

رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ

# Imam Jaffar al-Sadiq's Advice to His Son

01-February-24



Thought-provoking speech of weekly  
sunnah-inspiring ijtima

(for Islamic Brothers)

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

## Imam Ja'far al-Şādiq's Advice to His Son

الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَعَالِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَأَصْحَابِكَ يَا حَبِيبَ اللَّهِ  
 الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا نَبِيَّ اللَّهِ وَعَالِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَأَصْحَابِكَ يَا نَوْرَ اللَّهِ

نَوَيْتُ سُنَّتَ الْإِعْتِكَافِ

**Translation:** I have made the intention of Sunnah *i'tikāf*.

Dear Islamic brothers! Whenever you enter a masjid, make the intention of *i'tikāf*, for you shall continuously gain the reward of *i'tikāf* for as long as you stay inside. Normally, when we are in a masjid, Shariah does not give permission for us to eat, drink, sleep, have *suḥūr* or *iftār*, and not even to drink Zamzam water or the water on which *dam* has been made. Yet, if the intention of *i'tikāf* is made, all these actions will become permissible. One should not make this intention only to eat, drink or sleep. This intention should instead be made to please Allah Almighty.

It is stated in *Fatāwā Shāmī*:

If someone wants to eat, drink or sleep in a masjid, he should make the intention to observe *i'tikāf* and perform the *dhikr* of Allah for some time. Then he may proceed as he wishes (i.e., now if he wants to eat, drink or sleep, he can do so).

## The excellence of reciting *ṣalāt* upon the beloved Prophet ﷺ

The final Prophet of Allah ﷺ declared:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَكُلَّ بَقِيْرِي مَدَكَ أَعْطَاةَ أَسْمَاءِ الْخَلَائِقِ فَلَا يُصَلِّي عَلَيَّ أَحَدٌ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ إِلَّا أَبْلَغَنِي بِأَسْمِهِ وَأَسْمِ  
أَبِيهِ هَذَا فَلَانُ بْنُ فُلَانٍ قَدْ صَلَّى عَلَيْكَ

Allah has indeed stationed an angel at my grave, to whom He granted ability to hear all of creation. None recites *ṣalāt* upon me until the Day of Judgement except it presents the name of the reciter and his father to me. [It says,] “This is so-and-so, child of so-and-so. He has recited *ṣalāt* upon you.”<sup>1</sup>

صَلُّوا عَلَيَّ الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Before listening to the *bayān*, let's first of all make good intentions for attaining the Divine pleasure and earning rewards. The beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, ‘يَبِيَّةُ الْمُؤْمِنِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ عَمَلِهِ’ *The intention of a Muslim is better than his deed.*<sup>2</sup>

## An important point

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

## Intentions for listening to the *bayān*

1. Lowering my eyes, I will listen to the *bayān* attentively.
2. Instead of resting against a wall, etc., I will sit in the *al-Taḥiyyāt* position as long as possible with the intention of showing respect for religious knowledge.

<sup>1</sup> *Majma' al-Zawā'id*, vol. 10, p. 251, Hadith 17291

<sup>2</sup> *Al-Mu'jam al-Kabīr*, vol. 6, p. 185, Hadith 5942

3. When I hear **صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ** , **أَذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ** , **أَذْكُرُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ** etc., I will reply loudly with the intention of gaining reward and pleasing those who make call out loudly.
4. After the *bayān*, I will approach people to say *salām*, shake hands and to make individual efforts upon them.

**صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ**      **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ**

### An infant sayyid's fear of Allah Almighty

A four-year-old child hailing from the family of Allah's Messenger, was once seen crying in the marketplace.

A person saw this and asked, "What's wrong? Is there anything you need?"

The child began to cry even harder, and said, "My heart is overwhelmed by fear of the wrath of Allah and thoughts of punishment in Hellfire," the child exclaimed.

The person compassionately reassured, "You are still very young. Why are you this scared? [i.e., be tranquil in the knowledge that children will not be punished.]"

The child became even more fearful and cried, "I've seen small pieces of firewood used to burn large chunks of wood. These small pieces burn quickly, and ensure a fire starts in no time. I fear lest I will be like firewood, used to burn people of the Hellfire like Abū Jahal and Abū Lahab!"

Dear Islamic brothers! Do you know who this four year old child was? This was none other than the shining star of the Ahl al-Bayt, Imam

Ja'far al-Ṣādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ<sup>1</sup>

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Dear Islamic brothers! Even as a child, Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ feared Allah Almighty immensely. Nowadays, a child of that age normally does not even know about himself, let alone anything else. When they grow a little, we put smartphones in their hands and have them watch cartoons, which they eventually cannot live without.

