

Hardness of The
Heart

15 August-2024



Thought-provoking speech of weekly
sunnah-inspiring ijtima

(for Islamic Brothers)

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى خَاتَمِ النَّبِيِّينَ
أَمَّا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Hardness of the Heart

وَعَلَى إِلِكِ وَأَصْحِكِ يَا حَبِيبِ اللَّهِ
وَعَلَى إِلِكِ وَأَصْحِكِ يَا نُورِ اللَّهِ
الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ
الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ يَا نَبِيَّ اللَّهِ

نَوَيْتُ سُنَّتَ الْإِعْتِكَافِ

I make intention of Sunna *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, Islamic law 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 of *i'tikāf* only to eat, drink or sleep. This intention should instead be made to please Allah.

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 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).

Virtue of sending *ṣalāt* upon the beloved Prophet ﷺ

عَنْ أَبِي بَكْرٍ الصِّدِّيقِ قَالَ: الصَّلَاةُ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ أَحَقُّ لِلْخَطِيئَاتِ مِنَ الْمَاءِ لِلنَّارِ، وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ أَفْضَلُ مِنْ عِتْقِ الرِّقَابِ۔

The first Caliph of Islam, Sayyidunā Abū Bakr al-Ṣiddīq رضي الله عنه said, “Sending *ṣalāt* upon the Prophet صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم removes sins faster than water extinguishes fire, and sending salam upon him is more superior to freeing a slave.”¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Intentions for the speech

The final Prophet صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم has stated, *أَفْضَلُ الْعَبَلِ النَّيَّةُ الصَّادِقَةُ* – “A truthful intention is the best action.”² O devotees of Allah’s Messenger! Make good intentions before every action, as this can be a means of entering Paradise. Before listening to this speech, make good intentions. For example:

- I will listen to the entire speech to gain knowledge of Islam.
- I will sit in a respectful manner.
- I will not be lazy or inattentive during the speech.
- I will listen to the speech to reform and better myself.
- Whatever I hear and learn, I will try to convey to others.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

¹ *Tārīkh Baghdad*, vol. 7, p. 172

² *Al-Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaghīr*, p. 81, Hadith 1284

Dear Islamic brothers! Why does the heart become hard? What are the harms of the hardening of the heart? How can one remedy this?

إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ In today's speech we will learn about this. Please try to listen attentively.

What is the hardness of the heart?

Dear Islamic brothers! Hardness of the heart is a spiritual disease which leads one to commit many major sins. *Tafsīr Şirāṭ al-Jinān*, volume 4, page 370 explains what this ailment is:

A heart that does not think about death and the Hereafter becomes hard, and it refuses to accept good advice. The individual develops an interest in sins and feels no remorse, and he does not seek forgiveness.¹

This is not an ordinary disease of the heart, rather it is so destructive that Allah Almighty has condemned the hard-hearted. It is mentioned in verse 74 of Surah al-Baqarah:

ثُمَّ قَسَتْ قُلُوبُكُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ ذَلِكَ فَهِيَ كَالْحِجَارَةِ أَوْ أَشَدُّ قَسْوَةً ط

Translation from *Kanz ul Irfan*: Your hearts became hard thereafter, so they are like rocks, rather even harder.²

A heart harder than rocks

Dear Islamic brothers! This verse refers to the hard-hearted people of Banī Isrā'īl at the time of Prophet Mūsā عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام. They saw major signs and miracles of Prophet Mūsā عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام, but they remained heedless and their hearts became harder than rocks. A rock can accept the effects of

¹ *Şirāṭ al-Jinān*, vol. 4, p.370

² Al-Quran, part 1, Al-Baqarah, verse 74, translation from *Kanz al-'Irfān*

a river and change by cracking open and allowing water to flow through, and some fall out of fear of Allah Almighty. However, humans, who have been given intellect and understanding, whose senses are strong and who perceive the evidences and punishments of previous nations, do not turn to the obedience of Allah Almighty. ¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Hadith

