

Thought-provoking speech of weekly
Sunnah-Inspiring Ijtima

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Blessings of Mak'ah and Madinah

(ENGLISH)

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ
أَمَّا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Blessings of Makkah and Madinah

أَلصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَعَلَى إِلِكِ وَأَصْحَابِكَ يَا حَبِيبَ اللَّهِ
أَلصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا نَبِيَّ اللَّهِ وَعَلَى إِلِكِ وَأَصْحَابِكَ يَا نُورَ اللَّهِ

نَوَيْتُ سُنَّتَ الْإِعْتِكَافِ

Translation: I have made the intention of Sunnah I'tikaf.

Whenever you enter a Masjid, upon remembering, make the intention of Nafil I'tikaf because as long as you stay in the Masjid you will keep obtaining the reward of Nafil (supererogatory) I'tikaf, and eating and drinking will also become permissible for you in the Masjid.

Excellence of Salat-‘Alan-Nabi ﷺ

The Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, ‘When the day of Thursday arrives, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ sends angels who have papers made of silver and pens made of gold. They write down the names of those who recite Salat on me in abundance on the day of Thursday and the night of Friday (i.e. the night between Thursday and Friday).’ (Kanz-ul-‘Ummal, vol. 1, pp. 250, Hadees 2174)

پڑھتا رہوں کثرت سے دُرُود اُن پہ سدا مَیں
اور ذِکر کا بھی شوق پئے غوث و رضا دے

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Before listening to the Bayan, let's make good intentions for attaining rewards. The Beloved Rasool ﷺ has said, *نِيَّةُ الْمُؤْمِنِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ عَمَلِهِ* 'The intention of a believer is better than his action.'

(Al-Mu'jam-ul-Kabeer, vol. 6, pp. 185, Hadees 5942)

Two Madani pearls

- Without a good intention, no reward is granted for a good deed.
- The more righteous intentions one makes the greater reward he will attain.

Intentions of listening to the Bayan

1. Lowering my eyes, I will listen to the Bayan attentively.
2. Instead of resting against a wall etc., I will sit as I sit in Tashahhud as long as possible with the intention of showing respect for religious knowledge.
3. I will make room for others by folding my hands and limbs and by moving slightly.
4. If someone pushes me, I will remain patient and calm and avoid staring, snapping, and arguing with them.
5. When I hear *تَوْبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ، اذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ، صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ*, etc., I will reply loudly with the intention of gaining reward and encouraging others to also recite.
6. After the Bayan, I will approach other people by making Salam, shaking hands, and for making individual efforts upon them.

صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Hajj-performing person away from home

On page 384 of the book ‘Uyoon-ul-Hikayaat’ part 1 [a book published by Maktaba-tul-Madinah, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami], it is stated: The Qutb (highest-ranking mystic) of the time, Sayyiduna Abu Ishaq Ibraheem Khawwas رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ was a renowned saint of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. While talking to someone, he has stated: For nearly 17 years I roamed the jungles and deserts and continued worshipping Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ at different places. During these 17 years, the most amazing incident which I experienced was that once I saw a handicapped man in a jungle, both his hands and legs were amputated and he was walking by dragging himself. Besides this, he was also suffering from many other difficulties. I was greatly surprised to see him and I began to feel pity for him. I went near him and made Salam. He answered me, mentioning my name. Astonished, I asked him, ‘It is my first meeting with you, how did you know my name?’ He replied, ‘The Supreme Being Who has brought you to me, He عَزَّوَجَلَّ has revealed your recognition to me.’ I said, ‘You are right; undoubtedly, my Rab عَزَّوَجَلَّ is All-Powerful over everything.’ Thereafter I asked him, ‘Where have you come from and where do you intend to go?’ He said, ‘I have come from the city Bukhara and am going towards the Haramayn Tayyibayn.’

I was surprised to learn that how this handicapped person managed to reach here from Bukhara and now he intends to go to Makkah Mukarramah, that is very far away from here, how would he manage to reach there alone? Lost in these thoughts, I looked at him in amazement.

Fixing his captivating gaze upon me, he said, ‘O Ibraheem! You wonder at this that how the Rab عَزَّوَجَلَّ has brought a handicapped and weak person like me to this place!?’ Saying that he burst into tears. I said to him, ‘Do not worry at all, everyone is under the Divine mercy, He عَزَّوَجَلَّ does not disappoint anybody.’ Then, leaving him there, I went ahead; I had intended to perform Hajj this same year. I reached Makkah and made my way to the Holy Ka’bah to make Tawaf. To my astonishment, I saw that the same handicapped person had already reached the Holy Ka’bah and was busy performing Tawaf by dragging his body.

(‘Uyoon-ul-Hikayaat, part 1, pp. 384, slightly modified)

يا خدا ایسے اسباب پاؤں
کاش مکے مدینے میں جاؤں
مجھ کو ارمان حج کا بڑا ہے
یا خدا تجھ سے میری دعا ہے

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Have you heard the heart-touching reality of those whose hearts are overflowing with devotion to the blessed cities of Makkah and Madinah, and due to their deep longing to visit Haramayn Sharifayn, for them there is no huge troubles and distress that can prevent them from their noble cause of going to Haramayn Sharifayn.

You must have observed that a handicapped believer who loves Allah ﷺ, despite being physically challenged and suffering from many other troubles, did not despair from the mercy of Allah ﷻ; because those who place their complete trust in Allah ﷻ, they never go without support, on the contrary, they are always surrounded by Divine mercy. As this handicapped devotee of Allah ﷻ had such a deep yearning to visit Haramayn Sharifayn, and for this he dragged his body in that direction, but notice his pace that when Sayyiduna Ibraheem Khawwas رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ reached the Holy Ka'bah, this handicapped believer had already reached there and was busy performing Tawaf.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Whether it is the most sacred Makkah Mukarramah or the most revered and blessed Madinah, both are the holiest sites on the earth. One can guess the eminence and uniqueness of these great sites through this fact that the apparent and unapparent virtues that Allah ﷻ has granted these holiest cities are only specialities of these blessed cities and are not bestowed upon any other city of the world and why, because the blessed 'Sacred Baytullah' which is the supreme place of worship of Muslims

exists in blessed Makkah, and the Blessed Madinah Munawwarah is the city of the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ! These are the sacred sites whose admiration and virtues are even mentioned in the Glorious Quran:

إِنَّ أَوَّلَ بَيْتٍ وُضِعَ لِلنَّاسِ لَلَّذِي بِبَكَّةَ مُبْرَكًا وَهُدًى لِلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٩٦﴾

Translation from Kanz-ul-Iman: Indeed the first house that was appointed as a place of worship for mankind, is the one at Makkah (the Holy Ka'bah), blessed and a guidance to the whole world. (Part 4, Surah Aal-e-'Imran, Ayah 96)