Yet, Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq, the grandson of Imam Zayn al-Ābidīn, the son of Imam Muhammad al-Bāqir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِم, was absorbed in the fear of Allah Almighty, right from his childhood. He would cry and worry about being cast into Hellfire. If only we had such thoughts and concerns! May we all be blessed with eyes that cry in fear of Allah Almighty.

أَوْيَيْنُ بِجَاهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأَمِينِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

## Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq's fear of Allah Almighty

Dear Islamic brothers! This incident also highlights the excellent Islamic upbringing our pious predecessors would give their children. This is what led to Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ fearing Allah Almighty at such a young age. This was so impactful that others would begin to fear Allah Almighty just from seeing how much fear the Imam had.

It is related that Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ would enter graveyards at night and exclaim, "O people of the grave! Why do you not respond when I call out to you? Sadly, a veil has been placed between you and I, but I shall soon be like you." He would continue saying this until

<sup>1</sup> Nēikī Kī Dawat, p. 585

morning would set in, whereupon he would leave to perform Fajr prayer in the masjid.<sup>1</sup>

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Dear Islamic brothers! Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ had many amazing characteristics. His extensive acts of worship, spiritual striving, his abstinence, piety, kindness, wisdom, fear of Allah Almighty, and religious knowledge were of the highest caliber. Let us listen to a brief introduction to him.

### A brief introduction to Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ

He was born in the city of Madina, on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> of Rabī' al-Awwal, in 83 AH. His teknonyms were Abū 'Abdullāh and Abū Ismā'īl, whilst his titles were al-Ṣādiq, Fāḍil, and Ṭāhir.

He was the eldest son of Imam Muhammad al-Bāqir. His mother was Umm Farwah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهَا, the granddaughter of Islam's first Caliph, Sayyidunā Abū Bakr al-Ṣiddīq رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ.<sup>2</sup>

His grandfather from his father's side was Imam Zayn al-'Ābidīn رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ, which means he descends from Sayyidunā Abū Bakr al-Ṣiddīq رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ from his mother's side, and from Sayyidunā 'Alī b. Abī Ṭālib رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ from his father's side. This renders him Ṣiddīqī, 'Alawī, and Fāṭimī.<sup>3</sup>

Dear Islamic brothers! Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ is a sayyid, and a shaykh in the Qādirī spiritual order. He is from the progeny of Sayyidunā 'Alī رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ, and a fragrant flower of the Ahl al-Bayt. Regarding the Ahl al-Bayt, the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ once declared, "Nobody becomes a perfect believer unless they prioritize

<sup>1</sup> *Āina-i-Ibrat*, p. 64

<sup>2</sup> *Sharḥ Shajarah Qādiriyah*, p. 58

<sup>3</sup> *Sharḥ al-'Āqā'id*, p. 328

me over their own souls, unless they love me more than themselves, unless they love my offspring more than their own, unless they love me more than they love themselves, and unless they love my Ahl al-Bayt more than their household.”<sup>1</sup>

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ      صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

## Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq's knowledge

Dear Islamic brothers! Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ was a person of immense knowledge. Imam Abū Ḥanīfah رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ, who himself is an ocean of knowledge, took profound benefit and knowledge from spending two years studying with Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ. Imam Abū Ḥanīfah (whose real name was Nu'mān b. Thābit) said, لَوْلَا السَّنَتَانِ لَهَلَكَ التُّغَمَانُ “If not for these two years, Nu'mān would have been destroyed.”<sup>2</sup>

## You will reap what you sow

Dear Islamic brothers! Imam Ja'far Al-Ṣādiq رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ was a physical embodiment of the beautiful teachings given to him by his parents, which he then conveyed to his own children. This resulted in his son, Imam Mūsā Kāzīm رَحِمَهُ اللهُ عَلَيْهِ, becoming a renowned shaykh, scholar, and saint.

Remember! You reap what you sow. If you plant a specific thing, it does not grow into something unexpected. In other words, if you do not give your children Islamic education, you cannot then expect them to become obedient, pious, or respectable members of society. When we do not raise our children properly and still expect good from them, by the time we realize, it is far too late. Even if parents try to rectify their children then, they find themselves unable to do so.

<sup>1</sup> *Shu'ab al-Īmān*, vol. 2, p. 189, Hadith 1505

<sup>2</sup> *Ādāb-i-Murshid-i-Kāmil*, 170

Raising children properly is an important responsibility parents have. Our pious predecessors took this responsibility seriously and carried it out in virtuous fashion. They offered various forms of advice to their children from time to time. Let us now look at what the great Imam Ja'far al-Şādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ advised his son with.

