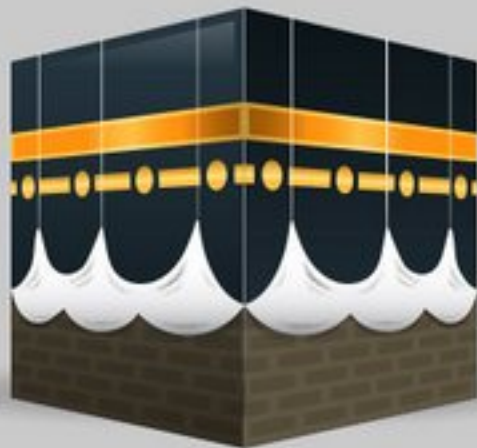


Status and dignity of
Sayyiduna Musa
عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام

09-July-2020



Thought-provoking speech of weekly
sunnah-inspiring ijtima

(For Islamic Sisters)

Muballighah must read the Bayan at least 3 times before delivering speech

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

Status and dignity of Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام

الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَعَلَى آلِكَ وَأَصْحَابِكَ يَا حَبِيبَ اللَّهِ
الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا نَبِيَّ اللَّهِ وَعَلَى آلِكَ وَأَصْحَابِكَ يَا نُورَ اللَّهِ

Please note that this speech was originally written for Islamic brothers, we have done necessary changes for Islamic sisters. It may be possible that some words could have been remained unchanged! If so, Muballighah should change the wordings accordingly at the time of delivering this speech. (Translation Department)

Virtue of Durood Shareef

The Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَكُلَّ بَقْدَرِي مَلَكَ أَعْطَاهُ أَسْمَاءَ الْخَلَائِقِ فَلَا يُصْنَعُ عَلَيَّ أَحَدٌ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ إِلَّا أْبَلَّغَنِي بِاسْمِهِ وَاسْمِ أَبِيهِ هَذَا
فَلَانَ بِنِ فُلَانٍ قَدْ صَلَّى عَلَيْكَ

Indeed, Allah Almighty has appointed an angel at my grave who has been given the power of hearing the voices of the entire creation; thus, anyone who sends Durood upon me until the Day of Judgement, the angel informs me of his name and his father's name, (that) so-and-so son of so-and-so has sent Durood upon you. (*Majma-uz-Zawaaid, vol. 10, pp. 251, Hadees 17291*)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic sisters! Before listening to the Bayan, let's first of all make good intentions for attaining the Divine pleasure and earning rewards. The Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, 'نِيَّةُ الْمُؤْمِنِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ عَمَلِهِ' *The intention of a Muslim is better than his action.* (*Al-Mu'jam-ul-Kabeer, vol. 6, pp. 185, Hadees 5942*)

An important point

For righteous and permissible work, the more we make good intentions, the more we attain reward.

Note: *The intentions mentioned below can be modified as per situation*

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 in reverential posture like that in Tashahhud as long as possible with the intention of paying respect to religious discourse.
3. I will make room for other Islamic sisters 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 *تُؤَيَّبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ، أُذَكِّرُوا اللَّهَ، صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيَّ الْحَبِيبِ*, etc., I will reply in low voice with the intention of gaining reward and encouraging others to also recite.
6. After Ijtima, I will take the lead to say Salam and shake hands and make individual effort.
7. During the speech, I will avoid the unnecessary use of mobile phone.
8. Neither will I record the speech, nor any kind of voice as it is not permitted.
9. Whatever I listen I will act upon it and later on convey it to others. In this way, I will be privileged to propagate the call towards righteousness.

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيَّ الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ

A determined Prophet

Dear Islamic sisters! Whilst all of the prophets and messengers عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَام possess courage and they all dealt with the troubles that they faced whilst traversing the right path with a great amount of patience and determination, however, there are five prophets عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَام from this blessed group that showed even greater patience than the rest when propagating the way of truth. It is for this reason that they are referred to as the 'أُولَا الْعَزْمِ رَسُولٌ'; and whenever the 'أُولَا الْعَزْمِ رَسُولٌ' are mentioned, it is referring to those five prophets. They are as following:

1. The Beloved Prophet Muhammad صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ
2. Sayyiduna Ibrahim عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام
3. Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام
4. Sayyiduna 'Eisa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام
5. Sayyiduna Nooh عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام.