Commenting on the above-mentioned blessed verse, Sadr-ul-Afaadil, 'Allamah Maulana Sayyid Mufti Muhammad Na'eemuddin Muradabadi رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ has stated: Indeed, the first House [of worship] that Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ established for worship and obedience, made it the Qiblah for offering Salah, Hajj and Tawaf, as well as the prayers offered in this place bring multiple rewards, it is the sacred site of the Ka'bah which is situated in the holiest city of Makkah Mu'azzamah. Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ has stated in the Glorious Quran:

لَا أُقْسِمُ بِهَذَا الْبَلَدِ ﴿١﴾ وَأَنْتَ حِلٌّ بِهَذَا الْبَلَدِ ﴿٢﴾ وَوَالِدٍ وَمَا وَكَلْتُ ﴿٣﴾

Translation from Kanz-ul-Iman: I swear by this city (Makkah) – For you are in this city. And by oath of your forefather Ibraheem, and by you – his illustrious son! (Part 30, Surah Al-Balad, Ayah 1-3)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

سَمِعْتُمْ! Have you heard how great is the eminence and superiority of the blessed city of Makkah Mukarramah that even Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ himself takes an oath by this city as is mentioned in the Glorious Quran; therefore, we

should develop the deep yearning for visiting the most sacred sites rather than dreaming of London and Paris and make up your mind to visit blessed Makkah and Madinah and collect countless blessings, infinite mercies and loads of bounties showering upon these sacred sites.

وہ مکہ بھی میٹھا تو پیارا مدینہ

وہاں پیارا کعبہ یہاں سبز گنبد

نصیب آپ زم زم مجھے ہو گا بینا

میں مکے میں جا کر کروں گا طواف اور

صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

!الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ An abundance of virtues have been mentioned in blessed Ahadees in reference to these holiest cities. Now let me tell you about the two blessed sayings of the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ to create a yearning in you to visit blessed Makkah and Madinah.

1. There is no city except Makkah and Madinah, that Dajjaal will not pass through trampling shortly; whereas, angels will stand in a row and guard every entry point of these two cities; therefore, he will set his camp on marshy land, thereafter, the city of Madinah will be shaken by three tremors after which Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ will exclude (drive out) everyone from there who were fallen into disbelief and hypocrisy. (*Sahih Bukhari, vol. 1, pp. 619, Hadees 1881*)
2. Whoever goes out intending to perform Hajj and passes away, the reward of Hajj will be written for him until the Day of Judgement and whoever goes out intending to perform Umrah and passes away, the reward of Umrah will be written for him until the Day of Judgement and whoever goes out intending to fight in the path of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ and passes away, the reward of fighting in the path of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ will be written for him until the Day of Judgement.

(*Attargheeb Wattarheeb, vol. 2, pp. 79, Hadees 1718*)

اے کاش! مدینے میں مجھے موت یوں آئے
چوکھٹ پہ تری سر ہو مری روح چلی ہو

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Have you noticed the distinctive excellence and virtues of the holiest cities of Makkah and Madinah that even the Dajjaal, who will trample over the entire earth (all cities) but he will dare not step into the blessed cities of Makkah and Madinah.

A legendary and leading scholar of Shari'ah and Tareeqah, 'Allamah Maulana Mufti Muhammad Amjad 'Ali A'zami رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has mentioned this about Dajjaal: In 40 days , he will travel the whole earth, except Haramayn Tayyibayn. He will move as fast as the wind moves the clouds. His mischief will be very severe. A garden and a fire will be with him, namely Paradise and Hell. Wherever he will go, they will accompany him. The garden that will look like Paradise will be a fire in reality, and the one that will look like Hell, will be a comfortable place. He will claim to be god; he will put the person who believes in him into his Paradise and the one who denies him, he will put him in his hell. He will raise the dead, order the earth and the earth will produce greenery, he will order the sky and the rain will fall. He will do many illusions and magical tricks (in which the audience are made to see something other than what is real or actual), but in actual fact, all of this will only be illusion and magic and a display of Satans, therefore, as soon as people leave his place, they will have nothing with them. When he tries to enter Haramayn Sharifayn, the angels will turn his face. Three earthquakes will occur in Madinah Tayyibah and those people who were apparently Muslims, but in their hearts they will be unbelievers and those who will become unbelievers after believing in Dajjaal regarding Divine knowledge, will flee out of the city due to the fear of these earthquakes and will suffer from his conflict. (*Bahar-e-Shari'at, part 1, vol. 1, pp. 120-121*)

May Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ protect all of us from the mischief of Dajjaal.

Dear Islamic brothers! In the light of the blessed Hadees, it has also been learnt that if someone passes away during the journey for Hajj or 'Umrah, through the mercy of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ that fortunate person will be granted the reward of Hajj or 'Umrah until the Day of Judgement. Therefore, we should develop the desire and also make du'aa to pass away in Makkah and Madinah. The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ himself has encouraged us to die in Madinah, the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has even granted us the glad tidings of his intercession:

The Greatest Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: 'مَنْ اسْتَطَاعَ أَنْ يَمُوتَ بِالْمَدِينَةِ فَلَيْتَ بِهَا'

Whosoever can manage to die in Madinah, then let him die there, 'فَأِنِّي أَشْفَعُ لِمَنْ'

'يَمُوتُ بِهَا' because, I will intercede for the one who dies there.

(Sunan-ut-Tirmizi, vol. 5, pp. 483, Hadees 3943)

Commenting on the above-mentioned blessed Hadees, a renowned commentator, a great thinker of the Ummah, Mufti Ahmad Yar Khan Na'eemi رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has stated: The glad tidings and guidance mentioned in the blessed Hadees refers to all Muslims, not only for the Muhajireen alone. It means those Muslims who have made an intention to die in Madinah, should also yearn to pass away there, they should stay there especially in their old age and should not leave Madinah unnecessarily so that they may receive the grand privilege of passing away in Madinah and to be buried in Madinah.

He رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has further stated: I have witnessed some people living in Madinah Munawwarah for 30 and 40 years; they do not even leave the boundaries of Madinah, out of fear that they might die out of Madinah, as Sayyiduna Imam Maalik رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ also followed the same blessed practice.

He رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has also stated, 'The intercession mentioned in the blessed Hadees refers to the special intercession; intercession of having all the sins of the sinners forgiven and the intercession of further elevating the ranks of the pious people; otherwise, in general, the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ will intercede on behalf of his entire Ummah. Take into account the fact that attaining the privilege of staying in Madinah is more virtuous, dying in

Madinah is also a superior act and being buried in Madinah is also an excellent act.'

