TRANSLATION DEPARTMENT
(DAWAT-E-ISLAMI)

Weekly Booklet

17 WAYS TO PROTECT FAITH

(Part 1)

- Concern for the Protection of Faith
- What is Necessary to Be a Muslim?
- What is Meant by a Sound Heart?
- Trust in Allah Almighty



ایمان کی حفاظت کے 17 طریقے (حصہ:1)

17 Ways to Protect Faith (Part 1)

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اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ رَبِّ الْعٰلَمِيْنَ وَالصَّلٰوةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلٰى خَاتَمِ النَّبِيّٖنَ

اَمَّا بَعْدُ فَاَعُوْذُ بِاللّٰهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطٰنِ الرَّجِيْمِ بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

17 Ways to Protect Faith (Part 1)

Prayer of Attar: O Allah Almighty! Whoever reads or listens to the booklet *"17 Ways to Protect Faith (Part 1)"*, grant them the safety of faith, grant them death with faith and well-being, and forgive them without accountability along with their parents and family.

اٰمِيْن بِجَاہِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيّٖن صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم

The Blessing of Reciting Abundant Salat

Sayyiduna Khawajah Sulayman Chishti Nizami Taunsawi, famously known as Pir Pathan رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه, was once sad and grieved. When he رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه was asked the reason for this, he said: "Today is the first day of the twelfth century. I am saddened because this era is so unfavourable (i.e., inappropriate) that in this time, the faith of the people will remain very little; however, only those will be saved who hold onto the robe of the people of Allah, and they alone will be the ones who will have no fear of the decline of faith (i.e., losing faith). Whoever recites abundant Salat upon the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم, his faith will remain safe."[1]

Dunya o akhirat may jab may rahoon salamat

Pyaray parhoon na kyun kar tum par salam har dam [2]

صَلُّوْا عَلَى الْحَبِيْب صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلٰى مُحَمَّد

[1] Manaqib-ul-Mahbubeen, p. 432

[2] Zauq-e-Naat, p. 168

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The Parrot Forgot the Kalimah (Incident)

A man had kept a parrot. He loved that parrot very much, and he had also taught his parrot the Kalimah Tayyibah: (صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم) لَآ اِلٰہَ اِلَّا اللّٰہُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَّسُوْلُ اللّٰہ. The parrot would recite the Kalimah day and night, which brought great joy to that man.

Suddenly, one day, a cat saw the parrot's cage open and quickly pounced on the parrot. The parrot began to squawk ("tain tain"), and the cat grabbed the parrot in its mouth and carried it away. When the owner of the parrot saw this scene, he began to cry uncontrollably. People consoled him, saying, "Do not cry; after all, it was just a parrot. We will bring you an even better parrot than this."

That gentleman said, "I am not crying over the death or loss of the parrot; rather, I am crying over my own condition!" The people asked in surprise, "What do you mean?" He replied, "The truth is that I had taught my parrot the Kalimah, and it used to recite the Kalimah all day long. Yet today, when the cat pounced on it, it forgot the Kalimah and began speaking in its original voice, meaning it started squawking!"

Then, what that gentleman said is worthy of being written in letters of gold. He said, “Seeing the parrot die, has made me deeply concerned about my own death. I also recite the Kalimah my entire life, offer Salah, and remember Allah Almighty. However, when the Angel of Death comes to me and the time comes for my soul to depart, I wonder whether I will be able to recite the Kalimah at that moment or whether I too, like this parrot, will panic and start uttering something else!” Saying this, the man began to cry again, and upon hearing his faith-inspiring words, the people were deeply moved.

May the mercy of Allah Almighty be upon him, and for his sake, may we be forgiven without accountability.

