

AL MAJLIS

ISSUE No.3

FOR ISLAMIC ENLIGHTENMENT

الصدق

TRUTH

GUIDES TOWARDS RIGHTEOUSNESS

WHICH IN TURN LEADS TOWARDS JANNAH

50/=

GLAD TIDINGS

It has been reported by Abu Hurairah, radhyallahu anhu, that Rasoolullah sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "After the death of a person, his actions stop, save three things that he leaves behind; countinuous charity, knowledge from which benefit may be obtained, and a virtuous son who prays for him."

Allah Taála is so great. So merciful. He has kept doors wide open for everyone to stride forward. Has given opportunities for everyone to reap the most. Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, has said, "One who furnishes a mujahid with equipment for Jihad in the cause of Allah, is as if he himself participated in Jihad." Meaning, they will be equally rewarded. So maybe you did not acquire Deeni knowledge, or did not memorise the Holy Qur'an, or write Deeni literature, but by aiding Deeni institutions and helping those acquiring ilm, or those memorising the Holy Qur'an, or those who are constantly in the service of imparting Deeni knowledge, you will also be rewarded hand in hand.

Majlis ul Ma'arif el-Islamiyyah is where your cause can spread far and wide. Students of different dominations and various tribes throughout Kenya have benefited through Majlis ul Ma'arif el-Islamiyyah. Among them being:-

Bajuni	Basoga	Borana	Bukusu	Burji	Chaga
Chigga	Digo	Duruma	Gabra	Gareh	Giriana
Hangaza	Haya	Jibana	Kalenjin	Kamba	Kambe
Keiyo	Kerewe	Kikusu	Kikuyu	Kisii	Luhya
Luo	Marachi	Maragoli	Masaai	Meru	Mjita
Mrundi	Mururi	Muwanga	Mteso	Mzanaki	Nandi
Ngoni	Nubi	Oromo	Pokomo	Rabai	Rendile
Samburu	Shirazi	Somali	Taita	Tharaka	Turkana

So your investment will be far reaching.

Alhamdulillah, in the last academic year ended 22nd Shaban, 1427H, 45 students completed Hifz ul Qur'an, 109 participants completed the Basic Islamic Course in the Darul Arkam section, and 16 students qualified for further studies in the Ma'had 'ilmi section. 10 students successfully completed the computer course.

ACT NOW! Contact Moulana Yasin Ali on 0733 560109 or 041 2494187 to channel your assistance.

Please see the back cover for the physical location of Majlis ul Ma'arif el-Islamiyyah.

AL MAJLIS is published periodically by MAJLIS EL-MA'ARIF EL = ISLAMIYYAH, Amkeni, Kikambala, Mombasa, Kenya.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Maulana AbdulHafeez Khandwalla
Sheikh Ali Duhmy
Maulana Yaasin Haji Ali

For correspondence, write to:

The Editor,
AL MAJLIS
P. O. Box 104
(Mtwapa) Kikambala.
Tel: (Sh. Ali Duhmy) 0734978955.
e-mail: mmislamiyya@yahoo.com

THE EXPEDITION TO KHAIBAR

21

We learn the true purpose behind the wars fought in the early Islamic era and how the Muslims dealt with their foes.

ABU DDARDA radhiyallahu anhu

23

The noble one of the elite class. How they deserved lofty ranks.

A NEW-REVERT'S PERSONAL ACCOUNT

26

They sacrificed, so Islam entered their blood and held fast to it on all conditions.

DATES

29

A simple fruit with a wealth of benefits.

INSPIRATIONS

32

Some mind boggling questions for those striving for the truth.

Contents

EDITORIAL

2

TRUTHFULNESS

3

The qualities of the Truthful and their status as in the Qur'an and the Ahaadith.

MUSLIMS OF SAMBURU

8

A report regarding Islam in Samburu District and the indigenous Samburu Muslims.

THE END OF THE UNIVERSE

10

The world will eventually come to an end. How and when? And the coming inevitable events.

As this magazine contains verses from the Holy Qur'an, please handle it with due respect, and after reading it do pass it to others, jazakumullahu khairan.

Striving For Peace?

Peace. Harmony. Prosperity. The three golden words – the dream words of every nation, leader, federation, organization and society. Can they be practically achieved? Yes! But only on the foundation of truth. When truth prevails, the law of the beasts: oppression, hatred, victimization, thievery, thuggery, corruption and subjugation - crumbles and the law for humanity - the law prescribed by Allah Ta'aala - takes root; resulting in peace, harmony and prosperity. The most perfect practical example of this transition - from the beastly one to the humane one - took place in the Arabian Peninsula during those best days of the world - the days when the blessed feet of Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, trod the earth.

Before the coming of Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, all sorts of vices were prevalent. The Arabs used to bury alive young girls. Idol worshiping was in the roots. Sons inherited their fathers' wives. A man could live with his real sister like a husband and wife. Gambling, consuming of liquor and fornication was rife; and was talked about openly. In wars, people were burnt alive, stomachs of women were slashed and bodies mutilated, to the extent that human skulls were used as bowls for drinking liquor. As poverty was high; grabbing, looting and hijacking was the order of the day. Oppression and victimizing was the norm. Taking revenge and killing in vengeance was the pride of a tribe. Wars were fought to avenge a single killing, and these wars would go on for years, also decades. There was no peace or sound stability. Trade caravans were attacked, their merchandise looted, and the people were killed or kidnapped for ransom or sold as slaves.

At this time of utter beastliness, Allah Ta'aala sent His choicest Messenger, the Mercy to all creatures, Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam. He was the beacon of light in total darkness. He surged forward on the sound principles of truth, love, tenderness, benevolence, caring and trust. Even before he was entrusted with the great task of conveying the Message of Allah Ta'aala and guiding the mankind, his qualities shone all over; and was titled: the Trustworthy, the Truthful.

Through his selfless efforts and forbearance in preaching and spreading the truth, Allah Ta'aala, in a short span of twenty three years, transformed the whole of Arabian Peninsula and the same very people, whose conditions we have just discussed, into the saviors of truth, peace, love, equality and justice. The same very people, who would fight for years to avenge their dear ones, were now ready to die for others, and sacrifice whatever they had, for others, while they themselves were the most in need. Peace and tranquility rose to such heights, that a young woman wearing golden ornaments, could travel alone from city to city, without anyone casting an eye on her with an evil temptation. They were blessed with prosperity in abundance to such an extent, that no one was willing to accept alms or charity.

But again, when greed, lust and temptation took hold, and truth was disregarded; anarchy, oppression and squandering became the mode of life. Powerful nations beheld the interest of the influential few at the expense of the lives of millions of people. So when truth faded, the beastly terrain returned.

So the only antidote for all the vices and debaseness, is to return to the real truth, the same truth that Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, strived to spread. The real truth - which does not leave a trace of doubt in the heart; as Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, explained, "For truth is peaceful and tranquil, while falsehood is suspicious and doubtful".

AbdulHafeez Khandwalla

Truthfulness

[الصدق]

Compiled by AbdulHafeez Khandwalla

Sayyidunaa Ali ibn Abi Talib, Radhiyallahu anhu has been reported to have said, "Whosoever has three qualities in connection with his association with other people, it will become incumbent upon them, for him, three things. The three qualities are:-

1. Whenever he talks to them, he is truthful.
2. If they entrust him with anything, he doesn't cheat them or betray them.
3. If he promises them anything, he fulfils his promise; then the three things which will be incumbent upon the people for him are:-
 - (a) their hearts will love him,
 - (b) they will speak good of him; i.e., praise him, and
 - (c) their assistance to him will be visible.

The Arabic word, '*sidq*' (truth), which is made up of three letters; ص, د and ق (صدق), indicates power, force and strength in a thing; be it in speech, or in deed, contrary to '*kidhb*' (lie); as '*lies*' (*kidhb*), has no force, no power, no strength. It comes from what the Arabs say – 'شيء صدق' '*sha'un' sadqun*' – أي صلب '*salbun*' – a hard, firm, solid stuff and 'رمح صدق' '*rumhun sadqun*' – a strong, piercing spear.

In the technical term, '*As-sidq*' (the truth), according to Imam Raaghib, means being in total conformity: the words of the one relating, with the actual happening, or regarding the person concerned, or talked about. And if any of the said conditions varies, it won't be the whole truth.

Others have said, "Truth means that the innermost of a person to be in total agreement and conformity with the person's overtness; and the outward with the inmost, in such a manner that a person's state and condition does not refute or disown his actions; and neither his actions disown or refute his state of condition.

Allama Qushairy, rahimahullah, has said that '*as-sidq*' [truth] is not to have in your state or condition any sort of blemish or flaw [meaning to be true in its nature], neither to have any doubt in your belief and faith, nor to have any flaw or shortcoming in your action.

Among the signs of '*sidq*' [truth], is that it makes the heart peaceful, bringing tranquility to the heart; contrary to lies and falsehood, which causes doubt and suspicion in the heart, as is reported in at-Tirmidhiy : "Truth is comforting and tranquil, and falsehood is disturbing and misgiving. So a true doctrine causes the heart to be calm, peaceful, confident and reassured; while a false doctrine creates distortion, doubt, illusion and suspicion in the heart.

State of the truthful as described in the Holy Qurán:

السييل والسائلين وفي الرقاب وأقام الصلاة وآتى الزكاة
والموفون بعهدهم إذا عاهدوا والصابرين في البأساء

١. ليس البر أن تولوا وجوهكم قبل المشرق والمغرب ولكن
البر من آمن بالله واليوم الآخر والملائكة والكتاب والنبيين
وآتى المال على حبه ذرى القربى واليتامى والمساكين وابن

"Righteousness is not that you turn your face toward the east or the west, but [true] righteousness is [in] one who believes in Allah, the Last Day, the Angels, the Book, and the Prophets, and gives wealth, in spite of love for it, to relatives, orphans,

والضراء وحين لبأس أولئك الذين صدقوا وأولئك هم

the needy, the traveler, those who ask (for help) and for freeing slaves; (and who) establishes Prayer and gives Zakaa; and (those who) fulfill their promise when they promise: and (those who) are patient in poverty and hardship and during battle. Those are the ones who have been true, and it is those who are the righteous." (2:177)

Maulana AbdulMajid Daryabadi, rahimahullah, writes in his commentary, "This is one of the noblest verses in the Qurán. Faith in God and benovolence towards man is clearly set forth as the essence of religion. It contains a compendium of doctrine to be believed, as well of percepts to be practiced in life. The ayat also states the principal Islamic code, to all acts of merit, - not to win the applause of human beings, not to achieve good name, but to be impelled by the love of one's Creator, Master and Sustainer, and to be moved to win His goodwill, meaning, a Muslim is truly religious in all his acts of charity and benovolence.

The ayat also clearly sights an outstanding quality of the God-fearing: they are true in their faith; in righteousness – one of the main requirements of the Faith. The ayat also directs to the three division of faith; (i) Islamic belief (ii) Islamic devotions and (iii) The Islamic code of social and moral duties.