(Mirat-ul-Manajih, vol. 4, pp. 222)

طیبہ میں مرکے ٹھنڈے چلے جاؤ آنکھیں بند
سیدھی سڑک یہ شہرِ شَفَاعَتِ نگر کی ہے

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! The most sacred city of Nur (light), Madina-tul-Munawwarah has great qualities and every believer has deep love and respect for it and yearns for the opportunity to visit it; when the true lovers of the beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ just listen to the blessed word 'Madinah', they are undoubtedly moved to tears. Thousands of lovers must have this heartfelt desire to die in Madinah which is the resting place of the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and why will one not have this deep desire, as the virtue and motivation to pass away in Madinah have been mentioned in the blessed Hadees, Sayyiduna 'Umar Farooq رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has also promoted this teaching through his practice, that lovers of the beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ should have the deep yearning and make du'aa for the great blessing of passing away in Madinah.

Sayyiduna 'Umar Farooq-e-A'zam رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ especially had a profound devotion to the blessed city of Madina-tul-Munawwarah as it can be understood from his blessed Du'a which he رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ used to make before his demise; he رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ used to ask Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ:

اللَّهُمَّ ارْزُقْنِي شَهَادَةً فِي سَبِيلِكَ وَاجْعَلْ مَوْتِي فِي بَدَنِ رَسُولِكَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

i.e., O Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ grant me martyrdom in Your cause and let my death be in the blessed city of Your Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

(Sahih Bukhari, vol. 1, pp. 622, Hadees 1890)

This blessed supplication was fulfilled and Sayyiduna ‘Umar Farooq-e-A’zam رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ embraced martyrdom in Madinah Munawwarah.

Commenting on this enviable martyrdom of Sayyiduna ‘Umar Farooq-e-A’zam رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ, a renowned commentator, a great thinker of the Ummah, Mufti Ahmad Yar Khan Na’eemi رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has stated that the supplication of Sayyiduna ‘Umar Farooq-e-A’zam رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ was fulfilled in such a unique way that شَيْخِنَ اللهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ, he رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ offered his Fajr Salah in Masjid-un-Nabawi, by the Mihrab-un-Nabi and on the blessed praying mat of the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

اے کاش مدینے میں مجھے موت یوں آئے
چوکھٹ پہ تری سر ہو مری رُوح چلی ہو

Dear Islamic brothers! The life of our pious saints رَحِمَهُمُ اللهُ تَعَالَى is certainly worthy to be followed. These great people had true love and devotion to the sacred land of Makkah and Madinah. Their love and devotion can be judged by the fact that some pious saints, despite being residents of other countries or cities, would spend most of their lives in Makkah Mukarramah in order to attain the blessings of this city and would also have the privilege to perform Hajj of sacred Baytullah with steadfastness every year.

Take me to blessed Haram

It is stated on page 198 of a 568-page book namely, ‘Malfuzaat A’la Hadrat’, published by Maktaba-tul-Madinah, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami, that (Qutb-e-Makkah Mukarramah) Maulana ‘Abdul Haq Ilaahabaadi رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ was an inhabitant of India and was a great Islamic scholar. He lived in sacred Makkah for more than 40 years. He رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ would perform Hajj every year. Once during the days of Hajj, he fell severely ill and was confined to his bed. On the 9th of Zul-Hijja-til-Haraam, he رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ said to his pupils: Take me to blessed Haram! Many people took him to Ka’batullaah and made him sit in front of the blessed Ka’bah. He رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ drank the blessed Zam Zam water and made Du’a: O Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ! Do not deprive me of Hajj. In that

time, Allah ﷺ blessed him with so much of energy, that he رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ stood up and went to blessed Arafat on his own and performed Hajj. (Malfuzaat A'la Hadrat, pp. 198)

دِکھا ہر برس تو حرم کی بہاریں تو مگہ مدینہ دکھا یا الہی
شرف ہر برس حج کا پاؤں خدایا چلے طیبہ پھر قافلہ یا الہی

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ! Qutb-e-Makkah Mukarramah Maulana 'Abdul Haq Ilaahabaadi Muhaajir Makki رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ was a great saint of Allah ﷺ. Despite being extremely ill and confined to bed, unable to walk and extremely weak, his eagerness about the privilege to perform Hajj was at its height as his passion and enthusiasm was stronger than a mountain. It means he would only say,

ہر سال یا الہی مجھے حج نصیب ہو
جب تک جیوں میں عالمِ ناپائیدار میں

Upon reaching Haram-e-Ka'bah, he drank the blessed Zam Zam water and expressed his desire in the court of Allah ﷺ, now what else was left, the door of mercy opened and he did not have to wait anymore! By the mercy of Allah ﷺ, he was blessed with such a power of energy that he went to 'Arafat himself, on foot, and succeeded in the privilege of performing Hajj.

تُو نے مجھ کو حج پہ بُلایا یا اللہ مری جھولی بھر دے
گردِ کعبہ خوب پھرایا یا اللہ مری جھولی بھر دے
میدانِ عرفات دکھایا یا اللہ مری جھولی بھر دے
بخش دے ہر حاجی کو خدایا یا اللہ مری جھولی بھر دے

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! From this parable it has also been learnt that the sacred Zam Zam water is so blessed that if it is drunk before making a Du'a, the Du'a will be answered. In addition to the answering of a Du'a, as mentioned in a blessed Hadees, many other benefits of the blessed Zam Zam water have also been mentioned.

The Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: Zam Zam water is for every purpose for which it is drunk. If you drink it for a cure, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ will grant you cure; if you drink it for seeking refuge, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ will grant you refuge; if you drink it to quench your thirst, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ will quench your thirst. (The narrator of this blessed Hadees has narrated), when Sayyiduna Ibn 'Abbas رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا would drink Zam Zam water, he would make this Du'a:

اللَّهُمَّ أَسْأَلُكَ عِلْمًا نَافِعًا وَرِزْقًا وَاسِعًا وَشِفَاءً مِنْ كُلِّ دَاءٍ

Translation: O Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ! I ask You for beneficial knowledge, plentiful sustenance, and cure from every illness. (Al-Mustadrak, pp. 132, vol. 2, Hadees 1782)

یہ زم زم اُس لئے ہے جس لئے اس کو پئے کوئی

اسی زم زم میں جنت ہے اسی زم زم میں کوثر ہے

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! The land of beloved Makkah has attained the great honour of possessing the holy Baytullah on its sacred land. If the city of Makkah had only this honour, even then too it would be sufficient for its greatness and dignity, but may I be scarified, this luminous city has so many virtues and characteristics that I would like to continue mentioning and listening to them. At many places it has sacred and memorable Masaajid, wells, caves, constructions and shrines etc. which have a relation with the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and his blessed Companions رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمْ.