These noble personalities are specifically mentioned in the Holy Quran. Thus, it is stated in part 21, Surah Al-Ahzaab, Verse no. 7:

وَإِذْ أَخَذْنَا مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِيثَاقَهُمْ وَمِنْكَ وَمِنْ نُوحٍ وَإِبْرَاهِيمَ وَمُوسَى
وَعِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ ۗ وَآخَذْنَا مِنْهُم مِّيثَاقًا غَلِيظًا ﴿٧﴾

Translation of Kanz-ul-Iman: And O Beloved, remember when We took a covenant from the Prophets, and from you, and from Nooh, and Ibrahim, and Musa, and 'Eisa, the son of Maryam; and We took a firm covenant from them.

[Kanz-ul-Iman (translation of Quran)] (Part 21, Surah Al-Ahzaab, Verse 7)

Dear Islamic sisters! Today, we will listen to the virtues and greatness of one these great prophets عَلَيْهِمُ السَّلَام, Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام. We will also listen to his short introduction, miracles, excellences and other information regarding him. Therefore, you are requested to listen to the entire speech attentively. First of all, let us listen to a short introduction about Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام.

A short introduction of Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام

- Sayyiduna Musa's عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام father's name is 'Imran.
- Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام was from the offspring of Sayyiduna Ibrahim عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام.
- Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام was born four hundred (400) years after the passing of Sayyiduna Yusuf عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام, and seven hundred (700) years after the passing of Sayyiduna Ibrahim عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام.
- Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام lived for one hundred and twenty (120) years.
(Al-Bidayah wan Nihayah, vol. 1, pp. 326, 329; Tafseer-e-Saawi, vol. 2, pp. 696)
- The name of Sayyiduna Musa's عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام mother is Yuhaanaz and she was from the descendants of Lawa Bin Ya'qoob. Allah Almighty inspired her through a dream, an angel or a thought placed in her heart that she should give milk to Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام. Then if she fears that the neighbours would have become aware of him, and that they would complain and Pharaoh would kill him, then without any fear or hesitation, place him into the River Nile and do not feel any distress that he will drown or lose his life, and neither feel any sadness due to his separation. Indeed, Allah Almighty will return him to her and make him amongst the prophets عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام.

Thus, she رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا gave him milk for a few days. During this time, Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام neither cried nor did he عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام make any movement in her lap, and neither did anyone become aware of his birth except for his sister. When she رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا sensed danger from Pharaoh, she رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا placed Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام in a chest that was specifically designed for this purpose, and in the night, she put it into the River Nile.

(Tafseer-e-Khaazin, vol. 3, pp. 423 – Tafseer-e-Madarik, pp. 861 – Tafseer-e-Jalalayn, pp. 326)

Dear Islamic sisters! Do you know who was the fortunate individual who received that blessed chest which was placed in the River Nile in which Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام was resting, the blessed personality who kept the name of this Beloved Prophet of Allah Almighty and the meaning of that blessed name? Let us learn about this.

Who kept the name of Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام?

Sayyiduna Imam 'Ala-ud-Deen Ali bin Muhammad Khaazin رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ states: Sayyidatuna Aasiyah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا was asked to keep his (i.e. Sayyiduna Musa's عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام) name. So, she replied: 'I have kept the name of this child, Musa.' (*Tafseer-e-Khaazin, vol. 3, pp. 358*).

As Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام was found between trees and water, and in the Qibti language, water is known as 'Mu' and a tree is known as 'Sa'. (*Tafseer-e-Durr-e-Mansoor, vol. 6, pp. 391*)

It is for this reason that he was called Musa. (*Faizan-e-Sayyidatuna Aasiyah, pp. 22*)

Who was Sayyidatuna Aasiyah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا?

Sayyidatuna Aasiyah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا was the wife of Pharaoh. When Sayyidatuna Aasiyah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا witnessed the magicians being defeated by Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام, the light of faith immediately entered her heart and she embraced Iman.

When Pharaoh became aware of this, that wretched individual punished her severely. After beating her severely, he had four pegs placed into the ground and then drove four nails through the hands and feet of Sayyidatuna Aasiyah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا, tying her so firmly to the four pegs that she could not even move.

He placed her in the scorching heat and then gave the order that a heavy stone be put upon her chest. When the stone was brought, Sayyidatuna Aasiyah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا supplicated in the court of Allah Almighty, saying: 'O Lord! Make a house for me in Paradise!' Therefore, she was then shown her home in Paradise, which was made of white pearls, and then her soul left her body by the command of Allah Almighty.