Say, "Shall I inform you of (something) better than that? For those who fear Allah will be gardens in the presence of their Lord beneath which rivers flow, wherein they abide eternally; and purified spouses and approval from Allah. And Allah is Seeing (i.e., aware) of (His) servants * Those who say, "Our Lord, indeed we have believed, so forgive us our sins and protect us from the punishment of the Fire * The patient, the true, the obedient, those who spend (in the way of Allah), and those who seek forgiveness before dawn." (3: 15,16,17)

١. قل أؤنبئكم بخير من ذالكم للذين اتقوا عند ربهم جنت تجري من تحتها الأنهار خالدين فيها وأزواج مطهرة ورضوان من الله والله بصير بالعباد * الذين يقولون ربنا إنا آثمنا فاعفر لنا ذنوبنا وقنا عذاب النار * الصابرين والصادقين والقانتين والمنفقين والمستغفرين بالأسحار * {آل عمران ١٥/١٦/١٧}

Ustadh Yusuf Ali, rahmatullahi alaihi, writes in his commentary, "True servants of Allah are described here in these ayats. They have faith, humility and hope, and they have certain virtues, namely:-

- (I) Patience, steadfastness, self-restraint, and all that comes under the full definition of *sabr*.
- (II) True and sincere in all their dealings, promises and words, which makes them outstanding in social conduct.
- (III) Their spiritual worship is earnest and deep: an inner counterpart of their outward conduct.
- (IV) Their worship of Allah shows itself in their love of their 'fellow' – men, for they are ready and liberal in charity, and
- (V) Their self-discipline is so great, that the first thing they do every morning, is to humbly approach their God.

"Allah will say, 'This is the Day when the truthful will benefit from their truthfulness.' For them are gardens (in Paradise) beneath which rivers flow, wherein they will abide forever, Allah being pleased with them, and they with Him. That is the great attainment." (5: 119)

٢. قال الله هذا يوم ينفع الصادقين صدقهم لهم جنت تجري من تحتها الأنهار خالدين فيها أبدا رضي الله عنهم ورضوا عنه ذالك الفوز العظيم {المائدة ١١٩}

Those who are true in their belief, sayings and actions, (just as the Messiah – Essa, alaihis salaam). So the fruits of their truthfulness will be rewarded today (on the Day of Judgment).

"O You, who have believed, fear Allah and be with those who are true." (9: 119)

٣. يا أيها الذين آمنوا اتقوا الله وكونوا مع الصادقين

{ التوبة ١١٩ }

Here in this ayat, we are being emphasized to be with the truthful and the righteous, as truth will prevail and only truth saves from total destruction and brings relief and a way out from difficulties, just as it did to the three sahabas; Ka'b bin Malik, Hilal bin Umayyah and Murarah bin Rabee', radhiyallahu anhum. Truth brought them relief and they were forgiven.

"And [mention, O Muhammad], when We took from the Prophets their covenant and from you and from Noah and Abraham and Moses and Jesus, the son of Mary; and We took from them a solemn covenant * That He may question the truthful about their truth. And He has prepared for the disbelievers a painful punishment." (33 : 7,8)

٤. وإذ أخذنا من النبيين ميثاقهم ومنك ومن نوح وإبراهيم

وموسى وعيسى ابن مريم وأخذنا منهم ميثاقا غليظا *

ليسئل الصادقين عن صدقهم وأعد للكافرين عذابا أليما

{ الأحزاب ٨/٧ }

Says Ustadh Yusuf Ali, "The men to whom Allah's Truth has been committed for promulgation will be asked in the hereafter as to how the Truth fared in the world – how it was received, who opposed it, and who assisted it. This will be evidence for and against those to whom it was preached, so that the responsibility of those who dishonoured it maybe duly enforced.

"Among the believers are men true to what they promised Allah. Among them is he who has fulfilled his vow (to the death), and among them is he who awaits [his chance], and they did not alter [the terms of their commitment] by any alteration * That Allah may reward the truthful for their truth, and punish the hypocrites if He wills or accepts their repentance. Indeed, Allah is ever Forgiving and Merciful * And Allah repelled, those who disbelieved in their rage, not having obtained any good. And sufficient was Allah for the believers in battle and ever is Allah Powerful and Exalted in Might." (33 : 23,24,25)

٥. من المؤمنين رجال صدقوا ما عاهدوا الله عليه فمنهم من

قضى نحبهم ومنهم من ينتظر وما بدلوا تبديلا * ليجزي الله

الصادقين بصدقهم ويعذب المنافقين إن شاء أو يتوب

عليهم إن الله كان غفورا رحيما * ورد الله الذين كفروا

بغضهم لم ينالوا خيرا وكفى الله المؤمنين القتال وكان الله

قويا عزيزا { الأحزاب ٢٣/٢٤/٢٥ }

Writes Ustadh Yusuf Ali, "In the fight for truth were (and are) many who sacrifice their all resources; knowledge, influence, and life itself in the cause, and never wavered. If they won the crown of martyrdom, they were blessed.

Before Allah's Mercy, there is always room for repentance and forgiveness, even after treason and crime, but the forgiveness will be according to Allah's Will and Plan.

"Indeed, the Muslim men and Muslim women, the believing men and the believing women, the obedient men and the obedient women, the truthful men and the truthful women, the patient men and the patient women, the humble men and the humble women, the charitable men and the charitable women, the fasting men and the fasting women, the men who guard their private parts and the women who do so, and the men who remember Allah often and the women who do so – for them Allah has prepared forgiveness and a great reward." (33 : 35)

٦. إن المسلمين والمسلمات والمؤمنين والمؤمنات والقانتين

والقانتات والصادقين والصادقات والصابرين و

الصابرات والخاشعين والخاشعات والمتصدقين و

المتصدقات والصائمين والصائمات والحافظين فروجهم

والحافظات والذاكرين الله كثيرا والذاكرات أعد الله

لهم مغفرة وأجرا عظيما { الأحزاب ٣٥ }

A number of Muslim virtues are specified here, but the chief stress is laid on the fact that these virtues are as necessary to women as to men. Both sexes have spiritual as well as human rights and duties in an equal degree, and also in regard of the future reward of the Hereafter.

"Those who believe say, 'Why has a surah not been sent down?' But when a precise surah is revealed and fighting is mentioned therein, you see those in whose heart is disease [i.e., hypocrisy] looking at you with a look of one overcome by death. And more appropriate for them [would have been] * Obedience and good words. And when the matter [of fighting] was determined, if they had been true to Allah, it would have been better for them." (47 : 20,21)

٧. ويقول الذين آمنوا لولا نزلت سورة فإذا أنزلت سورة محكمة وذكر فيها القتال رأيت الذين في قلوبهم مرض ينظرون إليك نظر المغشي عليه من الموت فأولى لهم * طاعة و قول معروف فإذا عزم الأمر فلو صدقوا الله لكان خيرا لهم * { محمد ٢٠/٢١ }

Writes Ustadh Yusuf Ali, "The men of faith and loyalty are eager and anxious to get a command to serve the Cause, even if it be at the sacrifice of their lives. Not so the hypocrites, 'those in whose hearts is a disease', they are mortally afraid. The defence of truth and righteousness at all sacrifice, is a fundamental condition of enlistment in the Cause of Allah."

"The believer are only the ones who have believed in Allah and His Messenger and then doubt not but strive with their properties and their lives in the cause of Allah. It is those who are the truthful." (49 : 15)

٨. إنما المؤمنون الذين آمنوا بالله ورسوله ثم لم يرتابوا وجاهدوا بأموالهم وأنفسهم في سبيل الله أولئك هم الصادقون { الحجرات ١٥ }

These are the qualities of a true believer - has firm belief and faith in Allah Ta'aala and His beloved Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, and is always prepared to sacrifice his life and wealth for the cause of Allah. They are those who don't complain, nor do they waver, but are steadfast on plain truth.

Virtues of being truthful as mentioned in the Ahaadith:

Moreover, a lot of emphasis has been laid regarding being truthful in the traditions of Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam. It has been reported by Abdullah ibn Mas'ood, radhiyallahu anhu, that Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "Truth leads to piety, and piety leads to Jannah (Paradise). A man persists in speaking the truth till he is enrolled with Allah as a truthful man. While falsehood leads to vice, and vice leads to Hellfire. A person goes on lying till with Allah he is enrolled as liar." [Bukhari and Muslim]

It has also been reported by Abu Muhammad, Hasan bin Ali bin Abu Talib, radhiyallahu anhu, that Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "Leave alone that which appears doubtful to you, and adhere to that which is not doubtful, for truth is peace of mind, while falsehood is doubt." [Trimidy].

It has also been reported by Abdullah bin Umar, radhiyallahu anhumaa, that Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "If you have four characteristics [you adorned yourself with them and

duefully observe them], then it should not matter to you whatever you fail to get from the worldly advantages:

[1] Keeping a trust, [2] Truthful in speech (speaking the truth), [3] Good character and [4] Abstemiousness in food (having halal and good sustenance and abstaining from haram). [Ahmad and Baihaqy]

The following hadith compiled by the Imams; Al-Bukhari and Muslim, narrated by Seyyidina Abu Hurairah, radhiyallahu anhu, also clearly shows how truthfulness saves from calamities and hardships, and on the other hand how lies and falsity brings loss, humiliation and utter ruin:

Narrated Abu Hurairah, radhiyallahu anhu, the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "There were three men among the Banu Israel, one leper, one bald and one blind. Allah intended to test them. He therefore, sent to them an angel who came to the leper and asked him what he would like best. He replied: "A good colour, a good skin and to be rid of what makes me loathsome to people." He (the

angle) rubbed him and his loathsomeness vanished, and he was given a good colour and a good skin. He then asked him what property he would like best. The leper replied that he would like camels – (or perhaps he said cattle, for Ishaq (one of the subnarrator of the hadith) was uncertain, but either the leper or the bald man said: 'camels,' and the other said; 'cattle').

He was given a she-camel ten months pregnant. The angle prayed for Allah's blessings on it. The angle then went to the bald man and asked him what he would like best and he replied: "Good hair and to be rid of what makes him loathsome to people". The angle ran his hand over him and he was given good hair. He then asked him what property he would like best. He replied that he would like cattle, so he was given a pregnant cow. The angle prayed for Allah's blessings on it. The angle then went to the blind man and asked him what he would like best, and he replied: "Should Allah restore my sight to me so that I may see people". Thereupon the angle ran his hand over him and Allah restored his sight. The angle then asked what property he would like most. He replied that he would like sheep, so he was given a pregnant ewe. Flocks and herds were produced for the three men; the first one having a valley full of camels, the second one, having a valley full of cows and the third one full of sheep. Then the angle went in the form of a leper, to the one who had been a leper, and said: "I am a poor man and my resources have been exhausted in my journey, and my only means of reaching my destination are dependent on Allah and then on you, so I ask you by Him, Who gave you the good colour, the good skin and the property, for a camel by which I may get to my destination." He replied: "I have many dues to pay," The angle then said: "I think I recognize you. Were you not a leper whom people found loathsome and a poor man to whom Allah gave property?" He replied: "I inherited this property through generations." The angle said: "If you are telling a lie, may Allah return you to your former condition." The angle went in the form of a bald man to the one who had been bald, and said the same as he had said to the former and received a similar reply. So he said: "If you are telling a lie, may Allah return you to your former condition." The angle then went to the one who had been blind and said: "I am a poor traveller and my resources have been exhausted in my journey. My only means of reaching my destination are dependent on Allah and then on you, so I ask you by Him, Who restored your eyesight, for a sheep by which I may get to the end of my journey." He replied: "Yes, I was blind.

Allah restored my eyesight, so take what you wish and leave what you wish. I swear by Allah that I shall not importune you today for anything you take, as I give it for Allah's sake." The angle said: "Keep your property. You have all simply been put to a test, and Allah is pleased with you and displeased with both of your companions." {Al-Bukhari and Muslim}

May Allah Ta'ala inculcate into us truthfulness in all our deeds, speech and in all our affairs and dealings, and protect us from all forms of hypocrisy, Aamin.

اَللّٰهُمَّ اِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ لِسَانًا صَادِقًا وَقَلْبًا سَلِيْمًا وَخُلُقًا مُّسْتَقِيْمًا.