Let us further increase the dignity of this pure city in our hearts by listening to a few characteristics of blessed Makkah for attaining blessings and mercy. Discussing the unique characteristics of blessed Makkah in his book entitled 'Aashiqaan-e-Rasool ki 130 Hikaayaat' [130 Parables of lovers of the beloved Rasool], Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat **داعية بركة كائهم العالیه** has said:

- The Beloved Rasool **صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** was born in Makkah Mukarramah.
- The Beloved Rasool **صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** began his preaching of Islam from Makkah Mukarramah.
- The Holy Ka'bah is located here; Tawaaf of the Sacred Ka'bah is performed here and Muslims all over the world face this direction in Salah.
- Masjid-ul-Haram is situated here in which the reward of one Salah is equal to one hundred thousand Salahs.
- The well of Zam Zam water is located here.
- Hajar-e-Aswad is present here.
- Maqaam-e-Ibraheem is located here.
- Safa-o-Marwah is located here.
- Those who arrive from outside the Meeqat cannot enter Makkah without wearing the Ihram.
- Muslims from all over the world visit Makkah so that they could have the privilege of performing Hajj.
- The person who enters this sacred city will be secure.
- The person who endures the hot weather (for some time during the day) will be freed from the hellfire.
- The Cave Hira lies here in which the Holy Rasool **صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** received the first revelation.
- All seasonal fruits are available here.

- The miracle of Mi'raaj-un-Nabi was revealed in this city.
- The miracle of the splitting of the moon into two pieces also took place in this city.
- The first mountain of the world lies here.
- The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ spent 53 years of his blessed [apparent] life here.
- Sayyiduna Imam Mahdi will arrive in blessed Makkah.

(‘Aashiqan-e-Rasool ki 130 Hikayaat, pp.200)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Dear Islamic brothers! We have just had the privilege to hear about the blessings of this city [Makkah] and some parables of love that the honourable saints' had for this blessed city and many other Madani pearls. Let us now listen to something about the sacred city of Madinah Munawwarah. In his Na'tiyah Deewan 'Zauq-e-Na'at' the brother of A'la Hadrat, 'Allaamah Maulana Hasan Raza Khan رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has stated:

حسن حج کر لیا کعبہ سے آنکھوں نے ضیا پائی
چلو دیکھیں وہ بستی جس کا رستہ دل کے اندر ہے

Indeed, it is that Madinah whose remembrance gives pleasure and comfort to the hearts of the lovers of the beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, due to which the lovers of the beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ are very eager to have its blessed sight. When the lovers see the beautiful city of Madinah Munawwarah or the brilliant scene of the Gumbad-e-Khazra (grand green emerald dome) in images etc. or when they hear from someone else about them, the state of their hearts change. They start weeping and become restless to visit Madinah due to its love. At that time, the supplication of their hearts is like this:

نبی رَحْمَتِ شَفِيعِ اُمَّتِ	مجھے مدینے کی دو اجازت
نبی رَحْمَتِ شَفِيعِ اُمَّتِ	پلاؤ بُلُو کے جامِ الفت
سدا حُضُورِی کی پاؤں لَدَّتْ	اگر نہیں میری ایسی قسمت
نبی رَحْمَتِ شَفِيعِ اُمَّتِ	رُلائے مجھ کو تمہاری فُرُقْتِ
تپاں جگر چاک چاک سینہ	عطا ہو مجھ کو غمِ مدینہ
نبی رَحْمَتِ شَفِيعِ اُمَّتِ	بڑھے محبت کی خوب شِدَّتِ
ہمارے غوثِ جلی کا صدقہ	حُسنِ ابنِ علی کا صدقہ
نبی رَحْمَتِ شَفِيعِ اُمَّتِ	عطا مدینے میں ہو شہادت
تجھے تری ہر گلی کا صدقہ	ہر اک نبی ہر ولی کا صدقہ
نبی رَحْمَتِ شَفِيعِ اُمَّتِ	دے طیبہ میں مرنے کی سعادت

صَلُّوا عَلَي الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَي مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! What can we say about the greatness and the honour of sacred Madinah, that neither Dajjaal nor any fatal disease like plague can enter this blessed city because the innocent angels of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ are placed on the roads of blessed Madinah by the order of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, and they will definitely not let any plague nor Dajjaal enter this beautiful and radiant city of Madinah. The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: There are angels (guards) along the paths of Madinah, therefore, plague and Dajjaal will not enter it.

(Sahih Bukhari, vol. 1, pp. 619, Hadees 1880)

Plagues are fatal diseases, some also cause lumps to grow under one's armpits and in the joints of thighs. Severe pain and a lot of inflammation is felt due to these lumps. A high fever and reddening of the eyes also takes place. Due to acute pain and excessive restlessness, the patient dies soon in a

very painful way. Due to a plague epidemic, high death rates takes place in the affected areas. This disease first spreads among mice and then it is transmitted into humans from them.

Dear Islamic brothers! The greatness and significance of sacred Madinah can be judged by the fact that the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, whom we love dearly, himself loves Madinah very much. Therefore, it is the demand of love for the Noblest Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ that not only should we develop love for sweet Madinah, but we should also have love for its narrow streets and markets, gardens and mountains, flowers and thorns, in fact, everything of it in our hearts. We should have a deep longing for it. Not only should we wish to pay a respectful visit to it, but we should also make Du'as for it to Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ.

غریب جائے کہاں یا رب تڑپتی رُوح کو لے کر
تجھے محبوب کا صدقہ تُو پہنچا دے مدینے میں

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Remember! One of the signs of love is that one should respect and love the things which his beloved loves. To what extent the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ loved the land of Madinah can be judged by this fact:

Whenever he صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would travel outside Madinah, upon his return to Madinah, as he صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would see blessed Madinah, he صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would try to reach there as soon as possible. It is stated in a blessed Hadees:

When the Rasool of Rahmah صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ returned from a journey and would see the walls of blessed Madinah, then due to the love for Madinah, he صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would quicken his transport (ride) and if he صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was on a horse, he صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would spur the horse forward.

(Sahih Bukhari, vol. 1, pp. 620, Hadees 1886)

Regarding this blessed Hadees, a renowned commentator, a great thinker of the Ummah, Mufti Ahmad Yar Khan رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has said: The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ loved Holy Madinah so much that upon his return from every journey, he صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ usually would ride his animal at a slow pace, but as soon as he صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would see Holy Madinah, he صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would quicken his ride to reach there as soon as possible. It is the impact of this love that Muslims are devoted to Madinah from the bottom of their hearts because it is the beloved of the Beloved صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. (*Mirat-ul-Manajih, vol. 4, pp. 219*)

مدینہ اس لیے عطر جان و دل سے بے پیارا
کہ ربتے ہیں میرے آقا مرے سرور مدینے میں

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Madani Qafilah - One of the 12 Madani activities

Dear Islamic brothers! Associate yourselves with the Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami, a global non-political movement of preaching the Holy Quran and Sunnah, and actively take part in the 12 Madani activities of the Zayli Halqah in order to accumulate the blessings of Makkah and Madinah. One of the 12 Madani activities of the Zayli Halqah is 'Madani Qafilah'. The Madani Qafilahs of Dawat-e-Islami usually stay in Masaajid and for those fortunate people who stay in Masaajid with the intention of worship, three things have been stated in a blessed Hadees: (1) Benefit is obtained from him (2) or he talks that which is full of wisdom (3) he looks forward to mercy.