اٰمِیْن بِجَاہِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِیّٖن صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم

صَلُّوْا عَلَی الْحَبِیْب صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلٰی مُحَمَّد

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Concern for the Protection of Faith

Dear Islamic brothers! There is a great lesson for us in this event. اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰه! By the grace of Allah Almighty, we are Muslims. We should continue to thank Allah Almighty for this most priceless blessing, because this blessing has been granted solely through His grace and bounty. Allah Almighty states in the Holy Quran:

لَئِنْ شَكَرْتُمْ لَاَزِيْدَنَّكُمْ

If you thank Me, then I shall most definitely grant you more,[1]

The great Tabi'i saint and rightly guided Caliph, Sayyiduna Umar bin Abdul Aziz رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه, states: "Secure the blessings of Allah Almighty through gratitude."[2]

It is not far-fetched that upon expressing gratitude for this immense blessing of faith, this blessing may be granted permanently; otherwise, remember! Nobody has a guarantee of who will depart from this world with faith at the time of death. The pious predecessors رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْهِم would spend their entire lives worrying about the safety of faith; they would wake up at night, weep, and beg for the safety of faith in the Merciful court of Allah Almighty.

Sayyiduna Muhammad bin Yusuf رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه narrates that once I saw the great Tabi'i saint, perfect Wali, and Mujtahid Mutlaq, Sayyiduna Sufyan Thawri رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه, weeping the entire night due to the fear of Allah, so I submitted, "You weep so much over sins!" He picked up a straw from the ground and said, "In the Sight of Allah Almighty, sins are even more insignificant than this straw; I am weeping over the fear that (Allah forbid) Allah Almighty might take back the wealth of faith from me." He رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه would always make this supplication: اَللّٰهُمَّ سَلِّمْ سَلِّمْ meaning, "O Allah Almighty! Grant safety, grant safety." It seemed as though he was aboard a ship and feared drowning.[3]

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[1] Al-Quran, Surah Ibrāhīm, verse 7; translation from Kanz al-ʿIrfān

[2] Hilyat-ul-Awliya, vol. 5, p. 374, Saying no. 7455

[3] Minhaj-ul-Abideen, p. 199

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May I Not Forget the Kalimah at the Time of Death! (Event)

The founder of Dawat-e-Islami, the religious movement of the devotees of the Holy Prophet, Ameer Ahl al-Sunnah, Hadrat Allamah Maulana Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَه, is a reminder of our predecessors and a reflection of the pious predecessors رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِم. Looking at his pure character, good manners, fear of Allah, and love for the Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم refreshes the memory of the pious predecessors. Under Dawat-e-Islami's department "Al-Madina-tul-Ilmiyah (Islamic Research Centre)", a magazine is published every month named *Mahnama Faizan-e-Madinah.* It has an annual subscription through which you can attain its blessings while sitting at home. For further information, please contact this phone number: +923131139278, and encourage your friends and relatives as well to subscribe to it and become deserving of reward.

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰه, on the title of *Mahnama Faizan-e-Madinah,* a Madani pearl from the blessed personality of Ameer Ahl al-Sunnah دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَه is included. In Jumada al-Ula 1440 AH, corresponding to December 2018, for an issue, the responsible person of *Mahnama Faizan-e-Madinah* and preacher of Dawat-e-Islami, Al-Hajj Abu Rajab Muhammad Asif Attari Madani رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْه requested Ameer Ahl al-Sunnah دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَه for his attention. Upon this, he دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَه also stated in a voice message filled with humility, fear of Allah, and concern for the Hereafter:

نَحْمَدُهٗ وَنُصَلِّيْ وَنُسَلِّمُ عَلٰى رَسُوْلِهِ النَّبِيِّ الْكَرِيْم

اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهٗ

Bakhsh be-poochay lajaaye ko lajaana kya hay

I had forgotten. Alas! Alas! May Allah Almighty have mercy upon my state. May I not forget the Kalimah at the time of death; rather, may I remember it. May I not fail to recognise the Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم in the grave; rather, may I recognise him and remember that he is my master صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم. On the Day of Judgement, lest I extend my left hand by mistake to receive my book of deeds; may Allah Almighty make it so that only my right hand extends. For the sake of the Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم, may grace be bestowed. As for the rest, the matter of

advancing age is right before you; continue making supplications for well-being, and continue making supplications for the safety of faith.[1]