O Allah, we beg of You a truthful tongue, a sound heart and upright conduct. Aamin.

On the authority of Abu Hurairah, radhiyal-lahu anhu, who said that the Messenger of Allah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said: 'Allah, Subhanahu wa Ta'ala, will say on the Day of Resurrection:

"O son of Adam, I fell ill and you visited Me not. He will say: O Lord, and how should I visit You when You are the Lord of the worlds? He will say: Did you not know that my servant So-and-so had fallen ill and you visited him not? Did you not know that had you visited him you would have found Me with him? O son of Adam, I asked for food and you fed Me not. He will say: O Lord, and how should I feed You when You are the Lord of the worlds? He will say: Did you not know that my servant So-and-so asked you for food and you fed him not? Did you not know that had you fed him you would surely have found that (i.e., the reward) with Me? O son of Adam, I asked you to give Me to drink and you gave me not to drink? He will say: O Lord, how should I give You to drink when You are the Lord of the worlds? He will say: My servant So-and-so asked you to drink and you gave him not to drink. Had you given him to drink you would have surely found that (i.e., the reward) with Me."

Muslim

The Muslims Of The Samburu District

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION OF THE - SAMBURU DISTRICT

The Samburu District is a district in the Northern Rift-Valley, and it is bordered by Marsabit to the north, Isiolo to the east, Laikipia to the south and Turkana and West Pokot Districts at the western part of it. It is approximately 400-450 km north of Nakuru town. It got the name 'Samburu' from the occupants who are the 'Samburus'. The district Head-quarters are at Maralal.

Samburu District is semi-arid grassland / savanna, and it is among the biggest districts in the country.

BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The Samburu are believed to have originated from a valley known as 'Malasa', which is a branch of the Great Rift Valley, and they share the same grand father with the Masai tribe, and both the tribes are currently plain nilotes, believing that "Man without a cow is not upright".

They must depend on pastoral (nomadic) life, because they never knew how to hold a jembe and had never seen a jembe in use. There were lectures to guide you on a nomadic life, but not other than depending on herds.

TRIBAL RITUALS AND THEIR VALUES

- They circumcise their boys and girls.
- The elders must pray every evening (during the time of sleeping) and early morning at day-break, facing north.
- The elders are the head of the community.
- They circumcise boys, as they believe that a man is not a man unless he is cleaned.
- They also believe that girls must also be circumcised, according to their belief that they have been advised to do so by their unknown ascendants.
- The other ritual that must be observed is the celebrating of child birth. For boys, they slaughter two goats; a ram (male sheep) and a heir (he goat). And for girls, they slaughter only a heir (he goat).

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN TRIBAL TRADITIONS AND ISLAMIC TEACHINGS

- ✓ They celebrate child birth when the child is only less than a week - to slaughter an animal.
- ✓ They circumcise their youths.
- ✓ Men and women are not supposed to mix.
- ✓ Women are not allowed to head any family.
- ✓ When a woman loses her husband, she must stay for some-time before get-ting married to someone else.
- ✓ They have a specific direction they must face when praying.
- ✓ They do not use the name of God to name any living or non-living creature.
- ✓ They do not bury their dead with coffins.
- ✓ The dead must be laid on his right side.
- ✓ They must be faced, when burying, to one direction, and stones are to be placed on graves.
- ✓ Women are not supposed to follow a bier.
- ✓ They do not delay burying a dead body.
- ✓ Men are not supposed to urinate when standing or walking.
- ✓ During meetings, the person who is addressing others, must be on a raised ground or at least stand up.
- ✓ When they assemble, they must start with a prayer, and end with a prayer.
- ✓ They believe in only one God who created their first ancestor and was given a cow.
- ✓ They do not eat any meat of an animal which has claws or is a carnivorous.
- ✓ They believe that sleeping on your stomach is forbidden.
- ✓ When someone needs to marry, he goes to the father of the girl, if he is not alive, he looks for the girl's elder brother, if he is not alive, then to her nephew. and her male relations.
- ✓ When sharing inheritance, a son gets a bigger portion.
- ✓ Before burying a dead, all his debts must be paid.

ISLAM IN SAMBURU DISTRICT

The Muslims are very few and looked upon as strange due to the way they dress. Out of the total inhabitants of the district, there are very few Muslims. About 10% are Christians and the rest

follow their ancestors' beliefs. Muslims of other tribes have come to live there as traders.

Islam entered the district when the traders from Isiolo came to trade in Samburu around 1860s, and built masajids in main trading centers.

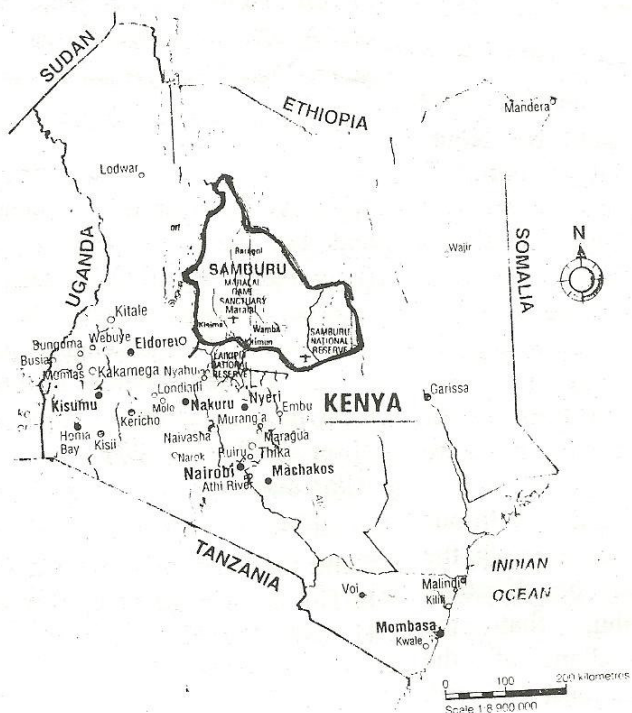
The largest masjid is in Maralal. Two hundred people can pray in it but Muslims are less than the number. In the entire District, currently there are five masjids just in the trading centers, where some Muslims are found.

There aren't any Islamic institutions nor any Islamic society or any organization in Samburu District.

Islam did not spread here due to difficulties in communicating with the locals and did not have any impact as the people did not know what Islam is. No one ever tried to spread Islam in most parts of Samburu. The Samburu understand Islam as a religion of the Somali traders.

"Surely, my brethren-in-faith, most of Samburu, if not all, will have to say on the Day of Judgment, 'We did not hear of Islam', and surely nobody has told them about it."

☒ *Report written by Brother Abubakr Lenamwata, who embraced Islam in November 2003, while studying in Form 2, in Baragoi High School, -in Baragoi town, Samburu. He was invited to Islam by the Deputy Headmaster, who came from Isiolo. The same person advised him to come to Majlis Al-Ma'arif Al-Islamiyyah, to learn. Brother Abubakr claims that only three Samburus are Muslims.*



On the authority of Abu Dharr al-Ghifari, radhiyallahu anhu, from the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, is that among the sayings he relates from his Lord Subhanahu wa Ta'ala, is that He said:

"O My servants, I have forbidden oppression for Myself and have made it forbidden amongst you, so do not oppress one another.

"O My servants, all of you are astray except for those I have guided, so seek guidance of me and I shall guide you. O my servants, all of you are hungry except for those I have fed, so seek food of Me and I shall feed you. O My servants, all of you are naked except for those I have clothed, so seek clothing of Me and I shall clothe you. O My servants, you sin by night and by day, and I forgive all sins, so seek forgiveness of me and I shall forgive you.

"O My servants, you will not attain harming Me so as to harm Me, and you will not attain benefiting Me so as to benefit Me. O My servants, were the first of you and the last of you, the human of you and the jinn of you to be as pious as the most pious heart of any one man of you, that would not increase My kingdom in anything. O My servants, were the first of you and the last of you, the human of you and the jinn of you to be as wicked as the most wicked heart of any one man of you, that would not decrease My kingdom in anything. O My servants, were the first of you and the last of you, the human of you and the jinn of you to rise up in one place and make a request of Me, and I were to give everyone what he requested, that would not decrease what I have, any more than a needle decreases the sea if put into it.

"O My servants, it is but your deeds that I reckon up for you and then recompense you for, so let him who finds good praise Allah and let him who finds other than that blame no one but himself.

Muslim

The end of the universe

[When and How?]

When the truth will eventually unfold....

[Sermon rendered in Arabic by Sheikh Muhammad Hassaan of Saudi Arabia.
Translated into English by Ustaadh Ali Duhmy of Majlis Al-Ma'arif Al-Islamiyyah]

This is a passive, explicit account by Sheikh Muhammad Hassaan of what will happen, being the ensuing signs – as foretold by our beloved Nabi, Rasoolullaah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, - of approaching of the Hour – 'the Doomsday' – the end of the world forever. It will happen. It is real. Read it. Contemplate over it. And prepare for it!

Brothers and Sisters!

The end of the universe – when and how? This is the topic of our meeting in this sacred sanctuary. And as it is my practice; until the time does not quickly run away under our feet, my conversation to your honour will be under the following sub-headings:

1. The conclusive prophetic predictions of the future world events.
2. The great bloody wars.
3. Allah and His Prophet have spoken the truth, and lastly,
4. The working page.

So, lend me the souls and ears most exclusively. And I pray to Allah to delight us all with the help of Islam, and raise the might and honour of the monotheists (the believers of one God – Allah). Surely, He has the charge over it, the Power and Might to do it.

First:

The Conclusive Prophetic Predictions Of The Future World Events

My beloved ones in the name of Allah, no sensible person on the face of the earth, not even an A'alim, is able to explicitly foretell the exact hour of the end of the world, or the Doomsday.

No one knows of the Last Hour; neither the closest angel nor any Prophet or Messenger sent by Allah. This is something from the knowledge of the unseen, which Allah has kept it to His Exalted alone. Allah Says,

يسئلك الناس عن الساعة قل إنما علمها عند الله وما يدريك لعل الساعة تكون قريباً (الأحزاب)

“People ask you concerning the Hour: say “The knowledge of it is with Allah (alone). And what do you know?—It may be that the Hour is near!” (33:63)

Allah also Says,

يسألونك عن الساعة أيان مرساها * فيم أنت من ذكراها * إلى ربك منتهاها * إنما أنت منذر من يخشاها * كأنهم يوم يرونها لم يلبثوا إلا عشية أو ضحاها. (النازعات)

“They ask you about the Hour, 'When will be it's appointed time?' In what (position) are you that you should mention it? To your Lord is its finality. You are only a warner for those who fear it. It will be, on the Day they see it, as though they had not remained (in the world) except for an afternoon or a morning there of. (79: 42 – 46)

And in the authentic traditions recorded by Muslim through the narration of Omar bin Khattab, radhiyallahu anhu, that the trustworthy custodian of the heavenly revelations, Jibril,

alaihis-salaam, asked the Chief Head of the dwellers of the earth, Muhammad, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, "When is the Hour (Doomsday)? The Chosen one, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "The one who is asked – about it - is no better informed (knowledgeable) than the one who is inquiring. Nevertheless, Allah, Subhaanahu wata'ala, has revealed to our Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, of all the signs and characteristics regarding the Doomsday, and in fact, of all those events that will occur in the universe before the approaching of the Hour. Contemplate with me. Allah the Exalted, Says,

عالم الغيب فلا يظهر على غيبه أحدا * إلا من ارتضى من رسول فلا نه يسلط من بين يديه ومن خلفه رصدا. (جن)

“(He is) Knower of the unseen, and He does not disclose His (knowledge of the) unseen to anyone. Except whom He has approved of messengers, and indeed, He sends before him (i.e., each messenger) and behind him observers.” (72:26,27)

Allah also says,

ولا يحيطون بشيء من علمه إلا بما شاء (البقرة)

“And they encompass not a thing of His knowledge except for what He wills.” (2:255)

And in an authentic tradition which Ahmad and others have narrated through the authority of Abdullah bin Omar, radiyallahu anhu, said, "I was writing whatever I heard from the Prophet of Allah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, for the purpose of memorizing it. The Quraish stopped me from doing that, saying, "The Prophet of Allah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, is a human being who talks in the state of anger and pleasure." He (Abdullah bin Omar) said, 'Hence I abstained from writing and later reported that to the Prophet of Allah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam. The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "Do write. For by Him, in whose Hand is my soul, nothing comes out of me except the truth."