Dear Islamic brothers! There is no doubt that hard-heartedness is a destructive illness that causes a person to fall into sins. Sayyidunā ‘Abdullāh b. al-Mubārak رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ said, “The greatest punishment for a believer is for his heart to become hard.”² A heart of stone causes one to sin more, it distances him from Islam, and it eradicates the pleasure of worship, recitation and dhikr of Allah Almighty. It turns one away from the mercy of Allah Almighty, and it is a sign of misfortune. It is a spiritual disease that creates even more maladies.

It has also been condemned in hadith. Here are two regarding the harms of hard-heartedness. The beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ said:

1. A hard-hearted person is distant from the mercy of Allah Almighty.³
2. Four things are from misfortune:
 - The inability to cry.
 - Hardness of the heart.

¹ *Şirāṭ al-Jinān*, part 1, vol. 1, p. 146

² *Ḥilyat al-Awliyā'*, vol. 3, p.44

³ *Sunan al-Tirmidhī*, vol. 4, p. 184, Hadith 2419

- Having unrealistic hopes.
- Greed for the world. ¹

Signs of a hard heart

Dear Islamic brothers! We learnt hard-heartedness deprives one from the mercy of Allah Almighty, and it is a cause of eternal misfortune. Many people today complain because of their difficulties, worries, financial problems, and obstacles in their businesses. Can it be that our hard-heartedness has caused all of this and deprived us of the mercy of Allah Almighty? Have our hearts become harder than stone and we are oblivious to it? Every illness has symptoms through which it is diagnosed, and hard-heartedness is no different. Here are some signs of this illness.

1. Laziness in worship

One sign of a hardened heart is the lack of desire to perform good deeds. Even if a person is granted the opportunity to enter the masjid, he prays hurriedly without focus and no presence of heart to leave as quickly as possible, as if he is a bird desperately trying to escape from a cage. Likewise, considering the obligations and *wājibāt* to be a burden is another symptom. This sign is alarming because it is a sign of the hypocrites. The noble Quran states:

وَإِذَا قَامُوا إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ قَامُوا كُسَالَى

And when they stand for the prayer, they do so most unwillingly. ²

We ask Allah Almighty to protect us from this calamity, and to grant us steadfastness, focus and sincerity in our worship and recitation.

¹ *Al-Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaghīr*, p. 62, hadith 921

² Al-Quran, part 5, al-Nisā', verse 142, translation from *Kanz al-‘Irfān*

اٰمِيْنَ بِجَاةِ النَّبِيِّ الْاَمِيْنِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوْا عَلَيَّ الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ

2. Good advice not having an effect

Another sign of hard-heartedness is when someone is reminded about the Hereafter, or hears about people dying suddenly, or he reads something about this, neither does his heart feel any concern for the Hereafter nor is he inclined to perform good deeds.

3. Preferring the world over the Hereafter

Giving preference to this temporary world instead of the eternal life in the Hereafter is another indicator of this spiritual disease. A person strives to attain all the treasures of the world, and this leaves him restless and his heart discontent. His love for the world makes him oblivious to the fact that he is drowning in sin, and he achieves nothing but destruction in both worlds.

4. Weak faith

Another sign of a hard heart is when the boundaries of Allah Almighty are broken in front of him, and immodesty, immorality and sins occur, he does not feel ashamed or uncomfortable due to his weak faith. He does not stop the evil from happening, and if he is unable to stop it physically, he does not consider it to be evil in his heart as his heart has become harder than a rock.

صَلُّوْا عَلَيَّ الْحَبِيْبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! It is clear from these symptoms that hard-heartedness is a very dangerous illness. It distances people from the

path of Allah Almighty and makes them obedient to their carnal-self and the Devil. One method of curing yourself from this ailment is to understand the symptoms and what causes them, then try your utmost to refrain from them. Here are some causes of hard-heartedness.