(*Attargheeb Wattarheeb, vol. 1, pp. 169, Hadees 503*)

Let's listen to a Madani parable of a Madani Qafilah for our persuasion:

Drinker got reformed

Here is a summary of a delightful parable related by an Islamic brother from Maharashtra, India. He has stated: Before I associated myself with Dawat-e-

Islami, I was a great sinner. I would work the whole day but would waste my hard-earned money in drinking. I would enjoy different evils, call people bad names, and even upset my parents and neighbours. I was also a compulsive gambler and would not offer any Salah. I was heedlessly wasting the precious moments of my life.

Luckily, I once happened to meet a responsible Islamic brother of Dawat-e-Islami. By making individual efforts upon me, he invited me to travel with a Sunnah-Inspiring Madani Qafilah. His sweet and sincere words touched my heart, and I accepted his invitation. I immediately travelled with a 3-day Sunnah-Inspiring Madani Qafilah. In the company of the lovers of the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, I listened to speeches from the booklets published by Maktaba-tul-Madinah, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami. Through the blessings of the Madani Qafilah, a compulsive gambler and drinker like me who did not use to offer any Salah, not only started offering Salah but was also inspired to do Sada-e-Madinah (i.e. to awaken Muslims for Salat-ul-Fajr). I also have the privilege of inviting others to travel with Madani Qafilahs.

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ! As a result of my individual efforts, 30 Islamic brothers have so far travelled with Madani Qafilahs. I am now a Muazzin in a Masjid and am busy making efforts for Madani activities.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Talking about the greatness and blessings of Holy Madinah, once the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said: I have been commanded to migrate to such an area which will consume (i.e. overpower) all other areas; people call it 'يَثْرِبُ' [Yasrib], though it is Madinah. (This area) will purify and cleanse people just as a furnace cleans the dirt of iron. (*Mishkat-ul-Masabih*, vol. 2, pp. 509, Hadees 2737)

Regarding this blessed Hadees, a renowned commentator, a great thinker of the Ummah, Mufti Ahmad Yar Khan رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has said: Consuming means

that the people of this place will conquer all the countries and their possession and treasure will be brought to Madinah. This has happened; the treasure of Syria, Faaras and Rome were brought here.

(He رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has further said): There are more than 100 names of Madinah Munawwarah: Taybah, 'طَابَه' [Taabah], 'بَطْحَه' [Batuhaa], Madinah, Abtah, etc. and it was called 'Yasrib' before the 'Migration'. The name of the first man of the tribe 'Amaliqah who came here was Yasrib.

Sayyiduna Imam Ahmad Bin Hambal رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ said: The person, who calls Madinah Munawwarah 'Yasrib', should repent.

Sayyiduna Imam Bukhari رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ said: The person, who calls it 'Yasrib' once, should say 'Madinah' 10 times as a compensation.

Sufiya رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ have said: If a deviant person dies over there and gets buried, the angels transfer his dead body to another place from there and if a lover of this place is buried in any other place, his dead body is sent to Madinah Munawwarah. (*Mirat-ul-Manajih, vol. 4, pp. 215-216*)

Dear Islamic brothers! From the above-mentioned blessed Hadees and its explanation, it has been learnt that if a rusty piece of iron is put into the furnace, and then taken out at a fixed time, the rust will be removed, similarly, blessed Madinah also purifies those who are present in its pleasant atmosphere. Therefore, we should beg Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ to enable us to visit Holy Madinah again and again and to attain the privilege of being buried there because no other privilege will be greater than this for a Muslim if he is blessed with death in the beloved city of the Greatest Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and then burial in blessed Baqee' which is full of the blessings of the presence of thousands of blessed Companions. To attain the privilege of dying and being buried in Madinah is a share of fortunate people.

The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: (On the Day of Judgement, when everyone will be raised from their graves), Firstly my grave and then Abu Bakr and then Umar's (رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا) graves will be split open, then I will go to those who are in Jannat-ul-Baqee', they will gather with me, I will then

wait for the inhabitants of Makkah, until I get them with me in the middle of Haramayn Shareefayn. (*Sunan-ut-Tirmizi, vol. 5, pp. 388, Hadees 3712*)

In his Na'tiyah Deewan '*Wasail-e-Bakhshish*', expressing the feelings of dying and being buried in Holy Madinah, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَهُ has mentioned:

عطا کر دو عطا کر دو بقیع پاک میں مدفن
میری بن جائے تڑبت یا شہ کوثر مدینے میں

Dear Islamic brothers! We have also learnt this Madani pearl from the blessed Hadees that it is prohibited to call blessed Madinah 'Yasrib', therefore, we should avoid uttering and writing this word. Alas, nowadays ignorance is everywhere, some naïve Muslims due to having no Islamic knowledge, write and read the word 'Yasrib' instead of using the names mentioned in the Holy Quran and Blessed Hadees when referring to Holy Madinah. According to the meaning of the word 'Yasrib', by no means is it up to the high standard of Holy Madinah.

A renowned commentator, a great thinker of the Ummah, Mufti Ahmad Yar Khan رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has said: 'Yasrib' means *the place of calamity and disaster*, as this place was full of diseases, therefore it was called 'Yasrib'. By virtue of the blessings of the Rasool of Rahmah صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ it has become 'Taybah', that is, it has become the purified land, now the place has become 'Dar-ush-Shifa' (the place of cure) instead of 'Dar-ul-Waba' (the place of calamity).

(*Mirat-ul-Manajih, vol. 6, pp. 294*)

It is sufficient for the lovers of the beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ to avoid this word because the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ forbade calling this pure city as 'Yasrib'. The Greatest Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said: 'مَنْ قَالَ لِلْمَدِينَةِ' مَيِّتٌ فَكَفَّارَتُهُ أَنْ يَقُولَ الْمَدِينَةَ عَشْرَ مَرَّاتٍ', i.e. The person, who (unintentionally) calls this city 'Yasrib', he must say 'Madinah' 10 times as a compensation. (*Kanz-ul-Ummal, Juz: 6, vol. 12, pp. 116, Hadees 34938*)

To call blessed Madinah as 'Yasrib', is such a bad deed that Islamic scholars رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى have declared it impermissible and a sin to call Madinah Tayyibah as 'Yasrib'.

In the blessed *Fataawa Razawiyyah*, A'la Hadrat رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has said: It is impermissible, prohibited and a sin to call Madinah Tayyibah as 'Yasrib', and the one who calls it 'Yasrib', is a sinner.

The Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: Repentance is Wajib for the person who calls Madinah 'Yasrib'. Madinah is 'Taabah', Madinah is 'Taabah'.