O Devotees of the Holy Prophet! Among the great religious services of Ameer Ahl al-Sunnah دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَه, one service is also giving people the mindset to safeguard their faith. Through his Sunnah-inspired speeches, books and booklets, and Madani Muzakarahs filled with knowledge and wisdom, the concern for the safety of faith is attained, and the eyes of the Devotees of the Holy Prophet become tearful out of the fear of Allah, scenes of which can be witnessed on Madani Channel. Keeping this very Madani mindset in view, 18 years ago, he bestowed a book of approximately 708 pages titled *Kufriyah Kalimat kay Baray Mayn Sawal Jawab*, in which the concern for safeguarding faith, the causes of losing faith, and such sentences and words are included by uttering which a person exits the fold of Islam. Every Muslim must definitely read this book. For your ease, a QR code for this book is being presented; scan it to read it for free and also share it with others.

A Fortunate Muslim

Indeed, enviable is the Muslim who remains deeply concerned about safeguarding his faith and continues to supplicate to Allah Almighty for its protection. Whoever remains mindful of safeguarding his faith and fears losing it can hope for Allah Almighty's boundless mercy that he will be blessed with a righteous end (*Khatimah bil-Khayr*).

In order to attain the concern for safeguarding faith, travelling every month in the Qafilahs of Dawat-e-Islami for learning and teaching Sunnahs, attending the weekly Sunnah-inspired congregation held every Thursday in your area or city, and attending Madani Muzakarahs (or making a habit of watching and listening to

[1] Mahnama Faizan-e-Madinah, Dhul-Qa'dah al-Haram 1440 AH, July 2019, p. 53

them on Madani Channel if outside Karachi) is extremely beneficial. Through the blessed company of the devotees of the Beloved Prophet, one will gain religious knowledge, learn the Sunnahs and develop a passion for guarding one's tongue. This will further increase the value of faith in one's heart. One will also develop the mindset of making and encouraging others to make supplications for a blessed end (Khatimah bil-Khayr, i.e. a good death) and forgiveness without accountability. May Allah Almighty, through the blessings of the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم, grant us a blessed end to our lives (Khatimah bil-Khayr) and forgive us without accountability.

Ay kaash! Zayr-e-Gumbad-e-Khazra pay-e-Zia

Imaan par ho khatimah ya Rabb-e-Mustafa [1]

اٰمِیْن بِجَاہِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِیّٖن صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم

What is Necessary to Be a Muslim?

Remember! In order to be a Muslim, it is necessary to have faith, and faith means: to accept with a true heart all those matters which are from the essentials of religion (*Daruriyyat-e-Deen*). Denying any single essential of religion is called disbelief (*Kufr*), even if one accepts all the remaining essentials of religion.

Clarification: Essentials of religion are those rulings of Islam which are known by every elite and common person, such as the Oneness of Allah Almighty, the Prophethood of the Noble Prophets عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَام, prayer, fasting, Paradise, Hell, being resurrected on the Day of Judgement, and the taking of account, etc. For example, it is also essential to believe that the Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم is the *Khatam-un-Nabiyyin* (the Final Prophet), and that no new prophet can come after the Noble Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم. By the common people are meant those Muslims who are not counted among the scholars, yet sit in the company of scholars and have a fondness for scholarly matters. It does not refer to those people who live in far-off jungles and mountains who do not even know how to recite the *Kalimah* correctly.

[1] Wasail-e-Bakhshish, p. 133

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However, for such people to be Muslims, it is necessary that they do not deny the essential beliefs of Islam and hold the belief that whatever is in Islam is true, having believed in all of them in summary.[1]

Mujhay day day imaan par istiqamat

Pay-e-Sayyid-e-Muhtasham ya Ilahi [2]

صَلُّوْا عَلَى الْحَبِيْب صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلٰى مُحَمَّد

One Billion Rupees

Dear Islamic brothers! If someone has one hundred thousand rupees in cash, he leaves his home, shop, or office very carefully, hiding the money in different pockets or socks. If he has one million rupees in cash, his caution increases further. If he has ten million, a person hesitates to go out alone and instead takes someone else along with him; he also fears passing through a deserted area or going out at night. If someone has one hundred million rupees in cash and wants to take it somewhere, he might hire guards or call a bank to arrange a security van, fearing he might be robbed by a bandit or that his life savings might fall into the hands of a merciless robber. And if someone has one billion rupees in cash, there is no question of him leaving his house carelessly; rather, even while staying at home, he will remain fearful that a clue regarding such a huge amount might reach someone, and a gang of thieves and robbers might break into his house.