When the stone was placed on her chest, there was no soul in her body, thus, she رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا did not experience any pain whatsoever. Ibn-e-Kaasaan رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ states: 'She was raised alive and taken to Paradise; thus, she eats and drinks in Paradise.' (*Umda-tul-Qaari, vol. 11, pp. 144*)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic sisters! From the aforementioned incident, we have learnt that bearing difficulties and trials in the way of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ has been the way of the righteous people of Allah, just as we heard that after embracing faith, Pharaoh, the evil husband of a righteous female slave of Allah Almighty, tormented her greatly. But may we be sacrificed upon her courage, patience, passion and enthusiasm of faith that she bore those painful difficulties and sacrificed her life, but did not give up her faith.

Therefore, those Islamic sisters who are ridiculed, beaten and taunted by their family members and relatives for adopting the Sunnah and attaching themselves to the Madani environment, similarly, those Islamic sisters who were previously disbelievers but have now, by the Grace and Mercy of Allah Almighty, accepted Islam and due to which, they are being harassed by their family members and relatives, should take a lesson from this story of Sayyidatuna Aasiyah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا and remain firm on the Divine path with patience and steadfastness instead of losing courage over the difficulties faced in it.

Besides this, they should also continue to make Du'a to Allah Almighty with a sincere heart. They should never think that why am I being mistreated etc. when I have never caused any harm or difficulty to anyone. Some foolish Islamic sisters even utter words of disbelief in such situations. Ponder for a moment, who did Sayyidatuna Aasiyah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا trouble? Similarly, who did our Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ mistreat? But the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was still treated with such oppression and cruelty that it gives us goose bumps and the eyes become full of tears when hearing about such incidents. Likewise, the companions عَلَيْهِمُ الرِّضْوَانُ and righteous saints رَحِمَهُمُ اللهُ were also tormented so much in the Divine path that it causes a person's tears to flow.

Therefore, when experiencing the difficulties of walking the path of truth, a person should bear the hardships with patience and not complain or utter words of disbelief, rather, she should instead recall the difficulties and calamities that the righteous people of Allah Almighty faced, and continue her journey (of life).

May Allah Almighty grant us steadfastness upon Islam and the Madani environment of Dawat-e-Islami for the sake of Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام.

اٰمِيْنَ بِجَاہِ النَّبِيِّ الْاَمِيْنِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوْا عَلٰى الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلٰى مُحَمَّدٍ

Some glimpses of the status and dignity of Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام

- Dear Islamic sisters! The Beloved Prophet of Allah, Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام possesses great status and dignity.
- He عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام has been mentioned in an excellent manner in many parts and verses of the Holy Quran.
- His name has been mentioned 136 times in the Holy Quran.
- Allah Almighty granted him a heavenly book called the Torah.
- He عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام was granted the honour of conversing with Allah Almighty several times, which is why he عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام is known as 'Kaleemullah'.
- Allah Almighty called him to Mount Sinai and manifested His majesty on the mountain.
- Allah Almighty also granted Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام many miracles.
- He عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام also met Sayyiduna Khizr عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام.
- Allah Almighty granted him immense strength and power.
- He عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام was a very simple individual.
- Our Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ saw Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام praying in his grave on the night of Mi'raaj.
- He عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام had the honour of praying behind the Beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ on the night of Mi'raaj.

- He عليه السلام has a very big favour on the Ummah of the Holy Prophet صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم, because it was due to him that Salahs were reduced from fifty to five on the night of Mi'raaj.
- When he عليه السلام struck the rock with his staff, twelve springs gushed forth.
- When he عليه السلام struck the River Nile with his staff, twelve pathways were created in it.
- It was due to Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام that Mann and Salwa descended upon Bani Israel from the sky (Mann was something sweet similar to honey, and Salwa was roasted quails).
- Whenever punishment would descend upon Bani Israel due to their disobedience, they would always turn to Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام for help.
- He عليه السلام was very graceful and handsome.
- Allah Almighty made Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام free from flaws and made a stone testify to his flawlessness.

A running stone

It is stated in the book '*Ajaib-ul-Quran ma' Gharaib-ul-Quran*': 'There was a square stone that was an arms-length in height and width that Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام would always carry in his bag. Two miracles of Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام took place by the means of this blessed stone, which have also been mentioned in the Holy Quran.