Elaborating on *Jaami'-us-Sagheer* (a famous book of blessed Hadees) 'Allamah Munaawi رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has stated: From this Hadees it has been learnt that it is Haraam to call Madinah Tayyibah as 'Yasrib' as by saying 'Yasrib' we have been commanded to repent and repentance is made due to committing a sin.

(*Fataawa Razawiyyah*, vol. 21, pp. 116)

محفوظ سدا رکھنا شہا! بے آدبوں سے

اور مجھ سے بھی سرزد نہ کبھی بے آدبی ہو

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Introduction to the book 'Aashiqaan-e-Rasool ki 130 Hikaayaat'

Dear Islamic brothers! For attaining the blessings of Haramayn Sharifayn, study the remarkable book entitled '*Aashiqaan-e-Rasool ki 130 Hikaayaat*, authored by Shaykh-e-Tareeqat, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, the founder of Dawat-e-Islami, 'Allamah Maulana Abu Bilal Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri Razavi Ziyaae دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَةِ.

This productive and very informative book contains 51 parables of visitors to blessed Madinah Munawwarah, 12 parables of the highly renowned pious saint Sayyiduna Imam Maalik رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ, 42 parables of pilgrims, 6 parables

of pious women who observe Pardah, 17 parables of distinguished scholars belonging to the Ahl-us-Sunnah, 7 parables of Jinns and 9 parables of animals which are full of wisdom as well as loads of other information has been added. It is a Madani request to all Islamic brothers to obtain this book from a Maktaba-tul-Madinah stall, study it yourself and also distribute as much of it as you can for free with the intention of earning rewards. This book can be read online or downloaded for free from the website of Dawat-e-Islami (www.dawateislami.net).

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! **اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ** the blessed month of Zul-Hijja-til-Haraam is still showering its blessings. This is that blessed month in which millions of fortunate pilgrims are privileged to perform Hajj and attain spiritual bliss by visiting the beautiful city of Mustafa **صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ**. Undoubtedly, the Zikr (remembrance) of Madinah is a source of comfort, solace, and peace for the hearts for the true lovers of the Beloved Rasool **صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ**. The true lovers of Madinah are always eager to visit Madinah and remain restless and grieved due to being separated from Madinah Munawwarah. The number of Qaseedahs (poetic praises) which have been recited for the desire of visiting Madinah and separation from blessed Madinah have never been recited for any other city of the world.

That person who is privileged to visit Madinah Munawwarah once in his life, he considers himself to be extremely fortunate and always remembers these beautiful moments spent in Madinah Munawwarah to be the most memorable moments of his life.

Now, we shall have the privilege of listening to parables which are full of devotion about the lovers of Madinah, in order to develop the love for Madinah and to attain blessings from the Zikr of Madinah:

Imam Maalik and reverence for Madinah

Sayyiduna Imam Shaafi'i رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has stated: I saw the horses of Khurasan or Egypt tied at the door of Sayyiduna Imam Maalik رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ in Madinah Munawwarah. I had never seen such superb horse breeds, therefore I said, 'How fine are these horses!' Sayyiduna Imam Maalik رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ said, 'I give all these horses to you as a gift.' I asked, 'Please keep at least one for yourself'. He رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ said, 'I feel shyness from Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ to ride my horse over the sacred land beneath which the Beloved (صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ) of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ is resting.'

(Ihya-ul-'Uloom, vol. 1, pp. 114)

ہاں رہِ مدینہ بے غافل ذرا تو جاگ او پاؤں رکھنے والے یہ جا چشم و سر کی بے
اللہ اکبر! اپنے قدم اور یہ خاکِ پاک حسرت ملائکہ کو جہاں وضع سر کی بے

Explanation of Kalam-e-Raza: Advising a Hajj pilgrim, A'la Hadrat رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ said: O lover of Madinah! Remember! You are not going to an unimportant place, but you are going on a journey to Madinah. Therefore, avoid heedlessness, and walk with love for the beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and remember that the dignity of the path of Madinah is that instead of walking with your feet, walk on your eyes and head.

In the second stanza, expressing the love for the land of Madinah, A'la Hadrat رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has stated: اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ! Our feet are on the blessed earth that had the privilege of kissing the blessed feet of the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ and the place where even the angels wish to keep their heads.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

A'la Hadrat's journey to Madinah

A'la Hadrat, Imam-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, Maulana Shah Imam Ahmad Raza Khan رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ fell severely ill after he had performed the acts of Hajj, on his second Hajj. He رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ said that due to his prolonged illness he was

extremely restless to visit the blessed mausoleum of the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ. Upon noticing his continued fever, he رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ made his intention to pay his visit in the same ailing condition; the blessed scholars of sacred Makkah said: You are seriously ill and a long journey is ahead (therefore change your intention!). A'la Hadrat رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ replied: If you ask me the truth, then the real purpose of my visit is to behold holy Madinah; I started my pilgrimage both times with the same intention; Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ forbid! If there is no visit to Madinah, there is no pleasure for me in Hajj.

They then insisted him to consider his condition. A'la Hadrat رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ recited the following Hadees in front of them: *مَنْ حَجَّ وَلَمْ يَزُرْنِي فَقَدْ جَفَانِي* *The person who performs Hajj and does not visit me, he is not devoted to me.* (Kashf-ul-Khifa, vol. 2, pp. 218, Hadees 2458)

[The blessed scholars] said: You have already visited it once in your life. A'la Hadrat رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ said: In my humble opinion, the meaning of the Hadees is not that visiting once is sufficient, though a person has performed Hajj so many times but it is essential to pay a visit with every Hajj; now please make Du'a [for me] so that I may get to the Blessed Raudah of the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ. Once I behold the Blessed Raudah, I do not bother if I depart from this world at the same time. (Malfuzaat A'la Hadrat, vol. 2, pp. 201)

اُس کے طفیل حج بھی خُدا نے کرا دینے
 اصلِ مُرادِ حاضری اُس پاک دَر کی ہے
 کعبہ کا نام تک نہ لیا طیبہ ہی کہا
 پوچھا تھا ہم سے جس نے کہ نَهَضتِ کدھر کی ہے

(Hadaaiq-e-Bakhshish, pp. 202-203)

Explanation of Kalam-e-Raza: In his Na'tiyah Deewan 'Hadaaiq-e-Bakhshish', through both these couplets, A'la Hadrat رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has described both of his Hajj journeys. Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ blessed A'la Hadrat رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ with the privilege to perform Hajj twice; the first Hajj was the mandatory one, while the second one was a Nafil Hajj. When he رَحِمَهُ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ was asked about this blessed

journey, he would not say that he was going for the Hajj of Baytullah, but he رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ would say: I had the intention to visit Taybah, that is my real purpose of Hajj. This means that to visit the blessed court of the Greatest Rasool عَزَّوَجَلَّ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. It is the blessed door by virtue of which Allah has not only blessed me once, but twice with the visit of His sacred home.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