## Imam Ja'far Al-Şādiq's advice to his son

A pious predecessor relates:

A student of Imam Ja'far al-Şādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ informed me, "Once I was present when the Imam was advising his son, Imam Mūsā Kāzīm رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِمَا, who was seated near him. These are some matters that I can recall:

"My beloved son!", the Imam exclaimed, "Take on my advice and remember my words! If you do this, your life will pass well and your death shall be admired."

## Who is wealthy?

The first advice Imam Ja'far Al-Şādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ gave was:

My dear son! The wealthy person is he who is satisfied with what Allah distributed. Whoever keeps his eye upon the wealth of others will die poor. As for someone who is not pleased with what Allah gave, it is as though he faults Allah's decisions. Whoever considers his own mistakes to be small, considers the mistakes of others to be immense. Whoever considers his mistakes as immense, considers the mistakes of others to be small.

Dear Islamic brothers! This advice teaches us to develop contentment and satisfaction with what we have been granted, and to thank Allah Almighty in all circumstances. Wherever Allah put us, we should be happy with His decision.

## The honour in scholarly company

Imam Ja'far al-Şādiq's رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ second advice was:

My dear son! Whoever reveals the faults of others, has his own faults exposed. Whoever digs a hole for others, falls into it himself. Being around foolish people makes one lowly and disgraced. As for whoever spends his time with scholars, he finds himself honored and esteemed. Whoever goes to evil places is labelled with accusations.

Dear Islamic brothers! This teaches us a wonderful pearl of wisdom: we should not reveal the faults of others, we should only want good for others, and we should make effort to be in the company of Islamic scholars.

The third advice was:

My dear son! Do not accuse people or they shall accuse you. Save yourself from useless speech, or your honour will decrease.

Dear Islamic brothers! This teaches us to look at our own shortcomings, rather than trying to find them in others. We should focus on rectifying ourselves and refrain from useless speech.

The fourth advice of Imam Ja'far al-Şādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was:

Dear son! Speak the truth, whether for or against you. You shall otherwise face criticism from your own friends.

Dear Islamic brothers! We learn that truth always prevails. In accordance with Islamic law, we must always speak the truth no matter what.

## What leads to hatred?

Imam Ja'far al-Şādiq's fifth advice was:

My son, I urge you to always recite the Quran, spread the greeting of *salām*, call for good, forbid from evil, and mend ties with those who break them with you. If someone does not speak with you, go forward, and speak to them first. Give to whoever asks something from you.

Ensure to save yourself from talebearing, as this brings hatred into the hearts. Do not search for faults in others, as this is akin to making yourself a target [of criticism and abuse].

Dear Islamic brothers! Let us pause and reflect upon the advice we have heard so far. If we implement everything discussed, we will find ourselves living amazingly blissful lives. Yet, remember! This will only happen when we take this priceless wisdom and beautiful principles, and practically implement them into our lives. We must try our absolute best to see results.

## The semblance of those who disobey Allah Almighty

The sixth advice Imam Ja'far Al-Şādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ gave his son was:

If you wish to meet anyone, meet with the pious. Whoever disobeys Allah is like a rock from which water does not flow, a tree with no greenery, or ground upon which grass does not grow.<sup>1</sup>

## A shining example of refinement, Imam Mūsā Kāzīm رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ

Dear Islamic brothers! In summary, the advice of Imam Ja'far Al-Şādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ is:

True wealth is to be pleased with what Allah has apportioned.

The shortcomings of others should be veiled.

<sup>1</sup> *Hilyat al-Awliyā'*, Ja'far b. Muhammad Şādiq, vol. 3, p, 228, Number 3793

Spend time in the company of scholars.

Do not accuse people.

Always speak the truth.

Recite the Quran.

Spread *salām*.

Call towards good.

Forbid evil.

Maintain ties with those who break them with you.

Give to whoever asks from you.

Avoid telling tales.

Befriend pious people and avoid the evil ones.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

## The relationship of parents with their children

Dear Islamic brothers! If we want our children to be good Muslims, we must give them an Islamic upbringing. We must help them the way our pious predecessors aided their children. We must guide them to goodness and become pious ourselves in the process.

Children usually take on the habits and characteristics of their parents. If the parents abide by Islamic law and strive to learn Islamic knowledge, their children will do the same. This leads to the parents earning widespread respect and earning forgiveness from Allah Almighty. If the parents have bad habits, they pass these habits onto their children. Instead of leading to their salvation, the children become a means of their destruction.