The first wonder of this stone, which was in reality the miracle of Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام, was its long stride that was full of wisdom, and this stone was discovered because of this miracle. Allah Almighty has described this incident with the following words in the Holy Quran:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَكُونُوا كَالَّذِينَ آذَوْا مُوسَى فَبَرَّأَهُ اللَّهُ مِمَّا قَالُوا ط

وَكَانَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ وَجِيهًا ﴿٢٥٦﴾

Translation of Kanz-ul-Iman: O believers! Do not be like the people who troubled Musa, so Allah freed him from that allegation they had mentioned. And Musa is honourable in the sight of Allah.

[Kanz-ul-Iman (translation of Quran)] (Part 22, Surah Al-Ahzaab, Verse 69)

The second miracle took place in the ‘plains of Teeh’, when Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام struck this stone with his staff, causing twelve springs to gush forth. The Bani Israel used this water for forty years in the plains of Teeh.

It is stated in part 1, Surah Al-Baqarah, verse no. 60:

فَقُلْنَا اضْرِبْ بِعَصَاكَ الْحَجَرَ ط

so We said, ‘Strike this rock with your staff.’

[Kanz-ul-Iman (translation of Quran)] (Part 1, Surah Al-Baqarah, Verse 60)

The ‘rock’ mentioned in this verse refers to the very same stone. (*‘Ajaib-ul-Quran ma’ Gharab-ul-Quran, pp. 29*)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic sisters! Allah Almighty granted Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام many other miracles too which have also been mentioned in the Holy Quran. First, let us hear three miracles of Sayyiduna Musa’s عليه السلام blessed staff.

1. The staff became a serpent

Pharaoh once arranged a carnival in order to defeat Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام. At this carnival, hundreds of thousands of people had gathered, there was also a large group of magicians present with their tools of magic.

The magicians took an oath on the name of Pharaoh and threw down their sticks and ropes. All of a sudden, they became snakes that hissed and slithered in every direction. The whole assembly of people were frightened out of their senses and began to run here and there. Pharaoh and his magicians began to

swell with pride upon showing their demonstration and began to clap with arrogance to show their happiness at their (apparent) victory.

In the meanwhile, with the command of Allah Almighty, Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام threw down his blessed staff amongst the snakes. The blessed staff became a very large and an extremely terrifying serpent that swallowed the magicians' snakes. After witnessing this miracle, the magicians admitted defeat and fell into prostration, and loudly proclaimed:

قَالُوا آمَنَّا بِرَبِّ هَارُونَ وَمُوسَى ۖ

they said, 'We brought faith in Him Who is the Lord of Haroon and Musa.'

[Kanz-ul-Iman (translation of Quran)] (Part 16, Surah Taahaa, verse 70)

('Ajaib-ul-Quran ma' Gharab-ul-Quran, pp. 23 with amendments)

2. Springs gushed forth with the strike of staff

Similarly, when Bani Israel became restless in the plains of Teeh due to their thirst, they presented themselves in the court of Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام and complained about their thirst. Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام struck the stone with his staff which caused twelve springs to gush forth with water.

The twelve tribes of Bani Israel began to drink the water from their own spring, and gave it to their animals also. This continued for forty years. This was a miracle of Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام that occurred through the blessed staff and stone.

3. The river split with the strike of the staff

When Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام left Egypt with Bani Israel, they came across a river on the way. Allah Almighty commanded Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام to strike the river with his staff. As soon as Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام struck the river, twelve pathways emerged inside the river and Bani Israel safely crossed the river via the pathways and reached the other side.

When Pharaoh reached the river and saw the pathways, he and his army also began to cross. However, when Pharaoh and his army reached the middle of the river, the waves began to rise and engulfed the pathways. Thus, Pharaoh

and his army drowned in the river. (*'Ajaib-ul-Quran ma' Gharaib-ul-Quran, pp. 26, summarised*)

Dear Islamic sisters! The blessed hand of Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام was miraculous as well. Let us learn more about this.

Glowing hand

When Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام would place his hand into the neck of his garment and draw it out, it would begin to glow and radiate all of a sudden. When he عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام would place his blessed hand into the neck of his garment again, it would return to its original state.