Allah the Exalted says,

والنجم إذا هوى * ما ضل صاحبكم وما غوى * وما ينطق عن الهوى * إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا وَحْيٌ يُوحَى * عَلَّمَهُ شَدِيدُ الْقُوَى (النجم)

"By the star when it descends. Your companion (i.e., Muhammad) has not strayed, nor has he erred. Nor does he speak from (his own) inclination. It is not but a revelation revealed. Taught to him by one intense in strength (i.e., Jibril)." (53: 1-5)

Also Allah says,

وما آتاكم الرسول فخذوه وما نهاكم عنه فانتهوا * واتقوا الله إن الله شديد العقاب. (حشر)

"And whatever the Messenger has given you – take; and what he has forbidden you – refrain from. And fear Allah; indeed, Allah is severe in penalty." (59:7)

Therefore, there is nothing, but the Truthful, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, has informed about it. Ponder with me over what has been narrated by Bukhari and Muslim from the tradition of Hudhaifa bin Yamaany, radiyallahu anhu. He said,

"Allah's Messenger, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, stood before us one day and he did not leave anything unsaid {that he had to say} at that very spot what would happen {in the shape of turmoil} up to the Last Hour. Those who had to remember them, preserved them in their minds, and those who could not remember them, forgot them. My friends knew them and there are certain things which slipped out of my mind, but I recapitulate them when anyone makes a mention of them, just as a person is lost from ones mind but is recalled to him on seeing his face."

He replied, "No, you will be numerous at that time: but you will be scum and rubbish like that carried down by a torrent, and Allah will take fear of you from the breasts of your enemy and cast 'wahn' into your hearts."

And in another authentic tradition narrated by Muslim, that Abu Zaid. Amru bin Akhtab, radiyallahu anhu, reported, "Allah's Messenger, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, led us in the dawn prayer and then mounted the pulpit and addressed us until it was (time for the) Noon prayer. He then came down the pulpit and observed prayers and then again mounted the pulpit and again addressed us until it was time for the Asr prayer. He then again came down and observed the prayer and again mounted the pulpit and addressed us until the Sun was set and he informed (about) everything (pertaining to turmoil) that lay hidden in the past and what lies in (the womb of) the future and the most learned amongst us is one who remembers them well (the sayings of the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam) amongst us."

There is nothing that happened and nothing that is with us now (happening) nor any occurrence, that will occur in the future years between now and the Last Hour of the Doomsday, except that the proven Truthful, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination, has informed us about it. So there is nothing of whatever the Ummat is currently undergoing through, now in our present day life, and whatever it will witness from the bloody events in the coming years, but what the proven Truthful, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination, has informed about it. Yes, the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, has described precisely and thoroughly our present day calamities to the minutest detail.

Thus, it has been reported in the two authentic books (Bukhari and Muslim) from Abu Sa'eed Al-Khudry, radiyallahu anhu, that the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam said, "You will certainly follow the ways of those nations who were before you, span by span; and cubit by cubit (inch by inch), so much so that even if they went into an alligator's hole, you will surely follow them," They said, "O Prophet of Allah, the Jews and the Christians?" He said, "Who else then?" And in an authentic tradition which has been narrated through the authority of Ahmad and Abu Dawud, from Thaubaan, radiyallahu anhu, that the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "The people will soon summon one another to attack you as people, when eating invite others to share their dish." Someone asked, "Will that be because of our small numbers at that time?" He replied, "No, you will be numerous at that time: but you will be scum and rubbish like that carried down by a torrent, and Allah will take fear of you from

the breasts of your enemy and cast 'wahn' into your hearts." Someone asked, "What is 'wahn' (enervation)? The Apostle of Allah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, replied, "Love of the world and dislike of death."

On top of this, the Truthful, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination, has informed of the end of these tribulations and the removal of these distresses. And he also informed us of Allah's help for Islam and the Muslims as well as of Allah humiliating polytheism and the polytheists. I swear by Allah, and again I swear by Allah, that perhaps we are very near to the moments of glad tidings of the true prophecies of Prophet Muhammad, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, even though what we see of bitter, painful happenings. Why? Because He, Who will prepare the whole universe in the coming few days and years so as to happen exactly the way as explained by the Truthful, is the Owner of the universe, the Exalted One, the Ruler of the universe, and the Controller of all things, Who, when says to something, "Be", and it is! And this is the second important theme of our gathering here.

Second:

The Great Bloody Wars

Respected Brothers, the Truthful, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination, has informed us that the stage after these bitter, painful happenings which the Ummat is experiencing will definitely occur. This is a Divine predestined occurrence among Allah's established Ways in the universe. Those ways will never change or alter. Allah, the Exalted, says,

ولن تجد لسنة الله تحويلا (أحزاب)

"And you will not find in the Way of Allah any change. (33:62)

The Truthful, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination, has informed us that before the great bloody wars in the coming few years, there will be a truce. Between whom will there be peace? Between the Romans and the Muslims. Who are the 'Romans'? The 'Romans', or the sons of the yellow breed (the Byzantines) are the Americans and the Europeans. The great wars will start with treaties; peaceful truces between the Romans, i.e., the Europeans and the Americans, and the Muslims. I now ask, "Has there not been signing of treaties of peace now, as has been reported by the Truthful, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination?"

Then there will be a 'fitna' - an enchantment, that will not leave a single Arab house, but enter it. This is seen by many Ulamaas as the assimilation of information devices - of all sorts and forms (the media and it's like).

It has been narrated by Bukhary and others through Auf bin Malik, radhiyallahu anhu, that the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "Count six things that indicate the approaching of the Hour:

- (1) My death (the death of the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam.
- (2) The conquest of Baitul Maqdis (Jerusalem) - this was accomplished after the saying of the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, during the reign of Omar, radhiyallahu anhu, under the command of Abu 'Ubeidah, radhiyallahu anhu.
- (3) A plague that will afflict you (and kill you in great numbers) as the plague that afflicts sheep, i.e.,

the epidemic will spread amongst you like that which spreads in goats. There had been a break out of an epidemic in Abwas in Syria, in which Abu 'Ubeidah, A'amir bin Jarraah and Muadh bin Jabal, radhiyallahu anhumaa, died along with many of the Prophet of Allah's disciples, radhiyallahu anhum.

(4) Then money will be in abundance to such an extent that if one is given a hundred dinars, he will not be satisfied. This is happening. Now, when one is given one hundred pounds or two hundred pounds, he still remains unsatisfied, either because of discontent, or/and inflation and high cost of living, whereby this amount is insufficient to meet his basic needs.

(5) And the fifth sign - he said, Then there will be a 'fitna' - an enchantment, that will not leave a single Arab house, but enter it. This is seen by many Ulamaas as the assimilation of information devices - of all sorts and forms (the media and it's like). You will not see a single Arab house without it.

(6) Then just contemplate on the sixth sign: the Truthful said, "Then there will be a truce between you and the 'Bani al-Asfar' (the Byzantines - the Romans), and they will betray you. Betrayal is the norm of the Romans. They will attack you under eighty flag bearers. Under every flag bearer will be twelve thousand soldiers. In the hadith, the word 'gaayah' has been used. 'Gaayah' also means, a flag. (In Arabic, gaayah actually means; object, goal, end, extreme). A flag, as it signifies the utmost and an epitome of an army's strength, is also called 'gaayah'. When the flag falls, the object is lost, and the army goes in disarray and the defeat is inevitable.

In a narration of Ahmad and Abu Daud and Ibn Maajah based on

sound authorities, the truthful, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "You will make a peaceful truce with the Romans with whom you will fight along with." The Romans, as we earlier agreed, are the Americans and the Europeans.

"So you will fight (i.e., you Muslims) and they, an enemy behind them". (*In the speech, the Sheikh says that the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, 'them', and according to the version of the hadith in Abu Dawud, with us, says, 'you'.) Just ponder over every word the truthful said. He said, "From behind them", and did not say, "From behind you". "So you will fight along with them an enemy from behind them. You will emerge victorious unharmed and get the booty. Then you will camp at a hilly place blossoming with green pastures and water catchments. Then a person will emerge from the Romans and will raise the cross and say, 'The cross has triumphed.' So a person from the Muslims will stand up to him and kill him. At that moment the Romans will contravene the truce and the bloody battles will ensue. They will gather up for you under eighty flag bearers; under every flag bearer will be twelve thousand soldiers."

Ponder with me these sayings of the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam. There has now happened an agreement and we are witnessing the stages of peaceful agreements and compromises. Treaties between the Americans and the Europeans and all the people without segregation. Agreements and compromises and peaceful truces.

But the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, has already informed that the Muslims will join hands with the Americans and the

Europeans in fighting a common enemy. Behold! Who is this common enemy? Are they the terrorists, as termed by the Americans and the Europeans along with all the Arabian media without exception? Are they the eastern forces of Russia, China and Japan? Are they the Shiites? The answer to this Allah Knows best what His Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, meant. Except that the Christians believe strongly of this common battle and they call it in their books and belief as **The Battle of Armageddon** or **Armagedow**. **Armageddon** is a Greek word consisting of two parts. Part one "**Ar**" meaning the mountain and "**Mageddon**" or "**Mageedow**" meaning valley or soft ground. Where is this? In Palestine. And in a book from the Christians Scriptures named, 'The Book of the Dream', in the sixteenth chapter, it says, "The armies of the whole world will gather in a place called **"Armaged-don"**, The former American President, Ronald Regan said, "This mountain is exactly the mountain that will witness the battle of the mountain valley (**Armageddon**). Auran Robinson says in the book - 'The Drama' - the end of the era, "Everything will happen in matters of a few years. There will occur great world wars known as the War of **Armageddon**, or the War of the Mountain Valley." The American writer, Herdain also said, "We all believe as Christians (according to her interpretation), that the history of mankind will end up with a war called the War of **Armageddon** and it's place will be at the plains of Mageedow". She further said, "This war will attribute the return of Jesus Christ to the earth." A famous American priest, James, had said, "I am in a position to say that we are looking forward to peace, or peace will occur, but I

sincerely believe that the War of **Armageddon** is impending and it's center of operation will take place in the valley of the Mageedow, in Palestine." Yes it is impending. Let them undertake whatever they may wish to undertake in agreeing of bringing peaceful, they will not achieve anything. There are dark days in the offing. This is the belief of the people regarding this war which the truthful, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination, has informed about, that there will be a war to be fought in common bond between the Romans (or the Europeans), the Muslims and the Americans on one side and another enemy on the other side. The Muslims will gather the booty after their victory in this war.

So what will happen after the **Armageddon**? Think well and remember the answer, and teach it to your wife, your daughters and sons. And this is the saying of the one who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination, and it is the knowledge of the hour, i.e., the knowledge regarding the understanding of the forthcoming events. What's after **Armageddon**, or if you so wish - what will happen after the shared war between the Romans and the Muslims on one side, and this enemy whom the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, indicated, on the other side after this War of Armageddon?