Regarding how to raise children, let us now look at three beautiful hadith of the beloved Prophet ﷺ.

## What the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said about raising children

1. When the Final Messenger of Allah ﷺ recited the following words of the Quran:

قُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا

*Save yourselves and your families from the Fire.*<sup>1</sup>

the Companions رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ heard this and asked, “O Messenger of Allah! How can we save our families from the Fire?” In response he explained, “Tell them to do what Allah likes, and forbid them from what He dislikes.”<sup>2</sup>

2. “Teach your children three qualities: love for your Prophet, love for his family, and recital of the Quran.”<sup>3</sup>
3. “No father gave his children a gift better than good manners.”<sup>4</sup>

Muftī Aḥmad Yār Khān Na‘īmī interprets this hadith by saying:

Good manners here refer to making one’s child pious. What could be a better gift for children from their parents, that helps them in both religious and worldly matters? Parents should make sure not to leave this world having just made their children wealthy. They should make them religious and pious, as this will help them in

<sup>1</sup> [Kanz al-‘Irfān (translation of Quran)] (Juz' 28, Surah al-Taḥrīm, Verse 6)

<sup>2</sup> Al-Durr al-Manthūr, vol. 8, p. 225

<sup>3</sup> Al-Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaghīr, Hadith 311, p. 25

<sup>4</sup> Sunan al-Tirmidhī, vol. 3, p. 383, Hadith 1959

their graves. The reward of good deeds performed by living children reaches deceased parents in their graves.<sup>1</sup>

## The relationship children have with their parents

O devotees of the saints! Quran and hadith greatly explain the high rank held by parents. Children must treat their parents with nothing but goodness, kindness, and impeccable manners. They must respect their parents, and consider serving them to be an honor for themselves. When parents reach old age, they should be served even more, as they need it then more than ever.

Parents becoming elderly can be a testing time, leading to many children becoming tired of looking after them. Yet, serving your parents is a must, even in that time. Remember, it is the same parents that did not get tired of looking after their children. Due to old age or illness, no matter how irritable and harsh parents may be, no matter how much they use stern words, no matter how much they quarrel and make you anxious; you must be nothing but patient, patient, and patient. You must show them respect no matter what.

Let alone being disrespectful or shouting, we cannot even say “Ugh” to them. If we do, we may suffer irreplaceable loss and steep failure in both worlds. Whoever hurts their parents is disgraced in this world and punished in the Hereafter.

Allah Almighty teaches us how we should respect our parents in His Quran. He declares:

فَلَا تَقُلْ لَهُمْ آفٍ وَلَا تَنْهَرْهُمَا

So, do not say (even) 'Ugh' to them and do not scold them.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Mir'āt al-Manājīh*, vol. 6, p. 565

<sup>2</sup> [*Kanz al-'Irfān (translation of Quran)*] (Juz' 15, Surah Banī Isrā'īl, Verse 23)

Dear Islamic brothers! When Allah has forbidden us from saying even “Ugh” to our parents, then think of how severe it is to shout, scream, or insult them. Regarding the part of the Quran we just heard, Sayyid Na‘īm al-Dīn al-Murādābādī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ writes:

Do not say anything [to your parents] which may bear heavy upon them, and do not speak to them in rude fashion. Display the best etiquette possible and converse with them the way a servant does with their master. Display softness and humility before them. Always show them love and compassion.

No matter what length a child goes to in this world, in terms of showing their parents good character and serving them, it shall not repay the favor and goodness parents gave them. We should always pray for our parents, and ask Allah by saying, “My serving of them cannot make up for the favor they had upon me. I ask You to reward them for all they did for me.”<sup>1</sup>

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

## Pearls of wisdom

Dear Islamic brothers! Let us now continue listening to more wise statements of advice given by Imam Ja'far Al-Ṣādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ.

Imām Mālik b. Anas رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ explains of how Imām Sufyān al-Thawrī رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ came to Imam Ja'far al-Ṣādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ and said, “I will not leave until you give me some advice.” The imam said, “I will converse with you, but talking excessively is not good for you. [Remember the following three matters and act upon them].”