This miracle has been mentioned repeatedly in various Surahs of the Holy Quran. It is stated in part 16, in the 22nd verse of Surah Taahaa:

وَاضْمُرْ يَدَكَ إِلَىٰ جَنَاحِكَ تَخْرُجُ بَيْضَاءَ مِن غَيْرِ سُوءٍ آيَةً أُخْرَىٰ ﴿٢٢﴾

‘And place your hand joining with your arm (below the armpit); it will come out (shining) bright white, not due to any illness; (this is) one more sign.’

[*Kanz-ul-Iman (translation of Quran)*] (Part 16, Surah Taahaa, Verse 22)

(*'Ajaib-ul-Quran ma' Gharaib-ul-Quran, pp. 23, summarised*)

Sayyiduna Abdullah Ibn-e-Abbas رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمَا states: ‘During the night, light would radiate from the blessed hand of Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام like the moon, and during the day, it would radiate like the sun. (*Tafseer-e-Madarik, pp. 689; Tafseer-e-Khaazin, vol. 3, pp. 252*)

When Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام would place his hand under his armpit for a second time, it would return to its original state. (*Siraat-ul-Jinaan, vol. 6, pp. 181*)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic sisters! We learn a few things from the aforementioned incidents:

1. Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام was very caring towards his nation.
2. He عليه السلام was tested greatly in the path of Allah Almighty.
3. There are many blessings of good company, just as Bani Israel received many blessings and many of their calamities were averted due to the blessings of Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام.
4. With the grace of Allah Almighty, His slaves can also avert calamities and fulfil needs. Hence, we heard that whenever a calamity would befall Bani Israel, they would turn to Sayyiduna Musa عليه السلام and he عليه السلام would fulfil their need.
5. When an evil person bears animosity towards the righteous people of Allah Almighty and he disrespects and insults them, then disgrace and humiliation surrounds him from every corner. He incurs the wrath and anger of Allah Almighty, which results in his destruction.

May Allah Almighty allow us to truly honour and respect His righteous bondsmen, and grant us the taufeeq to remain firmly attached to them.

اٰمِيْنَ بِجَاوِزِ النَّبِيِّ الْاَوْمِيْنَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوْا عَلٰى الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلٰى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic sisters! Indeed, every person is well aware that he will die one day and reap what he sows. In spite of this and despite receiving many blessings in this world, regretfully, many people forget the Divine punishment and commands of Allah Almighty and His Beloved Prophet صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم, and continue to commit sins day and night. Consequently, many strange and deadly illnesses and calamities are cropping up in our society.

Such people should take heed from the punishments that befell the previous nations. The evil people from Bani Israel are also included amongst those who received many blessings from Allah Almighty, but regretfully, they

openly defied Allah Almighty and His beloved prophet, Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام. They committed sins day and night, due to which, they were afflicted with many terrifying punishments.

Let us hear about the punishments that afflicted them and take heed from them.

Punishments that afflicted the people of Pharaoh

When the people of Pharaoh remained stubborn upon their disbelief and defiance after the magicians brought faith, Allah Almighty began to send them signs one after the other, because Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام had made Du'a to Allah Almighty that, 'O Lord! Pharaoh has become very defiant in the land and his people have also broken their promise, so afflict them with such an affliction that will be a punishment for them and will become an admonition for my nation and those who come after.'

Thus, Allah Almighty sent a storm. A cloud came, it became dark and it began to rain heavily. The Qibtis' homes became flooded, to the extent that when they stood in the water, it reached their necks and those who sat down were drowned. They could neither move nor could they do any other work. From one Saturday to the next, for a full seven days, they remained stuck in this calamity. Even though the homes of the Bani Israel were joined to their (i.e. Qibtis') homes, but water did not enter their (i.e. Bani Israel's) homes.

When they became helpless, they requested Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام: 'Make Du'a for us so that this calamity is removed from us. Then we will embrace faith upon you and we will send Bani Israel with you.'

Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام made Du'a for them, the storm subsided and such greenery spread in the land that was not seen before. The crops increased and many trees grew. After witnessing this, the people of Pharaoh began to say: 'This water was a blessing', and did not embrace faith.

One month passed peacefully, then Allah Almighty sent locusts that ate the crops, fruits, the leaves of the trees, the doors and roofs of the homes, planks, their possessions and even the metal pegs. They entered the homes of the Qibtis but did not enter the homes of Bani Israel.

Troubled by this, the Qibitis went to Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام again and asked him to make Du'a and promised that they will embrace faith. They remained in this affliction [of locusts] for seven days, i.e. the whole week, then they were saved by the Du'a of Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام. Seeing the remaining crops and fruits, they began to say: 'This is sufficient for us, we will not leave our religion.' Thus, they did not embrace faith. They did not fulfil their promise and continued in their evil actions.