Understand with me well; the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, has actually informed that the Romans will contravene their covenant with us, and with no time prepare and raise an army to eradicate the Muslims masses from the face of the earth when a Christian will raise the cross and say, 'The cross has triumphed', and a Muslim warrior will pounce on him and kill him in this period.

It is narrated in the authentic book of Ahmad, as a weak narration, that in this period, the Romans will re-group against the Muslims in a duration of a conceiving woman, i.e., nine months. They will gather armies to eradicate the Muslims from the face of the earth in this area,—the area of Palestine and Syria, as we shall explain now from the sayings of he, who does not speak anything of {his own} inclination.

During this dangerous interval, there will occur in the universe a Godly predestined Decree, without the intervention of any human on the face of the earth. This is something that Allah has ordained and decreed in the Mother of all the Books, fifty thousand years before the creation of the seven skies and earths. A decree that is not the doing of any materialism, or the writing of any human. It is non but a decree that was predestined by the Sublime Lord. There will occur on the universe a great thing, similar to that of the descending of the Messiah {Jesus}, the coming out of Gog Magog and the coming out of Dajjal. What is this great occurrence in the universe? It is the appearance of Mohammad bin Abdullah Al-Mahdy. O Allah, hasten his appearance, O Benevolent! O Omniscient!

WHO IS THIS MAHDY?

He is a man from the descendents of the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, from the offsprings of Faatimah, radhiyallahu anhaa, the daughter of the Prophet of Allah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam. Mahdy will appear (as a leader) without his consent (or intention) to do so, and without the request and wish of the Muslims. This is, but a predestined Divine Decree. It will happen in the universe a Command similar to the descending of Issa, alaihis-salaam,

and the appearance of Gog Magog, in the same manner will appear Al-Mahdy, alaihis-salaam. The truthful, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said in a tradition narrated through Ali, radhiyallahu anhu, on the authority of Ahmad and regarded as authentic by the grand Aalim Ahmad Shakir and Allama Al-Baany, that the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "Al-Mahdy will be from us {from our descendents}, Allah Subhaanahu wa-Ta'ala will prepare him overnight." That is, He will prepare him for leadership contrary to the wishes of the circularists and the hypocrites. Allah will prepare him overnight. Do you know the meaning of that? The meaning of that is, when we will sleep in a normal night like the other nights, we will wake up hearing in the broadcasts and all the media, that Al-Mahdy has appeared in the Grand Masjid (*Baitul-Haraam*). Allah will prepare him overnight for the rightly guided caliphate in that one night, to lead the Ummah in this time of tribulation, turmoil and bloodshed before the Last Hour.

Imaam Ahmad reports in his authentic book from the authority of Hudheifah al-Yamaany, radhiyallahu anhu, that the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "The Prophethood will exist for as long as is the Will of Allah, then He will bring it to an end if He so Wishes. Then there will be the caliphate on the pattern similar to that of the Prophethood. This will exist with you for as long as Allah Wishes. Then Allah will remove it whenever He so Wills. Then there will be unjust Kings and will stay with you for as long as Allah Wills, and then Allah will remove them when He so Wills. Then there will reign tyrant rulers." This is what the Ummah is now experiencing. This will stay with

you for as long as Allah so Wills. Then Allah will remove them whenever He so Wills. Then there will be a caliphate on the manner of the Prophethood." — 'Al — Mahdy will be from us, Allah will prepare him overnight.'

"Al-Mahdy will be from us {from our descendents}, Allah Subhaanahu wa-Ta'ala will prepare him over-night."

And in a tradition narrated by Tabrani, Bazzaar, Tirmidhi, Ibnu Habbaan, Haakim and Ibnu Maajah, and classified as authentic by Al-Baany, on the authority of Abu Sa'eed Al-Khudriy, radhiyallahu anhu, that the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "The earth [world] will certainly be filled with tyranny and oppression. Thus when the world will be filled with tyranny and oppression, Allah will send a man from my offsprings, his name will be the same as mine and his father's name will be the same as that of my father's. He will fill the world with justice and fairness, as it would be filled with tyranny and oppression (before him). The skies will not hold back anything of it's drops of rain, nor will the earth withhold anything of it's yields. It will stay with you for seven or eight [years], or at the most, nine."

Dear brothers, this tradition has reached the status of '*Tawaatur*' (i.e., it has been narrated in succession persistently, with numerous narrators in all stages), and such a tradition, as explained by the Ulamaa, befits definite and emphatical knowledge, meaning, to know about it is *wajiib* (obligatory), and to practice upon it is *Fardh* (compulsory — 'Prescribed code').

Reflect with me upon the sayings of the Truthful, who does not

anything of {his own} inclination. One may ask, "How do we know that he, who will emerge in Makkah, is the real Mahdy? There have emerged several liars and deceits, and each one of them claimed himself to be the real Mahdy." So how can we know that the one who will emerge is 'the actual Mahdy'?

The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, has informed us of the prophetic signs, so that the whole Ummah may be knowledgeable that the one has emerged in the Sacred House of Allah, is the actual Muhammad, son of Abdullah Al-Mahdy, alaihis-salaam. What are these signs? Listen to the sayings of the Truthful, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination, - Bukhary and Muslim have narrated on the authority of 'Aaisha, radhiyallahu anha, reported that Allah's Messenger, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, was startled in the state of sleep, i.e., he acted unusually while asleep. 'Aaisha, radhiyallahu anha, said, "O Allah's Messenger, you have done something in the state of your sleep which you never did before." Thereupon he said: "Strange it is, that some people of my Ummah would attack the House (Ka'aba) (for killing) a person who would belong to the tribe of the Quraish and he would try to seek protection in the House. And when they would reach the plain ground, they would be sunk." I.e., when these people take to pursue this person who took refuge in the house of Allah (Ka'aba), Allah will sink this army in the earth." This is the sign and this is one of the predestined Divine Decrees, which has no human intervention. 'Aaisha, radhiyallahu anha, said, "O Messenger of Allah, all sorts of people throng the path - what is the sin of the many people

walking in the path and are not among those who came out to fight Al-Mahdy in this army?" The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said: "Yes, there would be amongst them people, who would come with definite designs, and those who would come under duress, and there would be travellers also, but they would all be destroyed through one (stroke) of destruction, though they would be raised in different states (on the Day of Resurrection). Allah would, however, raise them according to their intentions," i.e., Allah will resurrect every one of them on the intention he set out with, and died on it. It has also been recorded in Sahih Muslim a tradition on the authority of Hafsa, radhiyallahu anha, that the Holy Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "They would soon seek protection in this House, i.e., the Ka'bah, (the defenceless) people, who would have nothing to protect themselves in the shape of weapons or the strength of the people (they would be poor and weak). An army would be sent to fight (and kill) them, and when they would enter a plain ground (steppe type of land), the army would be sunk in it. And in the words of Muslim, it has been stated, "And no flank of (the army) would be left, except a vagabond - i.e., one or two, who will escape from the army and inform what Allah Ta'ala caused to fall upon this army, which had set out to kill Al-Mahdy, alaihis-salaam.

Allah will sink the army into the earth so the Muslims would come to know that the one who has emerged in the Sacred Masjid [Makka] is actually the al-Mahdy, alaihis-salaam. Muslim delegations from all corners of the earth will flock to him to swear allegiance to him, and they will make a covenant with Allah to

engage in Jihad in the path of Allah and to raise high the Name and Word of Allah, while expecting one of the two glad tidings; either death and martyrdom, or victory and good fortune. So pray to Allah so that He may not deny us this honour, Truly, He has the Power over it and is capable of doing it.

Then what after the oath of allegiance? The entire world will declare war on Al Mahdy and the groups of the monotheists (the believers of one God) who will be with him. Hence, the monotheists together with Al Mahdy won't have a taste of comfort or relaxation or peace, but they will be engaged in wars and face perilous struggles within a period which will be unparallel in the history of time. Mahdy will not be defeated in any one of the wars by the Will of Allah.

What will these great struggles and wars be?

The Truthful, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, has said, as in a tradition recorded by Muslim on the authority of Nafi' ibn Utba, "You will attack Arabia and Allah will enable you to conquer it, then you will attack Persia (Iran) and He will make you conquer it. Then you will attack the Romans (i.e., the Americans and the Europeans), and Allah will enable you to defeat them. Then you will attack the Dajjal, and Allah will enable you to defeat him."

The first war that Al-Mahdy and the groups of the monotheists will fight, will be a war in the heart of the Arabian Peninsula. There will emerge the first army to kill him and the Muslims with him. Allah will sink them in the earth. The second army will emerge, also to fight Mahdy despite knowing well that Allah, the Exalted, has sunk

the first army. This army also, will be of Muslims from the Arabian Peninsula.

The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "Allah will Conquer it", meaning that Al-Mahdy will triumph along with the groups of the monotheist in his fold against this army, and the Arabian Peninsula will open its doors to Al-Mahdy and the monotheists along with him by the Grace of Allah, the Exalted, the Most High. There will emerge another army from Iran [Persia] against the Mahdy when the Iranians will come to know that he who has emerged, is not the Mahdy they were waiting for, at Sardaab Saamurai. A huge army will come for him, but Al-Mahdy will subdue this army by the Grace of Allah, the Exalted the Most High. "Then you will fight the Romans." Pause with me here, and ponder over this decisive, conclusive battle, which will be the most dangerous confrontation on the face of the earth.

The Truthful said, while explaining the area of the war and explicit details of the struggle. He even specified the outcome of the battle. What did the Truthful, who does not speak anything of [his own] inclination, say? He said, "Then you will fight the Romans and Allah will Grant you victory." And take the details: Muslim has narrated in his authentic book, on the authority of Abu Hurairah, radhiyallahu anhu, that the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said "The Last Hour would not come until the Romans would land at al-A'maq or in Dabiq." Where is al-A'maq and where is Dabiq? These are two places near Halab in the Republic of Syria. The Americans and the Europeans will land on this piece of land in the near future, as prophesied by the Truthful, who speaks nothing

of (his own) inclination. I looked up in the dictionaries defining the olden history, to find out about the two terms; al-A'maq and Dabiq, and I found them defining that 'al-A'maq and Dabiq is a place around Halab, in Syria. And Antakia is in Turkey (currently in Greece). To this I said to myself, "Glory be to Allah! Look now at the military activities and patterns in Turkey and in the rest of the Islamic world as well as in the European world, especially after the Afghanistan debacle."

The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "The Last Hour would not come until the Romans would land at al-A'maq and in Dabiq", i.e., in the vicinity of Halab, in Syria. You are well aware that America has blacklisted Syria as among the countries that are the breeding homes for terrorists. Just ponder with me the saying of the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, "The Last Hour will not come until the Romans would land at al-A'maq or in Dabiq. An army consisting of the best {soldiers} of the people of earth at that time will come from Medina {to counteract them}. When they will arrange themselves in ranks, the Romans would say: 'Do not stand between us and those {Muslims} who took (or were taken) prisoners from amongst us. Let us fight with them.'" Who are these? These are originally Romans who will declare that Allah, the Exalted and Most High, is One, and they will bear testimony that there is no deity except Allah. They will embrace Islam and do away with the Roman, American and European armies, and will fight the Romans along with the Muslim forces. Just ponder the sayings of the Prophet!, sallallahu alaihi wasallam. These are the glad tidings on the way. He said, "When they will arrange

themselves in ranks," that is, when the Roman army will face the Muslim army ready for the battle; The Romans would say, "Do not stand between us and those (Muslims) who took (or were taken) prisoners from amongst us, let us fight with them." That is, 'leave to us those who embraced Islam and left our land, faith and religion, so that we can fight them', i.e., start fighting them first. The Muslims would say: "Nay, by Allah, we would never get aside from you and from our brethren that you may fight them."