<sup>1</sup> *Khazā'in al-'Irfān*, Juz' 1, Banī Isrā'īl, verse 23

## Increase in blessings

The Imam said, "If Allah grants you a blessing and you want it to abide, express abundant gratitude to Him, as He announces:

لَمِنُ شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ

If you are grateful, I will henceforth give you more.<sup>1</sup>

## Blessings in sustenance

"If you feel your sustenance has been delayed, repent in abundance, as Allah has said:

فَقُلْتُ اسْتَغْفِرُوا رَبَّكُمْ إِنَّهُ كَانَ غَفَّارًا ﴿١٠١﴾ يُرْسِلِ السَّمَاءَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِدْرَارًا ﴿١٠٢﴾

وَيُمْدِدْكُمْ بِأَمْوَالٍ وَأَبْيَانٍ وَيَجْعَلْ لَكُمْ جَنَّاتٍ وَيَجْعَلْ لَكُمْ أَنْهَارًا ﴿١٠٣﴾

I therefore told them, 'Seek forgiveness from your Lord; He is Most Forgiving. He will send down upon you rain in abundance. And will support you with wealth and sons, and will make gardens for you and make rivers for you.'<sup>2</sup>

## The key to prosperity

"O Sufyān! If fear of being harmed by a king arises, or any serious worry comes about, recite **لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ** in abundance. This is the key to prosperity and a treasure from the treasures of Paradise."

After hearing these, Imam Sufyān al-Thawrī رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ said, "Three statements; and what amazing three statements they were."

<sup>1</sup> [Kanz al-‘Irfān (translation of Quran)] (Juz' 13, Surah Ibrāhīm, Verse 7)

<sup>2</sup> [Kanz al-‘Irfān (translation of Quran)] (Juz' 29, Surah Nūh, Verses 10-12)

Imam Ja'far Al-Ṣādiq رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ concluded, "By Allah! Abū 'Abdullāh has understood them, and Allah will give him benefit from them!"

صَلِّ اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Dear Islamic brothers! All of us should consistently thank Allah Almighty, repent to Him, and recite لَأَحْسَنَ وَلَا تَوْتَهُ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ from time to time. An easy way to do this is to begin reciting the litanies contained in the *Shajarah* every day. This will allow for one to repent by reciting *istighfār*, and recite لَأَحْسَنَ وَلَا تَوْتَهُ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ multiple times a day. May Allah grant us ability to do this!

## Maktaba-tul-Madina

Maktaba-tul-Madina is a department of Dawat-e-Islami.

Nowadays, all forms of new technology are used to spread messages and propagate literature. These technologies could have been used for a host of positive goals and aims. Yet, we find certain malicious people using them as a weapon to spread their corrupt ideals. This leads to Muslims being negatively affected and falling into misguidance. On one hand we have Muslims not practically implementing their faith, and on the other, we have wave after wave of heresy.

In midst of this, Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَةَ made valiant efforts to stop this deviance affecting Muslims any further. His sincere efforts bore fruit, and in 1986, Dawat-e-Islami's Maktabat-ul-Madina was established.

It initially only published audio cassettes of speeches, yet by the favors of Allah Almighty and His Messenger, it now possesses a press office in Bab-ul-Madinah, Karachi. This is replete with all kinds of facilities and necessities relating to this field. Maktabat-ul-Madina has published the works of Imam Aḥmad Razā Khān رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمُ الْعَالِيَةَ, and other scholars of the Ahl al-Sunnah. These

works have been made available to the public in huge numbers, and have become a means of reviving the Sunnah.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

## Pious Deed number 33

Dear Islamic brothers! Affiliate yourself with Dawat-e-Islami's Islamic environment, and you will find yourself developing a mindset of avoiding sin. As much as possible, also take part in the 12 Islamic Activities, as the blessings of this shall also help you stay away from sin and help you build huge reward for the Hereafter. We shall also be included amongst the fortunate who invited others to Islam and goodness, and we will find ourselves in pious company.

One important factor in this is the Pious Deeds booklet. **الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ** This is an amazing way to become practically active and leave sin behind. The Amir of Ahl al-Sunnah **وَأَمَّا تَبَرَّكَ اللَّهُ الْعَالِيَةِ** is especially happy with whoever acts upon this booklet and supplicates for them. Pious Deed number 33 states, "Today, have you offered Tahajjud ṣalāh; or in case you have not slept at night, have you offered ṣalāt al-layl?"

If we wish to save ourselves from sins of the heart and actions that lead to ruin, the Pious Deeds booklet is a fantastic way of doing so. Try your best to act upon it from today, and continue to do so in the future.

May Allah grant us ability to avoid all forms of sin, be they inward or outward, and may He allow us to act upon the Pious Deeds booklet.

أَمِينٌ بِجَاةِ النَّبِيِّ الْأَمِينِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Dear Islamic brothers! Bringing this speech to an end, let us now have the honour of discussing the Sunnah, alongside various etiquettes we can implement. The Final Messenger of Allah ﷺ once said, “Whoever loves my sunnah loves me, and whoever loves me shall be with me in Paradise.”<sup>1</sup>

## Sunnahs and etiquette of azan

Dear Islamic brothers! Let us discuss some sunnahs and etiquette of azan. First, let us listen to two hadith of Allah’s final Prophet ﷺ.