Alas! A hundred crore times alas! There is immense concern for the protection of worldly wealth and capital, yet when it comes to faith, which cannot even be compared to the largest amount of money in the world—because the wealth of faith is priceless—we do not see the kind of concern for its protection that there ought to be. May Allah forbid! If there is no concern for protecting one's faith, then at the time of death, while travelling from this world to the Hereafter, this wealth might fall into the hands of a robber like Satan, the Pious deeds of a lifetime might be

[1] Bahar-e-Shari'at, vol. 1, p. 172, part 1 (summarised)
[2] Wasa'il-e-Bakhshish, p. 110

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ruined, and one might suffer a bad end at the time of death! We ask Allah Almighty, through the mediation of His beloved, the Final Prophet, the Makki and Madani, Muhammad al-Arabi صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم, for the protection of our faith. May Allah grant that our faith is not separated from us even for a ten-millionth of a second. May Allah grant that, through His grace and generosity, we descend into our graves with our faith intact. O if only! A hundred crore times if only...! Undoubtedly, this can only happen through the grace and blessing of Allah Almighty; otherwise, how can ignorant people like us protect this priceless blessing on our own? The Companion of the Prophet صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم, Sayyiduna Abu Darda رَضِیَ اللّٰهُ عَنْهُ, said: "Whoever feels fearless about losing his faith [during his lifetime] is in danger of having his faith snatched away."[1]

In the blessed court of Prophethood, Imam-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه pleads with great humility and modesty:

Tu nay Islam diya tu nay jama'at mayn liya

Tu kareem ab koi phirta hay atiyyah tayra [2]

Meanings of Difficult Words: *Kareem*: One who bestows generosity; *Atiyyah*: Gift.

Explanation of Kalam-e-Raza: O Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم! It is a tremendous favour upon us that you blessed us with the gift of Islam and took us into your fold of generosity by making us Muslims. O beloved of the Generous Lord, the generous Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم! Since you have bestowed the gift of the priceless blessing of Islam and faith, grant us the further grace that this blessing never separates from us. Generous people do not take back a gift once given, and you are the master of the generous; therefore, keep us forever in your fold of generosity.

Pray for the Protection of Faith, Not Life (Event)

[1] Kitab al-Zuhd li Ibn al-Mubarak, p. 541, saying no. 1547

[2] Hada'iq-e-Bakhshish, p. 18

While bidding farewell to Sayyiduna Raja رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه, a person said, "O Abu Miqdam! May Allah Almighty protect you." He replied, "O nephew! Do not pray for the protection of life; rather, pray for the protection of faith."[1]

Imam-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, A'la Hazrat Imam Ahmad Raza Khan رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه makes such a lovely supplication in the Merciful court of Allah the Almighty:

Dunya mayn har aafat say bachana Mawla!

Uqba mayn na kuch ranj dikhana Mawla!

Baithoon jo dar-e-pak-e-Payambar kay huzoor

Imaan par us waqt uthana Mawla! [2]

Explanation of Kalam-e-Raza: O my Dear Allah! Protect me from every calamity and trouble in this world, keep me under the shade of Your mercy in the Hereafter through Your grace and generosity, and do not show me any grief or sorrow on the Day of Judgement. O Allah Almighty! When my time comes to depart from this world, bestow such grace that I am present at the sacred shrine of the Final Prophet, the Makki and Madani, Muhammad al-Arabi صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم, and depart from this world with faith and well-being. O if only this lovely supplication is accepted in my favour for the sake of A'la Hazrat رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه, and I am blessed with burial in Jannat al-Baqi with goodness.