These are the words of the Truth full, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination. The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "They will then fight and a third (part) of the army would run away, whom Allah will never forgive." Why? Because they are the betrayers of trust. They ran away from the battle field and betrayed Allah, His Prophet and the Believers. The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, (continuing) said, "And a third of the army would be killed." That is, the second third part of the army. "A third (part of the army), which would be among the excellent martyrs in Allah's Eyes (they would be martyred)." Whereas regarding the remaining third of the Muslim army, the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "The third part will remain and Allah will make them triumph." That is, Allah will grant this third portion victory over the Romans, the Americans and the Europeans. He said, "A third will remain who would win and will never be put to trial."

Together with this there is another tradition in Muslim on the authority of Abdullah ibn Mas'ood, radhiyallahu anhu, and not through the transmission on the authority of Abu Hurairah, radhiyallahu anhu, which says,

"Once there blew a red storm in Kufah so a person came, who had nothing to say, but (these words): 'O Abdullah bin Mas'ood! The Last Hour has come!' Abdullah bin Mas'ood, who was sitting reclining against something, sat up and said, 'The Last Hour would not come until inheritance will not be divided and there would be no rejoicing over booty.' He then said, pointing towards Syria, with the gesture of his hands like this: 'The enemy shall muster strength against the Muslims and the Muslims will muster strength against them (Syrians). And in the ensuing confrontation, the apostasy (renouncing the religion) would be in big numbers. This is the first third who will denounce, betray and deceive. To return to the Prophet's words: 'Then there would be a terrible fight and at that the deserters will be many. The Muslims would prepare a detachment (for fighting unto death) which would not return but victorious.' This is to say that the Muslims will prepare a detachment from the Muslim battalion for fighting unto death. This detachment will vow not to return, but victorious.

He said, "They will fight {Romans and the Muslims} until night will intervene them; both the sides will return without being victorious and both will be wiped out. The Muslims will again prepare a detachment for fighting unto death, (i.e., on the second day) so that they may not return, but victorious. They will fight until Allah will intervene the night between them and no side will be victorious and the detachment would be wiped out. Then the Muslims will prepare a detachment on the third day for fighting unto death that will not return but victorious. They will fight until night will intervene them, both the sides will return

without being victorious and both will be wiped out." The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "When it will be the forth day, the remnant of the Muslims would surge forward and Allah would decree that the enemy be routed. i.e., the Romans. And they would fight such a war the like of which would not be seen, so much that even if a bird were to pass their flanks, it would fall down dead before reaching the end of them." The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, continued, "(There would be such a large scale of massacre) that when counting would be done, (only) one out of a hundred men related to one another, would be found alive. So what can be the joy at the spoils of such war, and what inheritance would be divided?!" He then said, "While they would be in this very state, that a calamity more horrible than this will fall upon them. A cry will reach them, i.e., a person would cry to them to inform them that the Dajjaal has taken their place among their offsprings (i.e., their children)." And he said, "They will therefore throw away whatever would be in their hands (i.e., the wealth and the spoils of the war) and send ten horsemen who would proceed ahead (i.e., to know what had befallen and inform about it)." Allah's Messenger, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "I know their names and the names of their fathers, and the colour of their horses. They will be the best horsemen on the surface of the earth on that day!"

This is how Allah will save His servant, Al-Mahdy and the monotheists along with him against the forces of the Romans; the Americans and the Europeans, contrary to the belief of the secularists and the materialists, who do not believe on anything

except that which is material and perceptible.

This blessed lot, these pious God fearing friends of Allah, are those whom Allah will open to them the Constantinople city without combat, and even without weapons, as reported on the authority of Muslim from the tradition of Abu Hurairah, radhiyallahu anhu, that the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam said, "Have you heard about a city, one side of which is on land and the other in the sea (Constantinople)?" The Sahabas, radhiyallahu anhum, replied, 'Yes, O Prophet of Allah.' There upon he said, "The Last Hour would not come unless seventy thousand persons from Bany Ishaq (and according to other scholars – Bany Isma'eel) would attack it. When they would land there, they will neither fight with weapons nor would they shower arrows, but would only say: "*LAAILAAHA ILLALLAAHU WALLAAHU AKBAR*' (There is no God but Allah and Allah is the greatest), hence one side of it, the one by the sea, would fall. Then they would for the second time and say: "*LAAILAAHA ILLALLAAHU WALLAAHU AKBAR*' (There is no God but Allah and Allah is the greatest), the second side of it by the land would also fall. And then again they would come, for the third time, and say: "لا اله الا الله و الله أكبر" (There is no God but Allah and Allah is the greatest)", and the gates would open up for them, and they would enter there in."

Al-Haafidh ibn Kathir, rahimahullaah, said, "These Bany Ishaq mentioned in the hadith, are the descendants of Joseph the son of Issac the son of Abraham (as the Christians call them). And they will be from the Romans. They will embrace Islam at the

time nearing the end of the world. Allah will decree the conquest of Constantinople on the hands of a band of the Romans among those who would have declared that Allah is one and also believed in the Truthful, the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam.

Of the fifth bloody struggle that Al-Mahdy would wage, will be against the most detestful and heinous amongst the creation of Allah, the Jews. There will occur the miracles which the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, the truthful, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination, has promised. Thus in the authentic book of Muslim, through the tradition of Abu Hurairah, radhiyallahu anhu, that the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said: "The Last Hour would not come unless the Muslims will fight against the Jews and the Muslims would kill them, until a Jew would hide behind a stone or a tree and the stone or the tree would say: 'O Muslim (or O Servant of Allah), there is a Jew behind me. Come and kill him.' Except for the Gharqad tree, for it would not say, as it is the tree of the Jews." (The 'Gharqad' is a thorny tree found in the suburbs of Bait-ul-Maqdis and it gives a lot of pain when touched.)

Respected brothers, the Jews will come out with the Dajjal whom Allah will eradicate on the hands of 'Issa, alaihis salaam, and Al-Mahdy. They Jews would come out in a bid to help the Dajjal, so the Muslims would fight the Jews and Allah will grant them (the Muslims) this virtue, as we have been informed by the one who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination. Allah will keep their hostility at bay and will clean the earth of their impurities and

filth, such that, respected brethren, there will remain no religion on the face of the earth except the religion of Muhammad, sallallahu alaihi wasallam.

And our third topic:

"Allah and His Prophet have said the truth."

Allah Ta'ala says,

يريدون ليطفنوا نور الله بأفواههم والله متم نوره
ولو كره الكافرون * هو الذي أرسل رسوله بالهدى
ودين الحق ليظهره على الدين كله ولو كره
المشركون (الصف)

"Their intention is to extinguish Allah's light (by blowing) with their mouths: But Allah will complete His light, even though the unbelievers may detest (it). "It is He who has sent His Messenger with guidance and the religion of truth. That He makes it prevail over all religion, even though the pagans may detest (it)." [61: 8,9]

And the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, as recorded in the authentic tradition which has been narrated by Ahmad and others on the authority of Tamim-Daari, radhiyallahu anhu, "This task (i.e., this religion of Islam) will certainly reach to where the day and night reach (the whole world), and Allah will not leave a single house, be it of clay or grass, except that Allah will enter it this religion, by exalting the respected ones or by humiliating the humiliated ones. The Exalt ness with which Allah will exalt will be because of Islam, and the humiliation which Allah will humiliate will be for the unbelievers." May Allah's peace and blessing be upon the Truthful, who does not speak anything of (his own) inclination. And I beg Allah, the Most High, to hasten these auspicious days, as He has the powers to effect this and is able to accomplish it.

Working page

Respected brothers, I finally present to you a working page. And that is, for all that has been afore-mentioned, does not mean that we become lazy or rely solely on Allah's predestined Will. But rather, this concept should push the people of understanding to action. A concept without action is the work of the naïve and the fools. But the truthful and the understanding ones are those who gush forth in the hope and expectations of the promises of Allah, and the promises of His Prophet, pertaining to the succor of Islam and it's flourishing above all traditions and norms. Those are the ones who are driven to action by hope.

It is not permissible for a Muslim to rely solely on the predestined Will as pertaining to the future expeditions of Al-Mahdy and remain putt. Again it is not permissible for a Muslim to come out in the arena now, while he is waiting to open a television and a radio to hear and see in the first hand of the news telling him that Al-Mahdy has emerged at the Sacred House, and that the struggles you have just read, will now begin.

Respected brothers, I wish to differentiate between the lifespan of the people and the lifespan of individuals. It is incumbent that we work, hence this quick working page.

First: It is incumbent on our part to cling to the rope of Allah and seek His help. He who Allah helps, is really helped; and he who Allah forsakes, is totally forsaken, and there is no way out or means of strength except from Allah.

Second: It is our bounding duty, whatever post or work we may have, to spare part of our time to

educate ourselves about Allah and His Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam. If you are a doctor, close for an hour in a week. If you are an engineer, take time off from your duty or factory for an hour in the week. If you are a teacher, change your timetable for an hour, no matter how committed you maybe, and no matter how high is your post, you have to spare yourself some time, so that you visit the house of Allah (the masajids), for the purpose of learning the knowledge of Islamic law. So that you may hear of Allah's Attributes and about the Prophet of Allah. You must also have the awareness and the understanding of the future events, because ignorance is the most dangerous turmoil (*fitnah*), especially when knowing that the ignorance of the turmoil (*fitnah*) of Dajjal may render one in disbelief of the One and only One Allah.

Thus a person will go to Dajjal, while he will know nothing about the trials (*fitnah*) as said by the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam. The Dajjal will say to him, "I am your cherisher and sustainer." He will say, "No." He will again tell him, "What if I resurrect your parents, will you believe in me?" He will say, "Yes, I shall believe in you." And he will not know that Dajjal is a turmoil (*fitnah*) in itself. Dajjal is the most dangerous trial (*fitnah*) on the face of the earth. The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "Two devils will appear before him; one devil will be in the appearance of his father, and the other in the appearance of his mother, and they will command him to follow the Dajjal. He will then prostrate before the Dajjal and say to him, "You are my cherisher and sustainer." Hence he will disbelieve through his ignorance. Had he the knowledge of Dajjal

and his trials (*fitnah*) together with what has been said by the Master of mankind, he would not have done that. It is therefore incumbent for you to strive to get the proper Islamic knowledge, the knowledge of the Qur'an and the knowledge of the proper ways of the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam.

Third: To ascertain of 'Eemaan' – faith and belief: Faith is a fortified fortress for your safety and 'the Noah's arc' (the only abode for safety), which you will sail with, on all the mounting waves of turmoil in which we live in, and of the future turmoils. Faith is not just saying by the tongue alone, but it is the combination of saying by the tongue, attesting it in the heart, and practicing it through the limbs and posture (the pillars). Confirm your faith, and with it alone, Allah will save you from all the turmoils (*fitnah*). With the power of faith, you will be able to read on the forehead of the Dajjal, the word "**Kaafir**". The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, No one will read this word except the faithful ones. So confirm your faith.

Fourth: Equip yourself with piety for Hereafter. Respected brothers, I swear by the name of Allah, again I swear by the name of Allah, that whatever has been explained by the Truthful of the small portents of the Last Hour, have already occurred, and now we are now waiting for Al-Mahdy to emerge. I have mentioned that Allah will prepare him overnight; therefore take provisions (with you) for the Hereafter.