Love for the World

1. When the heart is overcome with love for the world, it no longer finds worship and the dhikr of Allah Almighty to be appealing. The heart tries to find contentment in fruitless actions and the world's temporary beauties. Futile actions and sin lead to destruction in this world, and they can also become a cause of disgrace in the Hereafter.
2. Useless talk and speaking without thinking lead to many sins and harden the heart. The tongue is accustomed to expressing the feelings of the heart, like an interpreter. Whenever the tongue is used, the heart and the mind pay attention to it. So, engaging in useless conversations causes the heart and mind to think less about the signs of Allah Almighty, the Hereafter, death and what occurs after it. Consequently, this hardens the heart. The beloved Prophet ﷺ said, "O people! Except for the remembrance of Allah Almighty, do not talk too much, because talking excessively hardens the heart. Indeed, the people with hardened hearts are the furthest from Allah Almighty."¹
3. Laughing excessively is another reason why the heart hardens. The beloved Prophet ﷺ said, "Do not laugh a lot, for laughing excessively causes the heart to die (i.e. become hard)."² The Prophet ﷺ also said,

¹ *Sunan al-Tirmidhī*, vol. 4, p. 184, Hadith 2419

² *Sunan Ibn Mājah*, vol. 4, p. 465, Hadith 4193

“Refrain from laughing a lot because it removes the light of the face.”¹

4. The fourth cause of hard-heartedness is being heedless of the remembrance of Allah Almighty. The heart can be in four states: elevation, expansiveness, lowliness and hardness. Elevation of the heart is in Allah’s remembrance, its expansiveness is in receiving the pleasure of Allah Almighty, its lowliness is in it being occupied with other than Allah Almighty, and its hardness is in being heedless of His remembrance.”²
5. Eating to one’s fill not only hardens the heart, but it makes one lazy in worship and ruins health too. Sayyidunā Bishr b. Hārith رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said, “Overeating is one of the habits which causes hard-heartedness.”³ Sayyidunā Ma’rūf al-Karkhī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ stated, “Eating excessively hardens the heart.”⁴

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Harms of hard-heartedness

Dear Islamic brothers! People always attempt to acquire what is beneficial for them, and the intelligent try to avoid what is harmful. There are no benefits of a hardened heart, so if someone’s heart is afflicted with this disease, here are some of the harms he could face.

First harm

¹ *Al-Targhīb wa al-Tarhīb*, vol. 3, p. 340, Hadith 27

² *Shāhirāh-e-Awliyā’*, p. 10

³ *Hilyat al-Awliyā’*, vol. 8, p. 392, selected

⁴ *Hikayatein Aur Nasihatein*, p. 350

One of the disadvantages of a hardened heart is the individual becomes bold in committing sins. The horrors of the grave, fear of the Day of Judgement, accountability in the Hereafter, and the punishment of Hell do not concern him at all. After disregarding good advice, such a person becomes bold and outspoken, which sometimes leads to disrespect against Allah Almighty and His Messenger ﷺ, resulting in him losing his faith.

The renowned commentator of the Quran, Mufti Ahmad Yār Khan Naʿīmī رَحْمَةُ اللهِ عَلَيْهِ said:

With regards to the person who is bold enough to utter all sorts of good and bad without hesitation, know that his heart is hard and it has no shame. Hard-heartedness is a tree which plants its roots in the heart and its branches are in Hell. The outcome of such a careless individual is that he becomes a disbeliever by disrespecting Allah Almighty and His Messenger ﷺ.¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Second harm

The second harm of this ailment is it deprives one from the worship of Allah Almighty, the recitation of the noble Quran, and from performing good deeds. Allah Almighty states:

وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ ﴿٥١﴾

And I did not create jinn and mankind but to worship me.²

Allah Almighty also said:

¹ *Mir'āt al-Manājīh*, vol. 6. p. 641

² Al-Quran, part 27, al-Dhāriyāt, verse 56, translation from *Kanz al-'Irfān*

الَّذِي خَلَقَ الْمَوْتَ وَالْحَيَاةَ لِيَبْلُوَكُمْ أَيُّكُمْ أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا ط

Translation from *Kanz al-Irfān*: He who created death and life to test you as to which of you is better in virtue.¹

The purpose of our lives is to worship Allah Almighty and perform an abundance of good deeds, but hard-heartedness is such an ailment that makes us forget about our true purpose in life.

