Messenger of Allah! I have brought a runaway sinner. Intercede for him, seek pardon for him, and grant him a place in your proximity in Jannat al-Firdaws!"

A qurbani every year

Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān explained, "My habit is to perform a qurbani every year and send its reward specifically to the Prophet مَنَّ الله عَلَيْهِ وَاللهِ مَنَّ الله عَلَيْهِ وَاللهِ مَنَّ مَاللَ , and present all its meat and hide to sayyids."¹

Various manifestations of love of the Ahl al-Bayt

Every year during the days of qurbani, upon the encouragement the shaykh and on his behalf, a number of sayyids are not only gifted animals to sacrifice but also provided money for feeding the animal and arranging its slaughter etc.

This pious act has been taking place for some years now and many animals have been gifted to the Ahl al-Bayt, adding up to

وَيِلْيُوالْحَبْن .hundreds of thousands of rupees

An Attari is innately loyal

The shaykh himself states:

¹ Fatawa Ridawiyyah, vol. 20, p. 456

Ever since I can remember, I have sensed within myself overflowing love for the Prophet مَـنَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللهِ مَ

My Shaykh 'Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī and my Imam Aḥmad Razā Khan have given me the elixir of loving the Prophet, from which I have drank deeply.

ألَحَمْدُ لِللَّه blessing, in that I love the Prophet مَتَدَيهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ مَلَيْهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ مَعَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللَّهُ مَعَنَى وَاللَّهُ مَعَنَى وَاللَّهُ مَعَنَى وَاللَّهُ مَعَنَى وَاللَّهُ مَعَنَى وَاللَّهُ مَعَنَى وَاللَّهُ مَعْنَى وَاللَّهُ وَاللَّهُ مَعْنَى وَاللَّهُ مُعْنَى وَاللَّهُ مَعْنَى وَاللَّهُ مُعْنَى وَاللَّهُ مَعْنَى وَاللَّهُ مَعْنَى وَاللَّهُ مُعْنَى وَاللَّعُنَى وَاللَّالِي وَاللَّالِي وَاللَّا وَاللَّا وَاللَّ

I find respect for the Ahl al-Bayt running in my veins, by the mercy of Allah. ال المن I hope whoever becomes a murīd of Shaykh 'Abd al-Qādir al-Jīlānī through me, thereby becoming Attari; I have unshakeable hope they will never, ever, ever betray the Prophet مَتَى الله عَلَيْهِ وَالله من ما الله and the other prophets, or the Ahl al-Bayt including Mawlā 'Ali, Imam Ḥasan, and Imam Ḥusayn, and all Companions, including Amīr Mu'āwiyah دَعِنَ اللهُ عَنَهُ عَنَهُ عَنَهُ عَنْهُ مَنْهُ عَنْهُ مَنْهُ عَنْهُ مَنْهُ عَنْهُ هُمُ

In fact, whoever is a murīd of another murshid who fulfils all necessary conditions and joins my spiritual order for blessings; he too will never betray these illustrious personalities.¹

 $^{^1}$ Monthly Magazine Faizan-e-Madina, Dhū al-Qaʿda 1439 AH

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids Special message to sayyids

On a particular occasion, the shaykh heard some sayyids were afflicted with worry. He sent them the following message to elevate their spirits.

نَحْمَدُ لأُوَنُصَلِّي وَنُسَلِّمُ عَلَى رَسُوْلِهِ النَّبِيّ الْكَرِيْم

A servant of Medina, Muhammad Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri says to the sayyids receiving this: السَّلَامُ مَعَدَيْكُمُ وَرَحْبَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكْتُطْ

May Allah elevate your status, remove your difficulties, and grant you patience for the sake of those martyred at Karbala. Indeed, you are being tested. May Allah have mercy on you and grant you all a portion of the patience displayed by the martyrs of Karbala.