اٰمِيْن بِجَاہِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِيّٖن صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم

Death Upon Faith

Allah Almighty states the importance of protecting faith in His beloved, sacred speech, the Noble Qur'an, in this manner:

[1] Hilyat al-Awliya, vol. 5, p. 196, saying no. 6809

[2] Hada'iq-e-Bakhshish, p. 445

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يٰۤاَيُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ اٰمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ حَقَّ تُقٰتِهٖ وَ لَا تَمُوْتُنَّ اِلَّا وَ اَنْتُمْ مُّسْلِمُوْنَ ﴿۱۰۲﴾

O you who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared and you must not die except as believers.[1]

It is stated in the Qur'anic commentary *Sirat al-Jinan*: Strive from your side to remain upon Islam in every moment of life so that when death comes to you, it comes in a state of Islam.[2]

A Matter of Severe Fear

The Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم, who informs of the unseen by the bestowal of Allah Almighty, stated: "The children of Adam were created in different categories (1) some were born believers, lived in a state of faith, and will die as believers; (2) some were born disbelievers, lived in a state of disbelief, and will die as disbelievers; (3) some were born believers, lived the life of a believer, and will die in a state of disbelief; and (4) some were born disbelievers, lived as disbelievers, and will die after becoming believers"[3].

One Year Before Death

It is narrated from the beloved mother of all Muslims, Sayyidah A'ishah Siddiqah رَضِیَ اللّٰهُ عَنْهَا, that when Allah Almighty intends goodness for someone, one year before their death appoints an angel before [their death] who keeps guiding them onto the right path. Then, when the death of this fortunate person approaches, their soul hastens to leave; at that time, they love meeting Allah Almighty, and Allah Almighty loves meeting them. And when Allah Almighty wills misfortune for someone, He appoints a devil over them one year before death, who keeps misleading them until they die in the worst state. Then, when death comes, their

[1] Al-Quran, Surah Āl-ʿImrān, verse 102; translation from Kanz al-ʿIrfān
[2] Tafsir Sirat al-Jinan, part 4, Aal-e-Imran, under verse 102, vol. 2, p. 20
[3] Tirmidhi, vol. 4, p. 81, hadith 2198

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soul begins to get stuck; at that time, this person does not love meeting Allah Almighty, and Allah Almighty does not love meeting them.[1]

Supplication of the Final Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم

We should all keep reciting this supplication of the Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم. The Beloved, Immaculate Prophet of Allah Almighty صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم used to make this supplication very frequently:

يَا مُقَلِّبَ الْقُلُوبِ ثَبِّتْ قَلْبِى عَلَى دِينِكَ

Translation: O Turner of hearts! Keep my heart steadfast upon Your religion.[2]

The Wealthiest Person

By Allah! The wealthiest person is a believer, whereas a person deprived of the wealth of faith, even if they are a billionaire or trillionaire, is the greatest poor and destitute person in the world. The wealth of faith will be useful in the grave and on the Day of Judgement, whereas worldly wealth can only be useful in this world. Someone's wealth, bank balance, properties, and large-scale business will be of no use after departing from this world.

Allah Almighty states in His true book, the Holy Quran:

يَوْمَ لَا يَنْفَعُ مَالٌ وَّ لَا بَنُوْنَ ﴿۸۸﴾ اِلَّا مَنْ اَتَى اللّٰهَ بِقَلْبٍ سَلِیْمٍ ﴿۸۹﴾

When we were equating you to the Lord of all the worlds. And only the wrongdoers misguided us. [3]

What is Meant by a Sound Heart?

[1] Musannaf Abd-ur-Razzaq, vol. 3, p. 392, Hadith: 6778
[2] Tirmidhi, vol. 5, p. 309, Hadith: 3533
[3] Part 19, Ash-Shu'ara: 88, 89

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Sayyiduna Allamah Mawlana Sayyid Muhammad Na'eem-ud-Deen Muradabadi رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه states while explaining the term *Qalb-e-Saleem* (i.e., a sound heart) mentioned in this blessed verse: "(A heart) that is pure from disbelief, polytheism, hypocrisy, etc. (i.e., corrupt beliefs)."[1]

Deeni hamiyyat tu mujhe Rabbe Kareem de

dar apna, sharam apni de, qalb-e-saleem de

The Hidden Decision of Allah Almighty

Dear Islamic brothers! Paradise is exclusively for believers, yet no one knows whether we will possess this blessing (i.e., faith) at the time of death or not. No one has a guarantee of dying upon faith. Those fortunate ones about whom there is an explicit mention (i.e., clear names) in the blessed Ahadith of being dwellers of Paradise are certainly dwellers of Paradise, but for sinners like us, it is a matter of fear at every moment. The saying of the Final Prophet صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم is:

اِنَّمَا الْاَعْمَالُ بِالْخَوَاتِيْم

That is, "Indeed, deeds depend on their endings"[2]

Great saints رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْهِم used to fear a bad death while showing humility and weeping in the court of Allah Almighty. Therefore, we too must constantly fear the Hidden plan (i.e., Hidden decision) of Allah Almighty. It is extremely necessary to avoid feeling proud over one's high rank, status, dignity, or physical strength, and considering oneself to be something special (saying, "Do you not know me! Who I am?" etc.). Who knows what decision is written about us in the Knowledge of Allah Almighty!

Therefore, in order to develop concern for protecting faith, make it your routine to participate in the Sunnah-inspiring Qafilahs of Dawat-e-Islami, the religious movement of the Devotees of the Holy Prophet. Furthermore, in the live Madani

[1] Tafseer Khaza'in-ul-Irfan, Part 19, Ash-Shu'ara, under verse: 89, p. 688, adapted

[2] Bukhari, vol. 4, p. 274, Hadith: 6607

Muzakarah held every Saturday night, Devotees of the Holy Prophet living in Karachi should attend by coming to the global Madani Markaz, Faizan-e-Madinah, and those living far away should participate via Madani Channel. اِنْ شَآءَاللّٰه, concern for protecting faith will be created, passion for performing Pious deeds will arise in the heart, and the mindset to avoid sins will be granted.

Dear Islamic brothers! In the light of the noble Quran, Hadith, and blessed sayings of the Pious predecessors رَحْمَةُاللّٰهِ عَلَيْهِم, a few ways to protect faith are presented. Act upon them so that the light of faith benefits us in the dark grave, and furthermore, this blessing and good fortune saves us from the torment of Hell and admits us into Paradise without accountability.

اٰمِیْن بِجَاہِ خَاتَمِ النَّبِیّٖن صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم

1. Salah with Congregation

The Companion of the Holy Prophet صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم, Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Mas'ood رَضِیَ اللّٰہُ عَنْہُ, states: "Whoever loves to meet Allah Almighty tomorrow on the Day of Judgement in the state of Islam should regularly offer these (five) prayers where the call to prayer (Adhan) is given. Indeed, Allah Almighty has prescribed the ways of guidance (*Sunan-ul-Huda*) for your Prophet صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم, and offering prayers with congregation in the masjid is also from the ways of guidance. If you begin praying in your homes just as this person who stays behind prays in his home, you will abandon the Sunnah of your Prophet صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم, and if you abandon the Sunnah of your Prophet صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم, you will go astray. And we observed that only those hypocrites who were known for their hypocrisy would stay behind from congregational Salah. A man would be brought to the row, supported by two others, and made to stand in it.[1]

[1] Muslim, p. 657, Hadith 1488

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Explanation of the Hadith: It is known that the one who is regular in attending the mosque and the congregation will be granted a good end upon faith and piety, اِنْ شَآءَاللّٰه. This Hadith is a great glad tiding for them. "This is the *'azimah* (i.e., acting upon the original command) of the Companions رَضِیَ اللّٰہُ عَنْہُم that those who did not have the strength to walk on their own would come to the mosque by placing their hands on the shoulders of two men in such a way that their feet would drag on the ground, as has been clearly stated in some Ahadith. In such a state, there is *rukhsah* (i.e., permission) to offer prayer at home. Why would this practice not exist among the Companions رَضِیَ اللّٰہُ عَنْہُم? They had seen their Beloved Prophet صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم coming to the mosque in this manner during his severe illness. Keep in mind that a lover loves every action of his beloved."[1]

Sayyiduna Mufti Ahmad Yar Khan رَحْمَۃُ اللّٰہِ عَلَیْہ states: "The passion to build a mosque, populate it, or offer prayer in congregation there is the sign of a true believer. اِنْ شَآءَاللّٰه, such people will have their end upon faith."[2]