Third harm

Another harm of this spiritual disease is that it destroys good deeds performed in the past. The beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “Six things destroy good deeds:

1. Finding faults in people
2. Hard-heartedness
3. Love for the world
4. Immodesty
5. Unrealistic hopes
6. Excessive cruelty.”²

Fourth harm

People with a hard heart earn the displeasure of Allah Almighty and they are cursed by Him, meaning, they are distanced from His mercy. Sayyidunā ‘Alī رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ reports that the beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “Seek goodness from the merciful people of my *ummah* and stay close to them. Do not seek goodness from hard-hearted people because they

¹ Al-Quran, part 29, al-Mulk, verse 2, translation from *Kanz al-Irfān*

² *Kanz al-Ummāl*, vol. 8, p. 36, Hadith 44016

are cursed.”¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَيِّبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

How to Cure a hard heart

Dear Islamic brothers! If we are afflicted with a dangerous illness, we become worried and seek treatment for it immediately. Hard-heartedness is a destructive disease which destroys us in this world and disgraces us in the Hereafter. Therefore, we must treat our hearts to make them tender. Here are some methods of treatment.

Instil the Fear of Allah Almighty in your Heart

Reciting the noble Quran and reflecting over the verses regarding punishment will instil the fear of Allah Almighty within your heart and soften it إِنْ شَاءَ اللهُ. Just as it is stated in verse 23 of Surah al-Zumar:

اللَّهُ نَزَّلَ أَحْسَنَ الْحَدِيثِ كِتَابًا مُتَشَابِهًا مَثَانِيَ تَقْشَعْرُ مِنْهُ جُلُودَ الَّذِينَ يَخْشَوْنَ رَبَّهُمْ
ثُمَّ تَلِينُ جُلُودُهُمْ وَقُلُوبُهُمْ إِلَى ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ ط

Allah sent down the best Book, similar and repeatedly recited; the skins of those who fear their Lord tremble due to it. Then their skins and their hearts soften for the remembrance of Allah.²

It is written on page 455 in volume 8 of *Şirāṭ al-Jinān*:

Sayyidunā Qatādah رضي الله عنه said: It is from the attributes of the SAINTS that when they hear the remembrance of Allah Almighty, their hair stands on end, their bodies tremble and their hearts find peace.³

We ask Allah Almighty to grant us the ability to truly fear Him.

¹ *Al-Mustadrak*, vol, 5, p. 458, Hadith 7978

² Al-Quran, part 23, al-Zumar, verse 23, translation from *Kanz al-'Irfān*

³ *Khāzin*, al-Zumar, verse 23, vol. 4, pp. 53-54, summarized

Sayyidunā ‘Abbās رضي الله عنه reports that the Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم said, “When someone’s hair stands on end due to the fear of Allah Almighty, his sins fall away like the leaves of a dry tree.”¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Adopt good company

Dear Islamic brothers! Adopting the company of righteous people and avoiding evil company is an excellent way of softening the heart. Mufti Aḥmad Yār Khan Na‘īmī رحمته الله عليه said:

Just how iron is softened and turned into tools, gold is softened and turned into jewellery, soil is softened and turned into a field or garden, and flour is softened and turned into bread, when someone’s heart softens, he becomes a saint, sufi, ‘ārif, etc. A tender heart is a great blessing from Allah Almighty, and it is attained by sitting in the company of the righteous and listening to their speech.²