‘Allamah Kazmi and a thorn of Madinah

‘Allamah Sayyid Ahmad Sa’eed Kazmi رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has said: On the occasion of my first visit to Madinah Munawwarah, I pricked my foot on a thorn, causing severe pain. As I was about to take it out I recalled the love of A’la Hadrat, Imam-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, Maulana Shah Imam Ahmad Raza Khan رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ with thorns of Madinah, I stopped and did not take the thorn out of my foot. The pain stopped itself after many days. (*Anwaar-e-Qutb-e-Madinah*, pp. 53)

Expressing his devotion to the thorns of Madinah Munawwarah in his Na’tiyah Deewan ‘Saaman-e-Bakhshish’ ‘Allamah Maulana Mustafa Raza Khan Noori رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has stated:

نظر میں کیسے سمائیں گے پھول جنت کے
کہ بس چکے ہیں مدینے کے خار آنکھوں میں

Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat’s journey to Madinah

Shaykh-e-Tareeqat, Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, the founder of Dawat-e-Islami, ‘Allamah Maulana Abu Bilal Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri Razavi Ziyaeه دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهَا الْعَالِيَه was privileged to embark on the journey of Hajj and Madinah Munawwarah many times. Whatever he experienced is not possible to mention as it was, however, let’s listen to a brief description of his journey to Madinah Munawwarah.

As the time for his departure to Madinah Munawwarah drew closer, a large crowd came to see him off at the airport. As they surrounded him and began

reciting Na'at [verses praising & glorifying the Noble Rasool ﷺ]. Na'at full of deep passion and intense devotion and deep attachment of true lovers overwhelmed the place with restlessness, the Na'at reciters were profusely crying to visit Madinah Munawwarah. The condition of Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat دامت بركاته العالیہ himself was absolutely changed. There was hardly any person that was not in tears [showing their true love to Madinah Munawwarah] and the atmosphere was phenomenally spiritual. He دامت بركاته العالیہ was a virtual picture of his following couplets:

آنسوؤں کی لڑی بن رہی ہو اور آپوں سے پھٹتا ہو سینہ
ورد لب ہو "مدینہ مدینہ" جب چلے سوئے طیبہ سفینہ

Everyone may not be able to comprehend this unique exhibition of true devotional love, because normally visitors of Madinah Munawwarah laugh and rejoice. However, this is not impermissible. He has endeavoured to develop the Madani mindset of such types of visitors of Madinah:

ارے زائرِ مدینہ! تُو خوشی سے ہنس رہا ہے!
دلِ غمزدہ جو پاتا تو کچھ اور بات ہوتی

As the destination drew closer, the intensity of his love was getting higher and higher and as soon as he دامت بركاته العالیہ reached the holy land of Madinah Munawwarah he took off his shoes. اللہ اللہ! He دامت بركاته العالیہ is so deep in his devotional love for the Beloved Rasool ﷺ that he himself elaborates this in his couplets:

پاؤں میں جُوتا ارے محبوب کا گُوچہ ہے یہ
بوش کر تُو بوش کر غافل! مدینہ آگیا

During Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat's Hajj pilgrimage in 1406 AH, he دامت بركاته العالیہ suffered with a severe flu and had a constant runny nose. Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat دامت بركاته العالیہ never blew his nose on the sacred land of Madinah

Munawwarah. Each and every act of his in Madinah Munawwarah displayed his immense respect for the sacred city. Throughout his journey while in the blessed Madinah Munawwarah, he **دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَهُ** endeavoured his utmost not to turn his back towards the Grand Green Dome.

(Ta'aruf Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat, pp. 32-34)

مدینے کا سَفَر بے اور میں تَمَدیدہ تَمَدیدہ
جَبِیں آفَسردہ آفَسردہ بدن لَرزیدہ لَرزیدہ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Majlis Hajj and 'Umrah

Dear Islamic brothers! **اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ** we are very fortunate that Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ** has blessed us with the Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami. By the grace and mercy of Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ**, Dawat-e-Islami is busy spreading the call towards righteousness in more than 103 departments to preach Islam. 'Majlis Hajj-o-'Umrah' is also one of these departments. It has been established in order to teach the proper manners of visiting the Baytullah and blessed Raudah as well as necessary rulings to Islamic brothers and sisters who go to perform Hajj and 'Umrah. The expert preachers (Islamic brothers) of this Majlis go to Haji camps during the days of Hajj and teach the manners to male Hajj pilgrims every year, whereas female preachers (Islamic sisters) teach these manners to female Hajj pilgrims.

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ! Those who go to Makkah and Madinah for Hajj and the blessed visit to Madinah are presented with the books *Rafeeq-ul-Haramayn* and *Rafeeq-ul-Mu'tamireen*, written by Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat as a gift under the supervision of this Majlis so that the guests of the House of Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ** and the lovers of the Beloved Rasool **صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** can succeed in performing this worship in the proper manner.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Let's increase the dignity of the pure city of 'Madinah' in our hearts by listening to a few characteristics of it for attaining blessings and mercy:

- There is not a single city on the earth that has so many beautiful names as we have for the holy city of Madinah. Some Islamic scholars have written 100 names.
- Madinah Munawwarah is a city upon whose devotion a large number of eulogies have been written in many languages of the world, and these praises continue to be written.
- The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ migrated here and resided here.
- Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ named it 'Taabah'.
- Upon his return from a journey when the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would arrive to blessed Madinah, then due to the love of Madinah, he صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would increase the speed of his transport.
- The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ felt inner peace in Madinah.
- The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would not wipe the dust of Madinah from his blessed face and also would forbid the companions رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمْ from it and said that dust of Madinah has healing powers.

(Jazb-ul-Quloob, pp. 22)

- When a Muslim goes to Madinah with the intention to visit, then angels welcome him with the gifts of blessings. *(Jazb-ul-Quloob, pp. 211)*
- The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ advised [us] to die in Madinah.
- The Noblest Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ would intercede for the person who dies in Madinah.
- The person who enters Masjid-un-Nabawi in the state of Wudu and offers Salah there will get Sawab of one Hajj.

- The space between the sacred Hujrah and the blessed Mimbar is one of the gardens of Paradise.
- To offer one Salah in Masjid-un-Nabawi is equal to 50,000 Salahs.

(Sunan Ibn Majah, vol. 2, pp. 176, Hadees, 1413)

- The mausoleum of the Beloved Mustafa ﷺ is situated in Madinah Munawwarah where 70 thousand angels pay their visit in the morning and evening every day. *(Aashiqan-e-Rasool ki 130 Hikayaat, pp. 259-262)*

رہیں اُن کے جلوے بسیں اُن کے جلوے
مرا دل بنے یادگارِ مدینہ

Summary of speech

Dear Islamic brothers! Today's topic was about the blessings of Makkah and Madinah. We have heard:

- Allah ﷻ has blessed Makkah and Madinah with many distinctive features.
- Makkah and Madinah are sacred cities which Allah ﷻ has mentioned in the Holy Quran. Furthermore, an oath on the name of Makkah has been stated in one place.
- There is a good news of intercession on behalf of those who die in Madinah Munawwarah, as is mentioned in a blessed Hadees.
- Upon his return from a journey, when the Beloved Rasool ﷺ arrived to blessed Madinah, then due to the love of Madinah, he ﷺ would increase the speed of his transport.
- Ameer-ul-Mu`mineen, Sayyiduna 'Umar Farooq-e-A'zam رضى الله تعالى عنه would make Du'a for Shahadat (martyrdom) in blessed Madinah.
- Madinah Munawwarah will remain safe from the disease of plague.
- Makkah and Madinah will remain safe from the evil Dajjal.