“He who calls the azan, seeking reward, is like a martyr splattered with blood until he completes his azan. Everything witnesses for him, and when he dies, worms shall not infest his body in his grave.”<sup>2</sup>

“I went to Paradise and saw pearl domes and its soil made from musk. I asked, ‘O Jibrīl, who are these for?’ He said, ‘O Muhammad! These are for the mu’adhdhins and imams of your nation.”<sup>3</sup>

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ once gave azan on a journey. He recited the testimony of faith as: *أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ* “I bear witness that I am the Messenger of Allah.”<sup>4</sup>

In another hadith, it is mentioned, “If the azan is announced in a settlement, Allah grants it safety from His punishment for that day.”<sup>5</sup>

Azan is an emphasized sunnah for all five daily prayers including Jumu‘ah, when they are offered in the masjid, on time, and in the first congregation.

<sup>1</sup> *Mishkāṭ, Kitāb al-Īmān, Bāb al-I’tiṣām bi al-Kitāb wa al-Sunnah, vol. 1, p. 55, Hadith 175*

<sup>2</sup> *Al-Mu‘jam al-Kabīr, vol. 12, p. 322, Hadith 13554*

<sup>3</sup> *Al-Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaghīr, p. 255, Hadith 4179*

<sup>4</sup> *Al-Fatāwā al-Riḍawiyyah, vol. 5, p. 375*

<sup>5</sup> *Al-Mu‘jam al-Kabīr, vol. 1, p. 257*

This ruling of announcing the azan is similar to wājib such that if it is not proclaimed, all the people of that locality shall be sinful.<sup>1</sup>

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ      صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

## Announcement

Further sunnahs and etiquette of azan shall be discussed in the study circles. Please do join them to learn more!

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ      صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

<sup>1</sup> *Al-Fatāwā al-Hindiyyah*, vol. 1, p. 53

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

## 1. The Durood 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 Durood 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 اللَّهُ 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 اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ lowering him into the grave with his own merciful hands.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. All sins forgiven

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَسَلِّمْ

It is narrated by Sayyiduna Anas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ that the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated, 'Whoever recites this Durood 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.'<sup>2</sup>

## 3. 70 Portals of mercy

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

<sup>1</sup> *Afdal-us-Salawat 'ala Sayyid-is-Sadat*, p. 151

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*, p. 65

Whoever recites this Durood, 70 portals of mercy are opened for him.<sup>1</sup>

#### 4. The reward of 600,000 Duroods

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

Shaykh Ahmad Saawi رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ reports from some saints of Islam that the one reciting this Durood once receives the reward of reciting Durood 600,000 times.<sup>2</sup>

#### 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 عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ], and the Noble Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ made him sit in between himself and Sayyiduna Abu Bakr Siddeeq رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ. The respected companions رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ were surprised as to who that honoured person was. When he had left, the Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, 'When he recites Durood upon me, he does so in these words.'<sup>3</sup>

#### 6. Durood-e-Shafa'at

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَ أَنْزِلْهُ الْبَقْعَدَ الْبُقْرَبَ عِنْدَكَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

<sup>1</sup> Al-Qaul-ul-Badi', p. 277

<sup>2</sup> Afdal-us-Salawat 'ala Sayyid-is-Sadat, p. 149

<sup>3</sup> Al-Qaul-ul-Badi', p. 125

The Greatest Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: The one who recites this Durood upon me, my intercession will become Wajib for him.<sup>1</sup>

## 1. Good deeds for 1000 days

جَزَى اللهُ عَنَّا مُحَمَّدًا مَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ

It is narrated by Sayyiduna Ibn 'Abbas رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمَا that the Noble Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated, 'For the reciter of above supplication, seventy angels write good deeds (in his account) for 1000 days.'<sup>2</sup>

## 2. An easy way to spend every night in worship

The Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, 'If anyone recites the following Du'a three times at night it is as if he has found Layla-tul-Qadr.' 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 Almighty Who is 'حَلِيمٌ' and 'كَرِيمٌ'. Allah Almighty is 'سُبْحَانَ', Rab of the seven skies and Rab of the magnificent 'Arsh.