Allah Almighty commands us to adopt the company of the righteous. He states in verse 119 of Surah al-Tawbah:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَكُونُوا مَعَ الصَّادِقِينَ ﴿١١٩﴾

O you who believe! Fear Allah and be with the truthful.³

It is explained on page 258 in volume 4 of *Tafsīr Şirāṭ al-Jinān* that this verse serves as proof for us to sit with the righteous because one way of being with the truthful is to adopt their company. The effects of this will

¹ Shu‘ab al-Īmān, vol. 1, p. 491, hadith 803

² *Mir‘āt al-Manājīh*, vol. 7, p. 2

³ Al-Quran, part 11, al-Tawbah, verse 119, translation from *Kanz al-‘Irfān*

give you the ability to adopt their good traits, perform good deeds and refrain from sins. It also removes the hardness of the heart and softens it.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Remember death

Dear Islamic brothers! Thinking about death constantly also creates a tender heart. A woman went to Sayyidah ‘Ā’ishah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا complaining about her hard-heartedness. Sayyidah ‘Ā’ishah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا advised her, “Remember death constantly and your heart will become soft.” The woman did this for a few days and it softened her heart. So, she returned to Sayyidah ‘Ā’ishah رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا and thanked her.¹

Dear Islamic brothers! We must never forget about our deaths and the Day of Judgement. So, abandon your love for this world, and spend the remainder of your lives in the worship of Allah Almighty and preparing for the Hereafter.

Visit the cemetery

Visiting the cemetery from time to time also helps soften the heart. Visiting graves and pondering over how some of the deceased could not once bear to see a mark of dirt on their clothes in this world, but now they are buried deep within it. Some of them would not let insects or flies come anywhere near them when they were alive, now imagine what the insects have done to them in their graves.

Visiting graves and reflecting like this will soften your heart إِنْ شَاءَ اللهُ. The beloved Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said to his Companions رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُمْ, “I prevented you from visiting graves, but now visit them because it

¹ *Ithāf al-Sādat al-Muttaqīn*, vol. 14, p. 24

softens the heart, makes you cry, and reminds you of the Hereafter.”¹

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Encouragement for Pious Deed 10

Dear Islamic brothers! To treat hard-heartedness, to gain passion for performing good deeds, and to attain a mindset of refraining from sin, affiliate yourselves with the Islamic environment of Dawat-e-Islami. Participate in the twelve religious activities of the zeyli halqa, act upon the 72 *Pious Deeds booklet*, and travel in the Madani Qafilahs. From the 72 Pious Deeds given to us by Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri دامت بركاتهم العالمة, pious deed number 10 states:

Have you protected your ears from sins today? For example, have you saved your ears from listening to backbiting, music, evil and obscene conversation, musical ringtones, etc.

If we act upon this good deed, we will protect ourselves from many sins. May Allah Almighty grant us the ability to act upon it.

اٰمِيْنَ بِجَاهِ خَاتِمِ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Khuddām al-Masājid

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ Dawat-e-Islami is performing religious work in over 80 departments, one of which is the department of Khuddām al-Masājid. This department is responsible for building masjids where they are needed. The appointment of the masjid imams, muazzins, and orators, and the stipulation of their wages is dealt with by this department too. It currently builds over 600 masjids a year, which is approximately two a day. This is an amazing feat.

¹ *Al-Mustadrak*, Kitāb al-Janā'iz, vol. 1, p. 710, Hadith 1433

In essence, the department was established because of Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri's love for masājid and his desire for all of them to be populated. This love is evident by his statement that Dawat-e-Islami is the movement of populating the masājid. He can often be seen encouraging people during the weekly gatherings and Madani Muzakaraha to attend the masjid regularly. If only we could also adopt this beautiful mindset of his.