- Madinah Munawwarah is the unique furnace that purifies and cleans people.
- Islamic Scholars رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى have declared it a sin and Haraam to call Madinah Munawwarah 'Yasrib'.
- Those who call blessed Madinah 'Yasrib', have been commanded to say 'Madinah' 10 times as a compensation as recorded in a blessed Hadees.

May Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ also enable us to see beautiful Makkah and sweet Madinah for the sake of those fortunate ones who perform Hajj and 'Umrah!

أَمِينَ بِجَاهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأَمِينِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! In conclusion, I would like to take the opportunity to mention the excellence of Sunnah as well as some Sunan and manners. The Rasool of Rahmah, the Intercessor of the Ummah صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, 'Whoever loves my Sunnah, loves me, and whoever loves me will be with me in Jannah.' (Ibn 'Asakir, vol. 9, pp. 343)

سینه تری سُنَّتِ کا مدینہ بنے آقا

جَنَّتِ میں پڑوسی مجھے تم اپنا بنانا

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Sunan & manners of applying kohl

1. In *Sunan Ibn Majah*, there is a narration that, 'The best kohl (Surmah) among all is Ismid as it strengthens the eyesight and grows the eyelashes.'

(*Sunan Ibn-e-Majah, vol. 4, pp. 115 Hadees 3497*)

2. Kohl powder made from other stones can also be used. It is, however, Makruh (disliked) for a man to use black kohl with the intention of makeup but if that is not the intention, then it is not Makruh.

(*Fatawa 'Aalamgiri, vol. 5, pp. 359*)

3. It is Sunnah to use antimony (kohl / Surmah) before sleeping.

(*Mirat-ul-Manajih, vol. 6, pp. 180*)

4. Here is the summary of the three narrated methods of using kohl. Apply thrice to each eye (put the kohl applicator in the kohl bottle each time for a new application). Apply thrice in the right eye and twice in the left. Apply twice to each eye and on the last application, enter the applicator into the container then use that same applicator to equally put it in both eyes.

(*Shu'ab-ul-Iman, vol. 5 pp. 218-219*)

To learn various Sunan, obtain the following books, *Bahar-e-Shari'at* part 16 comprising of 312 pages and *Sunnatayn aur Adaab*, comprising of 120 pages, both published by Maktaba-tul-Madinah, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami. One of the best ways to learn Sunan is to travel in the Madani Qafilahs of Dawat-e-Islami with the lovers of the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

عاشقانِ رسول، آئیں سنت کے پھول

دینے لینے چلیں، قافلے میں چلو

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

The 6 Salawaat-'Alan-Nabi and 2 Du'as that are recited in the Sunnah-inspiring weekly Ijtima' (congregation) of Dawat-e-Islami:



1. The Salat-'Alan-Nabi صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ for the night preceding Friday

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ الْحَبِيبِ
الْعَالِي الْقَدْرِ الْعَظِيمِ الْجَاهِ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَسَلِّمْ

The saints of Islam have quoted that whoever recites this Salat-'Alan-Nabi at least once on the night preceding Friday [the night between Thursday and Friday] on a regular basis will be blessed with the vision of the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ at the time of death, as well as at the time of his burial into the grave, to the extent that he will see the Noble Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ lowering him into the grave with his own merciful hands. *(Afdal-us-Salawat 'ala Sayyid-is-Sadat, pp. 151)*

2. All sins forgiven

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَسَلِّمْ

It is narrated by Sayyiduna Anas رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ that the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated, 'Whoever recites this Salat upon me whilst standing, then prior to his sitting back; and if he recites it whilst sitting, then before he stands back, his sins will be forgiven.' *(Ibid, pp. 65)*

3. 70 Portals of mercy

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Whoever recites this Salat-‘Alan-Nabi, 70 portals of mercy are opened for him. (*Al-Qaul-ul-Badi’, pp. 277*)

4. The reward of 600,000 Salawat-‘Alan-Nabi

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ عَدَدَ
مَا فِي عِلْمِ اللَّهِ صَلَاةً دَائِمَةً بَدَوَامِ مُلْكِ اللَّهِ

Shaykh Ahmad Saawi عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْوَهَّابِي reports from some saints of Islam that the one reciting this Salat-‘Alan-Nabi once receives the reward of reciting Salat-‘Alan-Nabi 600,000 times. (*Afdal-us-Salawat ‘ala Sayyid-is-Sadat, pp. 149*)

5. Nearness to the Distinguished Rasool ﷺ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا تُحِبُّ وَتَرْضَى لَهُ

One day somebody came [to the blessed court of the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ], and the Noble Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ made him sit in between himself and Sayyiduna Abu Bakr Siddeeq رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ. The respected companions رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمْ were surprised as to who that honoured person was. When he had left, the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, ‘When he recites Salat upon me, he does so in these words.’ (*Al-Qaul-ul-Badi’, pp. 125*)

6. Duood-e-Shafa'at

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَانزِلْهُ الْبَقْعَدَ الْمُقَرَّبَ عِنْدَكَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

The Greatest Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: The one who recites this Salat upon me, my intercession will become obligatory for him.

(Attargheeb Wattarheeb, vol. 2, pp. 329, Hadees 31)

1. Good deeds for 1000 days

جَزَى اللهُ عَنَّا مُحَمَّدًا مَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ

It is narrated by Sayyiduna Ibn 'Abbas رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا that the Noble Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated, 'For the reciter of above supplication, seventy angels write good deeds (in his account) for 1000 days.'

(Majma'-uz-Zawaid, pp. 254, vol. 10, Hadees 17305)

2. An easy way to spend every night in worship

The following narration has been mentioned on page 187 of *Gharaib-ul-Quran*, 'If anyone recites the following Du'a three times at night it is as if he has found Layla-tul-Qadr.' We should recite it every night. Here is the Du'a:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللهُ الْحَلِيمُ الْكَرِيمُ
سُبْحَانَ اللهِ رَبِّ السَّمَوَاتِ السَّبْعِ وَرَبِّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ

Translation: There is none worthy of worship except Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ Who is 'حَلِيمٌ' and 'كَرِيمٌ'. Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ is 'سُبْحَانَ', Rab of the seven skies and the magnificent 'Arsh.