و تزودوا فإن خير الزاد التقوى واتقون يأولى

الأباب [البقرة : ١٩٧]

"And take a provision (with you) for the journey, but the best of provision is right conduct. So fear me, O Ye, that are wise" [2 : 197]

POEM.

- ∞ Forget what has passed you in your youth.
- ∞ And remember your sins and cry for them, O ye who are sinful.
- ∞ The two angels have not forgotten them when you forgot them yourself.
- ∞ But they have recorded them while you are enjoying and playing.
- ∞ The soul in you is a trust given to you.
- ∞ You will have to return it and it will be taken away contrary to your wishes.
- ∞ Your world for which you endeavor, deceives you
 - ∞ It is but an abode which in reality is a passing pleasure.
- ∞ Just know that the night and the day, in both of them
- ∞ Our breaths are counted and computed.

Respected brothers, I hope by the grace of Allah that after this sermon and these good sensitive Prophetic details, no Muslim will be a victim of disheartening or despair, even if the events may prove unbearable. These coming events, these future impending victories, *inshaAllah*, these all are the promise of Allah and the promise of the Truthful Messenger of Allah. Allah, Who is Exalted in His Supremacy, has said,

وما ينطق عن الهوى * إن هو إلا وحي يوحى
(النجم)

"Nor does he speak from (his own) inclination. It is not but a revelation revealed." (53:3,4).

O Allah! Cure the hearts of the believers by helping Islam and the Muslims. O Allah! We are being oppressed, so come to our help."

MAGRAM

BUTCHERY LIMITED



CONTACT US FOR THE BEST
QUALITY & SERVICE
HIGH GRADE BEEF, VEAL,
MUTTON,
CHICKEN AND EGGS.
TEL: 0494684 / 2493662 FAX: 2493839
P. O. BOX 98346
JOMO KENYATTA AVE.
MOMBASA - KENYA

Lessons from the expedition to KHAIBAR

Ustd. Ali A. Duhmy

Of all the battles fought by the Muslims against the forces of evil and kufr, this one was remarkably strenuous and of a wider dimension of trials and tribulations, in that the people to be fought were more heinous than the beasts of medieval ages - the Jews. Their thirst to shade the blood of Muslims and to undermine the cause of Islam despite all the covenants and pledges they had given to the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, was a clear manifestation of their beastly nature, hatched by open hatred and enmity. In order to surmount such people, whose history is well known to covenant breaking, one has to be devoid of any iota of mercy and tolerance the Islamic faith always upholds. Otherwise, dealing with Jews peacefully and diplomatically only yields negative results as the history clearly reveals from the time immemorial. As seen in this particular case, envoys were repeatedly sent to them for peaceful settlements, but all in vain, until the military might was instituted.

Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, whose love to his Ummah, irrespective of their religious affiliation, set examples to be emulated up to the Day of Reckoning. His leniency and forbearing knew no boundaries as regarding forgiving and forgetting (the wrong done to him). Despite this outstanding characteristic of Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi

wasallam, his zeal to combat the two wings that were yet to fall under the fold of Islam was inescapable. These were the Jews and tribes of Nadj, whose conquer will deliver and spread the good of Islam in the north of Madinah. Again the real peace and tranquility will prevail after the conquer of these two hardcores.

Khaibar was thus much more strategic to attract the attention of the Muslims after defeating three wings of the Ahzaab [confederates], as it (the Jews of Khaibar) extended its helping hand to confederates against the Muslim Nation. It triggered Bani Quraidha tribe to practice treachery and conspiracy against the Muslims, making their lives utterly difficult. Hence, the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, came to the conclusion that the military campaign was a must in order to deter and forestall the Jews hostilities.

It must be well understood, that killing and capturing of Jews and their puppets was not the purpose to bring the people into the fold of Islam. The Jews, after being defeated in various battles, had resorted to conspiracy and intrigue hatching. They first of all declared open hatred and enmity, and chose to play all sorts of tricks that might harm the Muslims, but were very careful not to initiate any sort of hostilities that might involve them in open war.

The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, on his part, exercised the highest degree of patience with them, but they went too far in their provocative deeds, especially after Ar-raji and Bir Mauna events. They even made an attempt on his life, which was more dearer to the Muslims than their own, their children and the entire mankind.

When this patience was interpreted by the Jews to mean weakness, through the acts of the hypocrites within the Muslim masses, as displayed in the Al-Hudaibiya campaigns, the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, marched towards Khaibar to encounter the Jews in their numerous forts packed with food and booty. He attempted this accompanied with only a band of 1400 men, who were really willing to fight in the cause of Allah, Subhanahu waTa'ala.

On the night preceding the day Khaibar fell to the hands of the Muslims, the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, said, "I am surely going to give this banner {of the Muslim army} tomorrow to such a man through whom Allah will grant victory, whom Allah and His Rasool loves." Upon listening to this words, the Sahabas. radhiyallahu anhum, spent the night speculating as to who would be the so called man.

On dawn-break, all the Sahabas gathered around the Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, each one hoping to be called out and

given the flag. Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, called out, "Where is Ali bin Taalib?" The people said, "He has an infection in his eyes!" The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, sent for him, spit saliva in his eyes, and prayed for him. Hadhrat Ali's, radhiyallahu anhu, eyes healed at once, and they were as if he had no pain at all. The Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, then handed him the flag. The conversation that ensued after Hadhrat Ali, radhiyallahu anhu, took hold of the flag, is a clear indication that wars were not fought to kill and spill blood, or terrorizing, but only as a last resort to remove all hurdles in the spread of Islam and saving the mankind from an unparallel doom and everlasting chastisement: -

Hadhrat Ali, radhiyallahu anhu: "O Rasoolullah! Shall I fight them until they become like us {i.e., Muslims}?"

Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam: "Move ahead slowly until you dismount in their open fields and then invite them towards Islam, and inform them their duties towards Allah Ta'ala. I swear in the Name of Allah. If Allah Ta'ala gives hidayat to one man through you, it is better for you than you getting red camels {the best camels}."

In this conversation between Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, and Hadhrat Ali, karramallahu wajhu, is a clear indication that the purpose is to spread the Word of Allah and bringing people into the fold of Islam. If these people had embraced Islam, they would have been left alone with all their wealth. Rasoolullah's, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, heart

was always reserved for sympathy even for the most heinous beasts in human form.

Another salient positive step Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, took for encouraging the Jews and the kuffar towards Islam was the marrying of Saffiyah, the daughter of one of the chieftain of the Bani Nadhar tribe of the Jews, Huyaiy bin Akhtab. As was the custom in wars, the prisoners were distributed among the combatants as slaves, who were regarded as lonely people in society with no rights, and were traded with, just like any other merchandise.

When Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, came to know of her capture and coming in the share of one Sahabi, Dahyah Kalbiy, radhiyallahu anhu, Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, choose her for himself after being exhorted by another sahabi, as she was a respected person in her community and deserved to be in the custody of the most respected one. Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, freed her and married her, thus elevating her status to that of 'Mother of the Ummah' – commanding respect from all and sundry. This kind gesture of Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, of marrying a woman from the enemies and saving her from humiliation; and elevating her status, also shows how Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, adopted ways to bring foes and friends alike, towards the fold of Islam, not the total annihilation of the conflicting masses, as is the trend of the kuffar.

Another important development that took place in the same expedition of Khaibar, was the way Rasoolullah, sallallahu

alaihi wasallam, agreed to the request of the foes of Islam, to let them stay on the land of Khaibar and continue farming and looking after the fields of Khaibar, on the condition that all the agricultural produce will be equally divided between them and the Muslims. So every year, an emissary of Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, Abdullah bin Rawaahah, radhiyallahu anhu, used to come and secure half of the total produce for the Muslims. They {the Jews}, tried to bribe him, but he rebuked them saying, "By Allah I am coming to you from the most lovable person to me, while you people are more remorse to me than the monkeys and pigs. But my hatred for you people and my love for him, cannot stop me from being just with you!" They {the Jews} exclaimed in reply, "Due to this reason, the skies and the earth have stayed intact."

These and many more examples and episodes, bear clear testimony to the fact, that Islam is for peace, tranquillity, justice and harmony; and not for terrorising and causing disunity and backwardness, as portrayed by the enemies of Islam. Wars that were fought in the divine era were only in the course of dire consequences, when the architects of anarchy tried to suppress the spread of Islam and cause chaos. And even then, feelings for humanity and safeguarding their property was upheld. The purpose was to bring them close to Islam, not total destruction, as the kuffar is doing today to the Muslims.

Abu Ddarda

Radhiyallahu anhu

[Condensed from : The Beauty of the Righteous]

A LETTER TO SALMAN AL-FARISI

Al-Hassan bin Sufyan narrated that Abu Ddarda once sent a letter to Salman al-Farisi, God be pleased with both of them, wherein he wrote: "My dear brother, take advantage of your health and independence today, before a day comes, wherein people will suffer a most horrifying calamity as a divine justice, and which they will have no power to eschew. My dear brother, ask a believer who is suffering from a calamity to pray for you and take advantage of his prayers, for his supplications will surely be answered favorably. My dear brother, make the mosque your house, for I have heard God's Messenger, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, upon whom be peace, say that, Allah's mosques are the houses of every pious person. Indeed, Almighty Allah, the Lord of Majesty and Glory, has guaranteed such people who regard His mosques as their house to strengthen them with a spirit of His own, to give them comfort and peace, to make their passage over the bridge of judgment [*sirat*] easy, and to receive them at the end of their crossing, having won the cheer blessings of their Lord. My dear brother, have compassion towards orphans. Bring them nigh unto you, and feed them from your own food. A man once complained before God's Messenger, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, upon whom be peace, about the roughness of his heart. God's Messenger, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, upon whom be peace, then said to him, "Would you like your heart to soften?" The man replied,

Also among our peers and sires of the believers, the blessed companion of Allah's Messenger, upon whom be peace, there lived a great thinker and a Gnostic, Abu Ddarda, God be Please with him. His true understanding awakened in him constant remembrance of his Lord, Whom he recognized correctly, and he cherished His gifts. Both in times of comfort as well as in times of adversities. Abu Ddarda, God be pleased with him, pondered incessantly upon the work of the Divine Lord. He nestled comfortably in his niche of continuous devotion, and he forsook any interest in materialism. He was most devoted to his spiritual life and he was most eager to meet his Lord. Once he became free from worldly concerns and worries, the gate of true understanding became open before him. Here are few of the *athar* (accounts) of this blessed companion of God's Messenger, upon whom be peace, and who was endowed with true knowledge and wisdom.

Abu Ddarda, God be pleased with him, was a Gnostic, a sage, and a wise man, and he possessed exceptional control of balance and reasoning. He was a most skilled physician of the hearts. He spoke extensively, and his speeches abounded with wisdom and subtleties. His wisdom and knowledge were medicine for the sick at heart, and warmth for the hearts of the equitable and the pondering ascetics. When Abu Ddarda spoke, his words penetrated the hearts of the listeners, and when

he invoked a verse from the Divine Revelation and celebrated and praised Allah, the Lord of Majesty and Glory, blessed His Name, the hearts of the listeners were filled with coherence, and they bonded instantly with his prayers. Abu Ddarda was free from ostentatiousness or pride, and he forsook any so-called desirable features of this world.

Abu Bakr bin Abi Shaiba narrated that Abu Ddarda, God be pleased with him, said: "Worship Allah as though you can see Him. Regard yourselves as though you have joined the dead, and understand that having a little that suffices you in this world is better than having a lot that distract your true objective. You must realize that *birr* (trueness) in one's deeds is a virtue, and virtues appreciate in value and they do not depreciate. You must also remember that not even the slightest remote sin is ever forgotten."