Dear Islamic brothers! As the bayan comes to an end, we will learn about some *sunan* and etiquettes, as well as their virtues. The beloved Prophet ﷺ said, "Whoever loves my Sunnah loves me, and whoever loves me will be with me in Paradise."¹

Sunnas and manners of applying kohl

Dear Islamic brothers! Here are some Sunnas and manners of applying kohl, taken from the book "101 Madani Pearls", written by Mawlana Ilyas Attar al-Qadiri *داعية تركاته العالمة*.

The beloved Prophet ﷺ said, "The best kohl is *ithmid* (antimony), for it improves the eyesight and makes the eyelashes grow."²

- There is no harm in using kohl derived from a rock. It is disliked for men to apply black kohl or *kajal* with the intention of beautifying themselves. If this is not the intention, it is not disliked to do so.³

Announcement

The remaining Sunnas and manners of applying kohl will be mentioned in

¹ *Mishkāt al-Maṣābīh*, vol. 1, p. 55, Hadith 175

² *Sunan Ibn Mājah*, vol. 4, p. 115, hadith 3497

³ *Al-Fatāwā al-Hindiyyah*, vol. 5, p. 359

the study circles, so please take part in the study circles to learn about them.

The 6 ṣalāt upon the Prophet and 2 duas recited in the sunnah-inspired weekly gatherings of Dawat-e-Islami



1. The ṣalāt for the night preceding Friday

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

Saints of Islam have quoted, that whoever recites this ṣalāt upon the Prophet at least once on the night between Thursday and Friday on a regular basis, then as they are passing away, they will be blessed with a vision of Allah’s beloved Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. They will even see him when they are being buried, to the extent they will see him lowering them him into the grave with his own merciful hands.¹

2. All sins forgiven

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَسَلِّمْ

The Companion Anas رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ narrates, that Allah’s Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ stated, “Whoever recites this ṣalāt upon me whilst standing, then prior to him sitting; and if he recites it whilst sitting, then before he stands, his sins will be forgiven.”²

¹ Afḍal al-Ṣalawāt ‘alā Sayyid al-Sādāt, p. 151

² Ibid, p. 65

3. 70 doors of mercy

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

70 doors of mercy are opened for whoever recites this.¹

4. The reward of 600,000

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

Shaykh Ahmad Şāwī رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ reports from some saints of Islam, that by reciting this ṣalāt once, a person attains the reward of reciting ṣalāt 600,000 times.²

5. Being close to the Prophet ﷺ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا تُحِبُّ وَتَرْضَى لَهُ

Once, a person came to the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ. Amazingly, the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ made this person sit between himself and Sayyiduna Abū Bakr Ṣiddīq رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ.

The Companions رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ were surprised as to who this honoured person was. When he left, the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ explained, “When he recites

¹ Al-Qawl al-Badī', p. 277

² Afḍal al-Ṣalawāt 'alā Sayyid al-Sādāt, p. 149

ṣalāt upon me, he does so in these words.”¹

6. The ṣalāt of intercession

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَ أَنْزِلْهُ الْمَقْعَدَ الْمُقَرَّبَ عِنْدَكَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

The final Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: “My intercession becomes wājib for whoever recites ṣalāt like this.”²

1. Good deeds for 1000 days

جَزَى اللَّهُ عَنَّا مُحَمَّدًا مَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ

The Companion ‘Abdullah Ibn ‘Abbās رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا narrates; the Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ stated, “Seventy angels write good deeds for a thousand days, for whoever recites this.”³

2. An easy way to spend every night in worship

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْحَلِيمُ الْكَرِيمُ
سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ رَبِّ السَّمَوَاتِ السَّبْعِ وَ رَبِّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ

The final Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “Whoever recites this dua three times; it is as if he attained Laylat al-Qadr.”⁴