Namazein parho gay sada ba-jama'at

To iman rahay ga tumhara salamat

صَلُّوْا عَلَی الْحَبِیْب　　صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلٰی مُحَمَّد

2. Trust in Allah Almighty

A shroud-thief repented at the hand of the Sufi saint, Sayyiduna Bayazid Bistami رَحْمَۃُ اللّٰہِ عَلَیْہ. He رَحْمَۃُ اللّٰہِ عَلَیْہ asked him about his experiences, so he submitted: "I dug up a thousand graves, and except for two people, the faces of all of them were turned away from the Qiblah." Hearing this, he رَحْمَۃُ اللّٰہِ عَلَیْہ said: "Suspicion regarding sustenance turned the faces of so many away from the Qiblah."[3]

[1] Mir'at-ul-Manajih, vol. 2, pp. 175–176, multaqatan

[2] Tafsir-e-Na'imi, Para 10, Al-Tawbah, under verse 17, vol. 10, p. 195

[3] Minhaj-ul-'Abidin, p. 106

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Sayyiduna ʻAllamah Mawlana Sayyid Muhammad Naʻim-ud-Din Muradabadi رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه states: "*Tawakkul* means to rely upon Allah Almighty and to entrust matters to Him. The purpose is that the servant's reliance in all matters should be upon Allah."[1]

Method of Developing *Tawakkul*

Tawakkul is attained in this way: having complete trust in the promise made by Allah Almighty and having complete certainty that whatever decision has been made by Allah Almighty will definitely happen. Yes, to the extent of need, one should not abandon following the Sunnah in searching for sustenance, preparing weapons for protection against the enemy, and locking doors to protect wealth and belongings. Similarly, one should adopt other methods of protection and all precautionary measures, yet it is necessary not to rely solely upon these means; rather, one must hold the belief that these means cannot bring any benefit on their own nor remove any kind of harm. Instead, the cause and the Causer of causes are from Allah Almighty, and all matters depend upon His will (i.e., whatever He wills, happens).[2]

A friend of Imam Ghazali رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْه narrated that he saw a pious person in a dream, so while asking about his state, he said: "Did your faith remain safe?" He replied: "Only the faith of those who have *tawakkul* remains safe."[3]

3. Using the Blessed Miswak

Using the blessed miswak is a beloved Sunnah of our Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم. Upon entering the home, he صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم would first use the blessed miswak.[4] And at the time of departing from this world apparently, he صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم also used the blessed miswak.[5] It is stated in a blessed Hadith: "Make the use of the miswak

[1] Tafsir Khaza'in-ul-'Irfan, Para 4, Al 'Imran, under verse 159, p. 141
[2] Fath-ul-Bari, vol. 12, p. 350, under Hadith 6541, mulakhkhasan
[3] Minhaj-ul-'Abidin, p. 106
[4] Muslim, p. 124, Hadith 591
[5] Bukhari, vol. 3, p. 157, Hadith 4449

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necessary upon yourselves, for in it is cleanliness of the mouth and it is a cause for the pleasure of the Lord Almighty."[1]

The pious predecessors رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِم state: "The one who is habitual of using the miswak will be blessed with reciting the Kalimah at the time of death".[2] And the one whose last words (i.e., the final speech at the time of passing away) are the blessed Kalimah will enter Paradise, as is the blessed saying of the Final Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَاٰلِهٖ وَسَلَّم: "The one whose last words are لَآ اِلٰهَ اِلَّا اللهُ will enter Paradise."[3]

Abul Fath Shihab-ud-Din Muhammad bin Ahmad bin Mansur Ibshihi Mahalli Shafi'i رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْه writes: "Regarding the excellence of the miswak, it is narrated that through its blessing, the *Kalimah Shahadah* is remembered at the time of death, and it becomes easy for the soul to depart."[4]

Yeh aksar sath un kay shanah o miswak ka rehna

Batata hay keh dil-reeshon pay za'id mehrbani hay [5]

Meanings of Difficult Words: *Shanah*: comb. *Dil-reeshon*: people with wounded hearts.