Be strong and patient. May Allah grant you blessings in your work and sustenance. May He protect you from calamities. The prophets عَمَيْتِهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامِ faced many difficulties. Your honourable grandfather, the Prophet سَمْ عَلَيْهِ وَلَامِ وَسَلَّم endured severe trials and yet remained patient.

The martyrs of Karbala witnessed intense tribulation, and they too were patient. You too should be patient. May Allah grant you courage and patience. May He grant you all forgiveness without accountability and also honour this sinner with the same for your sake.

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May He grant you closeness to your grandfather, the Prophet مَتَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاللهِ وَسَلَّم, and also grant it to me for your sake.

امِينُ بِجَالِاحاتَم النَّبِين صلَّى الله عَلَيْهِ وَاللهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Sayyids in the Central Executive Committee

The blessings of the Ahl al-Bayt are also found in the Central Executive Committee of Dawat-e-Islami. As of June 2023, there are three sayyids present in it:

1. Sayyid Muhammad Luqman Shah Sahib (Karachi)

2. Sayyid Muhammad Ibrahim Shah Sahib (Karachi)

3. Sayyid Muḥammad Arif Ali Shah Sahib (Maharashtra, India)

Unique example of love for the Ahl al-Bayt

The special assistant who stays with the Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah most times, shares his name of the fourth Caliph of Islām, ʿAlī b. Abī Ṭālib ترجى اللهُ عَنْهُ للهُ عَنْهُ. His son, who also lives the shaykh, is named Hasan Raza.

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah himself explains:

My life be sacrificed for the name of Imam Hasan. He is the grandson of the Prophet صَدَّا اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَالمُحَالِيَةُ and a beloved

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids son of Lady Fāṭimah مختى الله عنها.

As for Hasan Raza, he is a child, and kids will be kids. Sometimes, he is naughty and may do something that should not be done. I do not wish to mention any such thing with his name. Due to this etiquette, I call him *'mittu'* in daily conversation.¹

In this, there is a lesson for us. When a person's name has ascription to a lofty personality, it should be respected. It is a misfortunate person who says something untoward regarding such names.

Words steeped in love

O those who love the Companions and Ahl al-Bayt! مَنْ عَامَلَنَا رَبِحَ "Whoever deals with us (the Ahl al-Bayt) earns profit." Whichever person deals with the Ahl al-Bayt by showing etiquette, manners, and honour towards them, proceeds to benefit in this world and in the Hereafter.

As for Dawat-e-Islami, its first centre had its foundation laid by a sayyid, and its founder's expressions of affection for the Ahl al-Bayt have been explained in detail thus far.

This organisation has many leadership positions held by sayyids, both in Pakistan and outside. In fact, some of its religious activities and efforts to spread the Sunna in certain

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¹ Madani Muzakara, 9th June 2024

The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah and Respecting Sayyids countries, were solely down to the efforts of sayyids.

Reflect deeply! If this is the case, why would Dawat-e-Islami not be blessed with progress, when the dua of these sayyids is with it? Why would this movement not then excel and be seen propagating the Sunna across the world?

صَلُّوْاعَلَى الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَبَّد

The Best Means to Behold the صلى اللَّدُ عَلَيْهِ وَأَلِيهِ وَسَلَّم Holy Prophet

زخنة الله Hadrat Sheikh Abu Al-Mawahib Shadhili نفته عليه said:

صلى should remember him abundantly, whether by day or by night, and should love the Sayyids and the Saints. Otherwise, the door to beholding him in dreams will be closed to that person. This is because these blessed individuals are the leaders of all people, and those whom they disapprove of are also disapproved by Allah Almighty and His beloved Prophet of a Sayyid al-Sadat. p. 127)

Ameer Ahl al-Sunnah تعنية الغابية الغابية, a devotee of the blessed Companions and Ahl al-Bayt يَوْمَنَ اللهُ عَنَيْم ywrites in his collection of Naats, Wasa'il-e-Bakhshish: Hubb-e-Sadaat aay khuda day wasitah Ahl-e-bayt-e-Pak ka faryad hay (Wasa'il-e-Bakhshish, p. 598)









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