<sup>1</sup> Attargheeb Wattarheeb, vol. 2, p. 329, Hadith 31

<sup>2</sup> Majma'-uz-Zawaid, p. 254, vol. 10, Hadith 17305

## Halqa schedule for weekly Ijtima' - overseas - 5<sup>TH</sup> February 2024

1. Learning Sunnahs and Etiquettes: **5 minutes**
2. Memorising the Du'a: **5 minutes**
3. Summary: **5 minutes**
4. Total length: **15 minutes**

### The remaining sunnahs and etiquette of azan

If a person offers prayer in his home in a city, the azan delivered in the masjid there is enough. Yet, it is still recommended to call the azan.<sup>1</sup>

- Azan can only be announced when the respective prayer time has begun. If azan is called before the entry time, or it is begun before, but then the prayer time begins during it, in both cases, the azan must be repeated.<sup>2</sup>
- It is disliked for women to call the azan or *iqāmah*, whether offering prayers on time or making up for missed prayers.<sup>3</sup>
- A discerning child can call the azan.<sup>4</sup>
- The azan announced by a person without ablution is valid, although it is disliked for such a person to call it.<sup>5</sup>
- Placing the fingers in one's ears is from the sunnah and is recommended. Moving and shaking the fingers are frivolous actions.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Radd al Muhtār*, vol. 2, pp. 62,78

<sup>2</sup> *Al-Hidayah*, vol. 1, p. 45

<sup>3</sup> *Al-Durr al-Mukhtār*, vol. 2, p. 72

<sup>4</sup> *Al-Durr al-Mukhtār*, vol. 2, p. 75

<sup>5</sup> *Qānūn-i-Sharī'at*, p. 158

<sup>6</sup> *al-Fatāwā al-Riḍawiyah*, vol. 5, p. 373

- It is recommended to recite **صَلِّ عَلَى الْفَلَاحِ** after **الْصَّلَاةُ خَيْرٌ مِنَ التَّوَمِّ**, during Fajr azan.<sup>1</sup> If not recited, azan is still valid.<sup>2</sup>

صَلِّ اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ      صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

## Safety from venomous animals

As per the schedule of Dawat-e-Islami's weekly gathering, we shall now learn a supplication. This week, "the supplication to gain protection from poisonous animals" will be taught, which is as follows:

أَعُوذُ بِكَلِمَاتِ اللَّهِ التَّامَّاتِ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا خَلَقَ

"I take refuge in Allah's perfect words, from the evil of what He created."

The meaning of "what He created" here refers to that creation from which evil is possible. Recite this morning and evening, at home and whilst travelling. It is proven to protect from venomous things.<sup>3</sup>

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ      صَلِّ اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

## Method of collective Fikr-e-Madinah (72 Madani In'amaat)

Saying of the Beloved Rasool **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ**: Pondering (over the Hereafter) for a moment is better than the worship of 60 years.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Al-Durr al-Mukhtār*, vol. 2, p. 67

<sup>2</sup> *Qānūn-i-Sharī'at*, p. 157

<sup>3</sup> *Madani panj sura*, p. 220

<sup>4</sup> *Al-Jami'-us-Sagheer*, p. 365, Hadith 5897

Let's make good intentions' before filling in the Madani In'amaat booklet:

1. To please Allah Almighty, I will carry out today's Fikr-e-Madinah (i.e. self-accountability) myself through the Madani In'amaat booklet and persuade others as well.
2. I will praise (i.e. thank) Allah Almighty for the Madani In'amaat which I practised.
3. I will regret the Madani In'amaat which I did not practise and try to act on them in the future.
4. Allah Almighty forbid, if I have not acted on any such Madani In'aam which saves a person from the sins, I will make a firm intention of not committing sin in the future, along with making repentance and Istighfar.
5. I will not reveal my good deeds without need (for example, I act on such and such or these many Madani In'amaat).
6. I will act afterwards or tomorrow on the Madani In'amaat which can be practised afterwards (for example, one did not recite Durood upon the Holy Nabi صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ 313 times today).
7. I will try to achieve the actual aim of filling in the Madani In'amaat booklet (for example, Divine fear, piety, correcting manners, progress in the Madani activities, etc.).
8. I will fill in the Madani In'amaat booklet (i.e. carry out Fikr-e-Madinah) tomorrow as well.
9. I will not consider it a usual formality but fill in the Madani In'amaat booklet while pondering.

Mark the boxes given below with a 'correct (i.e. inverted tick)' sign for the Madani In'amaat you have practised today and mark them with a '(0) sign' in case you have not practised them.