For detailed information regarding the miswak, download the booklet *Miswak Sharif kay Faza'il* by Ameer Ahl al-Sunnah, Mawlana Muhammad Ilyas 'Attar Qadiri دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَه free of charge from the website of Dawat-e-Islami (www.dawateislami.net) and share it with others with the good intention of spreading the call to righteousness.

4. Keep Making Supplication!

It is written in the commentary of the Qur'an, *Sirat-ul-Jinan*: "Receiving guidance is a very great thing, yet its benefit is only when it remains as well. If someone

[1] Musnad Imam Ahmad, vol. 2, p. 438, Hadith 5869
[2] Bahar-e-Shari'at, vol. 1, part 2, p. 288
[3] Abu Dawud, vol. 3, p. 255, Hadith 3116
[4] Al-Mustatraf, vol. 1, p. 16
[5] Hada'iq-e-Bakhshish, p. 191

remains upon guidance their entire life, yet at the time of death guidance slips away, then such guidance has no benefit. For this reason, even the greatest believer should continue to fear regarding their end and should not become fearless of a bad end, i.e., a bad death, even for a moment. Reciting this blessed verse abundantly, i.e., continuing to make this supplication, is also beneficial for a good end:"

رَبَّنَا لَا تُزِغْ قُلُوْبَنَا بَعْدَ اِذْ هَدَيْتَنَا وَ هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ لَّدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً ۚ اِنَّكَ اَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ ۝

"O our Lord! Do not cause our hearts to deviate after guiding us, and endow us with mercy from Your Court, indeed, You are the Great-Endower. [1]

Jamil-e-Qadiri Razawi ka khatimah bil-khayr

Tufayl-e-Hazrat-e-Khayr-ul-Anam ho ja'ay [2]

صَلُّوْا عَلَى الْحَبِيْب صَلَّى اللهُ عَلٰى مُحَمَّد

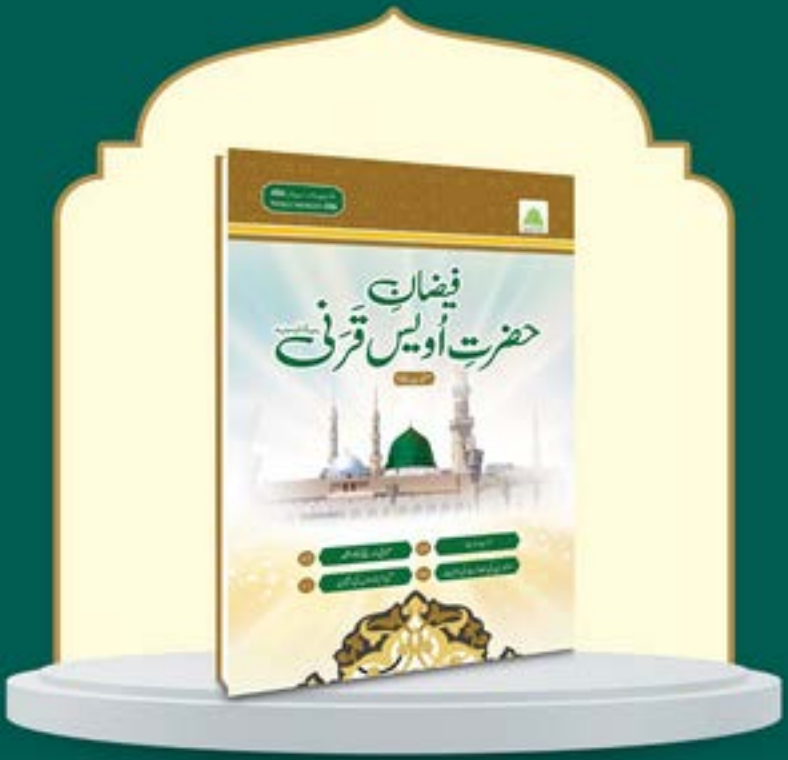
The second part of this booklet will arrive soon, اِنْ شَآءَ اللّٰه الْكَرِيْم.

[1] Tafsir Sirat-ul-Jinan, Para 3, Al 'Imran, under verse 8, vol. 1, p. 440

[2] Qabalah-e-Bakhshish, p. 273

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