¹ Al-Qawl al-Badī‘, p. 125

² Al-Targhīb wa al-Tarhīb, vol. 2, p. 329, hadith 31

³ Majma‘ al-Zawā‘id, vol. 10, p. 254, hadith 17305

⁴ Tārīkh Ibn ‘Asākir, vol. 19, p. 155, hadith 4415

Halqa schedule for weekly gathering - overseas - 15th Agust 2024

Teaching sunnahs and manners – **5 minutes**

Memorising dua – **5 minutes**

Summary – **5 minutes**

15 minutes in total

Remaining *sunan* and etiquettes of applying kohl

- It is a sunnah to apply kohl before going to sleep.¹
- It is reported that there are three ways to apply kohl:
 1. Apply it three times to each eye.
 2. Apply it three times to the right eye and two to the left.
 3. Apply it to both eyes twice and then apply it again to each eye.²
- Applying it a different way each day allows you to act upon all three methods. **إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ**
- Our beloved Prophet **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ** always started an honourable action with the right side. Therefore, apply kohl to the right eye before applying it to the left.

صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Supplication for salvation from disgrace in this world and the Hereafter

In accordance with the schedule of Dawat-e-Islami's weekly gathering,

¹ *Mir'āt al-Manājīh*, vol. 6, p. 180

² *Shu'ab al-Īmān*, vol. 5, p. 218, hadith 6428

the supplication to acquire salvation from disgrace in this world and the Hereafter will be learnt. This is the supplication:

اللَّهُمَّ أَحْسِنْ عَاقِبَتِي فِي الْأُمُورِ كُلِّهَا وَأَجِرْنِي مِنْ خِزْيِ الدُّنْيَا وَعَذَابِ الآخِرَةِ¹

O Allah! Grant me a good end in all matters, and save me from humiliation in the world and the punishment of the Hereafter.²

صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ

Method of collective Fikr-e-Madinah (72 Pious Deed)

The Messenger of Allah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, “Contemplating (over the Hereafter) for a moment is better than worshipping for 60 years.”³

Let’s make good intentions’ before filling in the Pious Deed booklet:

1. To please Allah, I will carry out today’s Fikr-e-Madinah (i.e. self-accountability) myself through the Pious Deed booklet and persuade others as well.
2. I will praise (i.e. thank) Allah Almighty for the Pious Deed which I practised.
3. I will regret the Pious Deed 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 Pious Deed which saves a person from the sins, I will make a firm intention of not

¹ Al-Mu‘jam al-Kabīr, vol. 2, p. 33, hadith 1196

² Faizan-e-Dua, p. 316

³ Al-Jāmi‘ al-Ṣaghīr, p. 365, hadith 5897

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 Pious Deed).
6. I will act afterwards or tomorrow on the Pious Deed 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 Pious Deed booklet (for example, Divine fear, piety, correcting manners, progress in the Madani activities, etc.).
8. I will fill in the Pious Deed booklet (i.e. carry out Fikr-e-Madinah) tomorrow as well.
9. I will not consider it a usual formality but fill in the Pious Deed booklet while pondering.

Mark the boxes given below with a ‘correct (i.e. inverted tick)’ sign for the Pious Deed 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 Pious Deed booklet only.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

How to do collective accountability - 72 Pious Deeds

The 56 daily Pious Deeds

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. Did you try to sleep within two hours after the Isha congregational Salah?
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 اللّٰهِ' 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 Qufl-i-Madina

- Communicating through writing - **12 times**
- Communicating through gestures - **12 times**

- Conversing without looking into the other's eyes - **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. Have you read the lifetime syllabus?

72. Did you travel in an uninterrupted 12 month Madani Qafila? Did you complete various educational courses?

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

The Ameer of Ahl al-Sunnah's prayer

O Allah! Whoever sincerely acts upon the Pious Deeds booklet, fills it daily whilst taking account of himself, and submits it to his relevant responsible Islamic brother on the 1st of every calendar month; do not give him death until he recites the *kalimah*.

أَمِيرُنْ بِجَاهِ خَاتِمِ النَّبِيِّينَ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