Attention: Carry out Fikr-e-Madinah while keeping an eye on your own Madani In'amaat booklet only.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

## Method of collective Fikr-e-Madinah (72 Madani In'amaat)

### Daily 56 Madani In'amaat

1. Made good intentions?
2. Offered all five Salahs with congregation?
3. Invited others to Salah before every Salah?
4. Recited or listened to Surah al-Mulk at night?
5. Recited Aaya-tul-Kursi, Tasbih-e-Fatimah and Surah Al-Ikhlās after every Salah?
6. Read or listened to three verses of Kanz-ul-Iman or two pages of Siraat-ul-Jinaan with translation and commentary?
7. Recited the Wazaaif of the Shajarah?
8. Recited Salat upon the Prophet 313 times?
9. Protected eyes from sins?
10. Protected ears from sins?
11. Kept gaze lowered while saving yourself from unnecessary glances?
12. Read a reforming book of Maktaba-tul-Madina for 12 minutes?
13. Replied to Azaan and Iqamah?
14. Cured your anger?
15. Reflected upon your actions?

16. Obeyed your Nigran?
17. Conversed in a respectful manner?
18. Studied or taught in Madrassa-tul-Madina Baalighan?
19. Arrived home within two hours of Isha Jumu'ah?
20. Spent two hours on religious works?
21. Awoke others for Fajr Salah?
22. Refrained from peering into others' homes?
23. Did home Dars take place?
24. Delivered or listened to Masjid Dars?
25. Wore clothes in accordance to Sunnah?
26. Are you complying with the Sunnah of keeping tresses?
27. Do you have a fist-length beard?
28. Immediately repented upon committing a sin?
29. Ate according to Sunnah?
30. Gave Salam to Muslims?
31. Acted upon some Sunnahs?
32. Offered the preceding Sunnahs of Zuhr Salah before the Faraaid?
33. Offered Tahajjud or Salah-tul-Layl?
34. Offered Awwabeen or Ishraq and Chasht?
35. Offered the preceding Sunnahs of 'Asr or 'Isha?
36. Gave encouragement for one religious work from the 12 religious works?
37. Refrained from asking others for things and using them?
38. Saved yourself from lying, backbiting and tale-telling?

39. Watched Madani Channel for at least some time?
40. Refrained from forming personal friendships?
41. Paid back debt on time?
42. Refrained from speaking such words of humility that were not in conformity with your heart?
43. Maintained cleanliness and decorum?
44. Concealed the faults of Muslims?
45. Delivered or attended the circle of Quranic commentary after Fajr Salah?
46. Recited 'بِسْمِ اللَّهِ' before some permissible works?
47. Delivered or listened to Chowk Dars?
48. Conveyed reward to your parents and spiritual guide?
49. Avoided Israaf (wastage)?
50. Abided by the laws of traffic?
51. Resolved issues in accordance to the organisational procedure?
52. Saved yourself from the sins of tongue?
53. Refrained from unnecessary speech?
54. Avoided joking, mocking, taunting, hurting others' feelings and laughing out loud?
55. Wore 'Imamah?
56. Respected your parents?

## Record of Qufi-e-Madinah

- Communicating through writing - 12 times

- Communicating through gestures - 12 times
- Conversing without staring - 12 times

## Weekly 10 Pious Deeds

57. Sent at least one Islamic sister from your home to the Weekly Ijtima of Islamic sisters?
58. Watched or listened to the Weekly Madani Muzakarah?
59. Attended the Weekly Ijtima from beginning till end?
60. Conducted the holiday I'tikaf?
61. Inquired after an ill person or sympathised with a grieved person, and offered condolences on someone's death?
62. Fasted on any day of the week?
63. Read or listened to the weekly booklet?
64. Performed area visit?
65. Persuaded an Islamic brother, who would once attend but no longer attends, to join the religious environment?
66. Took part in the weekly Madani Halqah?

## Monthly 3 Pious Deeds

67. Submitted last month's booklet of Pious Deeds to your Nigran?
68. Travelled in at least a 3-day Madani Qafilah this month?
69. Rendered financial help to a Sunni scholar this month?

## Yearly 1 Pious Deed

70. Travelled in a 1-month Qafilah this year according to the schedule?

## Lifelong 2 Pious Deeds

71. Read the lifelong syllabus?

72. Travelled for 12 months (together) and completed different courses (12 religious works course, 7-day Islah-e-A'maal [i.e. reformation of deeds] course, 7-day Faizan-e-Namaz course)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

## Du'a of Ameer-e-Ahl-e-Sunnat

Ya Allah Almighty! The one who sincerely acts upon Madani In'amaat, fills in the booklet by performing Fikr-e-Madinah daily and submits it to his relevant responsible Islamic brother on the 1<sup>st</sup> of every Madani [Islamic] month, do not give him death until he recites the Kalimah.

أَمِينٍ بِجَاهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأَمِينِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