A month passed peacefully. Then, Allah Almighty sent 'Qummal'. The commentators of the Holy Quran differ on this matter. Some say: Qummal refers to a beetle, some say: lice, others say: it is another small insect.

This insect ate the remaining crops and fruits. It would get inside the clothing and bite the skin, and would go into the food as well. If an individual would take ten bags of wheat to grind, they would return with (approximately) three KGs; the rest would be eaten by the insects. These insects ate the hair, eyebrows and eyelashes of the people of Pharaoh. They would riddle their bodies like smallpox, to the extent that they made it difficult for them to sleep.

The people of Pharaoh screamed out of this punishment and turned to Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام again, saying: 'We repent, please make Du'a for the removal of this calamity.' Therefore, after seven days, this calamity was also removed through the Du'a of Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام. But the people of Pharaoh broke their promise again and started to commit worse crimes than before.

One month passed peacefully. Then Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام made Du'a again, so Allah Almighty sent frogs. The situation was such that when a person would sit, the area would become full of frogs. When he would open his mouth to speak, the frog would leap into his mouth. The food, the pots and the stoves would become full of frogs, to the extent that the fire would be extinguished. When they would lie down, frogs would jump on top of them.

The people of Pharaoh were greatly distressed by this calamity and said to Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام: 'This time around, we make sincere repentance.'

After taking a promise from them, Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام made Du'a, thus, this punishment was also removed after seven days and another month passed peacefully. However, they broke their promise again and returned to their disbelief.

Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام made Du'a again. Consequently, the wells, the streams, the springs and the River Nile, in short, all of their water became fresh blood. They complained to Pharaoh about this and he said: 'Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام has cast an illusion on you.'

They said: 'What illusion are you talking about? Our pots are full of blood, there is no sign of water whatsoever.'

After hearing this, Pharaoh ordered: 'The Qibtis should take water from the same pot as the Bani Israel.' However, when the Bani Israel would take out water, water would come out, but when the Qibtis would take out water, blood would come out of the same pot.

The Qibti women became desperate and approached the women of Bani Israel for some water, but when the water would enter their pots, it would turn into blood.

Upon witnessing this, a Qibti woman said: 'Place water in your mouth and then expel it into mine.' However, as long as that water remained in the mouth of the Israelite woman, it remained as water, but when it reached the mouth of the Qibti woman, it became blood.

When Pharaoh himself became extremely thirsty, he tried to suck the liquid of the moist trees, but as soon as the liquid entered his mouth, it became blood.

For seven days, they did not find anything besides blood to drink. So once again, they requested Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام to make Du'a and promised to embrace faith. Sayyiduna Musa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام made Du'a, thus, this calamity was also averted, but they still did not embrace faith.

(Tafseer-e-Baghawi, vol. 2, pp. 159 - 161)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Sunnahs and manners of adorning oneself

Let's listen to the Sunnahs and manners of adorning oneself from the book 'Sunnatayn aur Aadab' published by Maktaba-tul-Madinah:

- It is Haraam for women to braid their hair with any other human hair. It has been cursed in a blessed Hadees. In fact, even the woman, who fixes braid made of human hair into other woman's hair, is also cursed. *(Durr-e-Mukhtar, vol. 9, pp. 614-615)*
- If braid is made of woman's own hair [that had been separated] and it is then attached to her hair, it is still impermissible. *(Ibid)*
- It is permissible for women to apply Mehndi [henna] to hands or feet. It is impermissible to apply henna to the hands and feet of younger children [boys]. There is no harm in applying henna to the hands and feet of children [girls]. *(Ibid, pp. 599)*

Remember! As it is impermissible for men to imitate women, similarly, women are also prohibited to imitate men as Sayyiduna Ibn 'Abbas رضي الله تعالى عنهما narrated: The Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ cursed feminine men who imitate women, and masculine women who imitate men. *(Al-Musnad Imam Ahmad, vol. 1, pp. 540, Hadees 2263)*

- Women should adorn themselves with permissible things for their husbands, but within the four walls of their home. They should not go out of home after adorning themselves, as the Noble Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: Woman is 'Awrat from top to bottom (i.e. something to be concealed). When a woman comes out, the Satan stares at her.

(Sunan-ut-Tirmizi vol. 2, pp. 392, Hadees 1176)