Khalid bin Dinar narrated that Abu Ddarda, God be pleased with him, said: "Blessings are not measured by the size of your wealth or by the number of your children, rather they are measured by the maturity of your forbearance, the breadth of your knowledge, and in vying with other devotees in worshipping God Almighty. At that stage, when you do good, be grateful and praise Almighty Allah for guiding you, and when you fail, ask Allah, the Lord of Majesty and Glory, to forgive you, and implore Him to help you out of it."

"Indeed I do!" God's Messenger, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, upon whom be peace, said, "Then befriend the orphans, be compassionate towards them, bring them nigh unto you, comfort them, feed them from your own food, and your heart will then soften, and you will be able to win success in your life."

Abu Ddarda continued: "O my dear brother, do not amass more money than what you are capable of thanking Almighty Allah for I have heard God's Messenger sallahu alaihi wasallam, upon whom be peace, say, "On the Day of Judgment [*yوم al-Hisab*], and on the bridge of judgment [*sirat*], a man will walk ahead of the money which he paid its dues, and every time he staggers or hesitates, his money will say to him, "Go forward, for you have paid your dues! On the other hand, a man who did not obey Allah's commands concerning his monies, he will be impelled to walk the awful crossing of the bridge of judgment, and he will be forced to carry his money on his back. In his stress, every time the weight of his money causes him to stagger, and as he stumbles and falls, time after time, his money will impel in and rebuke him, saying, "O man! What an awful destiny is awaiting you! Why didn't you use me according to Allah's commands?" As the crossing becomes harder and harder to bear, and as the man keeps on hearing the rebuke of his money, his depression heightens, his legs tremble, and his steps keep on failing to obey him until he breaks down, and he bursts out crying, pleading for his own annihilation, but to no avail."

"My dear brother, it came to my knowledge that you have acquired a servant, and I have heard God's Messenger, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, upon whom be peace, say, "The 'abd [servant] remains the

recipient of Allah's favors and Allah remains his Provider and Helper, as long as he does not become a beneficiary of others' servitude. Once he does, then he also becomes subject to accountability. "O my dear brother, I was once financially comfortable, and when my wife, Ummu Ddarda saw that, she asked me to hire a servant to help her in her daily chores, but when I reflected upon the reckoning associated with such comfort, I disapproved, and I discounted the idea. And now, my dear brother, who do we have to guarantee us, when we reach the Day of Judgment, that you and me can be unconcerned of the just, accurate, and scrupulous divine reckoning? My dear brother, do not burst with pride because of your fellowship with God's Messenger, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, upon whom be peace, a unique blessing you and me have once enjoyed, for indeed, we have lived a short span of life after him, and only Allah knows what actually befell us since he left."

Abdu-Rahman bin Muhammad al-Muharibi narrated that Abu Ddarda, God be pleased with him, once sent a letter to one of his brethren, and after greeting him with the peace of Allah, blessed be His Name, he wrote: "My dear brother, remember that there is nothing which is in your possession today that did not belong to someone else before you, and which will soon become the trust of someone else after you. The only benefit you can partake of what is under your control today is the way you use it to allow your soul to reap its benefits tomorrow! Therefore, give preference to charitable deeds over and above beefing up the size of the inheritance of anyone of your righteous children, and whom you do not know how

will he use it! Otherwise, you will pass from this world to stand before someone Who will not excuse your failure; meanwhile, you would have worked hard in this world to bequeath one who will be grateful to someone other than you. The wealth you worked hard to amass in this world will eventually culminate in one of two possibilities: 1) It will either fall into the hands of someone who will use it in obedience to Allah's commands, and whose deeds will benefit him, while you would have worked hard and deprived yourself of the benefits of such deeds; or, 2) it will fall into the hands of someone who disobeys Almighty Allah, blessed be His Name, and who will use in an evil way, where by you will share his punishment and suffering for what you have bequeathed him to nurture his weaknesses. I swear by Almighty Allah, blessed be His Name, that neither of the above-described two categories of people is more worthy than yourself to receive Allah's Mercy, and none of them merits more than you what you have worked hard and sweat to bequeath them to pacify your life and to assuage their comfort in this world after you depart from it. The best you can do for them is to pray for their sake. Ask for Allah's mercy for those who died, and for those who will remain the dwellers of this world after you die, trust that Almighty Allah, blessed be his Name, has guaranteed their sustenance, as well as that of everyone else, and for as long as they dwell herein. I bid you peace."

Mu'awiya bin Qurra narrated that Abu Ddarda' God be pleased with him, said: "I love three things which most people hate, 1) poverty; 2) illness; 3) death."

In another narration of the above quote, Shu'uba narrated that Abu

Ddarda' God be pleased with him, said: "1) I love death because of my yearning to meet my Lord; 2) I love poverty because it forces me to stand humble before my Lord; and 3) I love illness because it embodies penance and atonement that expiate my sins before I meet my Lord."

Said bin Wahab narrated that a man once came to Abu Ddarda' and said: "Teach me something I can practice and through which Almighty Allah, blessed be His Name, will bless me!" Abu Ddarda, God be pleased with him, faithfully replied: "I will teach you two, three, four, or even five things, whosoever acts upon them and observe their rights, Allah, the Lord of Majesty and Glory, will exalt his reward and raise his station to be among the most illustrious believers:

- 1) Eat only what is permissible and healthy;
- 2) Do not accept any money save that is blessed and lawful;
- 3) Do not let into your house anything except that which is beneficial and pleasing to Allah;
- 4) Pray to Allah, blessed be His Name, to provide for your earnings, one day at a time;
- 5) When you wake up in the morning, count yourself

among the dead, for then you are one step closer to joining them;

- 6) Entrust your guardianship to the sovereign Hand of Almighty Allah, for He is the best of protectors;
- 7) Should someone insult you, offend you, or aim to fight you, then walk away from him, and do not avenge yourself, let Almighty Allah exonerate and defend you;
- 8) When you do something wrong, repent sincerely, and immediately pray for Allah's forgiveness; and finally,
- 9) When you do something right, thank Allah, most exalted is His Name, for His guidance and countless favors

Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal, God be pleased with him, narrated that Abu Ddarda God be pleased with him, said: "O son of Adam! You have the power to affect the outcome of three things and to turn them to your advantage.

- 1) Never complain about your difficulties;
- 2) Do not tell other about your pain and sufferings and
- 3) Do not praise yourself with your own tongue"

Suleiman bin Ahmad narrated that Abu Ddarda', God be pleased with him, once passed by a crowd

gathering around a man who committed a wrongdoing, and they were chastising and rebuking him. Seeing that, Abu Ddarda said to them: "You see! Suppose that you discover that your brother had fallen into a deep well, would you not try to help him and pull him out of his predicament?" The people replied: "Indeed, we would!" Abu Ddarda' then added: "Therefore, do not insult your brother because of his shortcoming. Instead, praise Allah, blessed be His Name, Who has guarded you against committing such a sin, and Who protected you against walking into the same predicament." The people said: "Do you not hate him for what he did?" Abu Ddarda' replied: "In truth, what I abhor is his act, and once he repents and refrains from committing it again, he will always be my brother." Abu Ddarda, God be pleased with him, then said: "O man! Prays to Allah, blessed be His Name in a good day when you are prosperous. Praise His Holy Name and beseech Him to grant you guidance, protection, and strength when you are at ease, perhaps He will answer your prayers on an arduous day, when you meet with trials and difficulties."

FOR THE KISWAHILI READERS

AL-MA'ARIF

also published by

MAJLIS EL-MA'ARIF EL-ISLAMIYYAH

Allah my Rabb, Muhammad, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, my Nabi, Islam my Deen

Many new-reverts to Islam staunchly adhere to the practical Islamic life surpassing many born-Muslims, due to the sacrifices they have to make by choosing Islam as their religion, contrary to those who happened to be Muslims by birth. I became acquainted with the male members of one such Australian family, and I really envied the way they practiced Islam, taking care even to follow the minute 'aadabs' – decency, let alone leaving a 'Sunnah'. The family was in Mombasa for a couple of years and faced huge problems, and they had no choice, but to return back to Australia and start from a scratch. Even then, it didn't deter their hold to Islam and their Da'wah activities – very true to the Saying of Allah Ta'ala, "*So Whoever Allah wants to guide – He expands his breast to [contain] Islam*". The following is their account of embracing Islam –Ed.

I am grateful to be a convert to Islam. Brought up by my parents as a very strong Catholic in a Western country, living for forty-six years as a Catholic and happily married with two children, an observer would perhaps think I was too set in my ways ever to change.

My daughter became interested in Islam whilst studying at University. My family and I were very shocked and upset when she converted. I was totally exasperated and emotional, as she was opposing every facet of our lifestyle and beliefs, which to my knowledge were never challenged in this manner for countless generations of our family. After her marriage and moving out of our family home,

I took time to reflect and ascertain what had prompted my daughter to alter her beliefs and life so completely.

Then Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala, the Most Gracious the Most Merciful, changed my heart and gave me guidance. With the will and help of Allah anything is possible. I bit my pride and opened my heart to the possibility that perhaps I was in the wrong and that Islam is the truth.

Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala guided me through the English translation of the Noble Qur'an, inviting me to the truth, to His obedience and to His submission. Through reading the Qur'an, I recognised the Prophets, alaihimus salam,

mentioned therein as being the Prophets, alaihimus salam, also mentioned in the Injeel (Bible). I learnt that Eesa (Jesus) is not God, but a much respected Messenger like those before him. I feared the consequences that would result, if I did not heed the warnings contained in the Qur'an about those that have not embraced Islam.

I felt that the Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala was speaking directly to all Jews and Christians, through His Qur'an. There is only one God to be worshipped, Allah, who sent Messengers throughout history and destroyed nations if they did not accept His Message. I was being given the message, through the Qur'an revealed to our beloved

Prophet Muhammad,
sallallahu alaihi
wasallam.

I opened my heart wholeheartedly and Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala made me a Muslim Alhamdulillah Robbil Alameen! (All praise is for Allah, the Lord of all the worlds!). I make shukr (give thanks) to Allah, for taking me out of the darkness into the light. Islam is such a religion that enables me to experience peace of the heart because I have now found my beloved Allah. Previously I had a religion that was confusing and made no real sense. I followed it just as my parents had taught me, sending me to a school run by nuns in the "habit" (like the Hijaab), who would put the students into line by whipping us on the knuckles with a ruler.

Now whatever problem I face, I know where to turn, who to beg from, who can help me, who can listen to me at any moment, day or night, and who can secure a happy place for me in the next life, if I obey Him: Allah! The Ahadith (narrations) of our beloved Prophet Muhammad Rasulullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, taught and continue to teach me how to worship and please Allah, how to live

as a Muslim and defy the deceptive nature of my former lifestyle.

Let me share with you how I lived amidst a world full of desires; music, alcohol, pork, mixing between men and women, indecency, parties, constantly outside the house, mind-polluting movies, gossip, money, materialism – these things do not bring satisfaction. In fact, the more you follow your desires and chase after these things, the less you are satisfied. And now I know I can only gain true satisfaction and everything desirable in Jannah (Paradise), our eternal abode! Many non-Muslims understand the emptiness and hollowness of not having Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala and a true purpose in life. Before I laboured for the world, now I labour for the next life. I love the Sunnah (lifestyle) of Rasulullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam,.

After embracing Islam, I found myself doing everything opposite to my Christian family; eating with my right hand – they with their left; eating halal – while they ate haraam (unlawful) food. I then realised how my lifestyle was changing. My husband and son were horrified at my

conversion, but soon Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala changed their hearts too and made them Muslims. I had started praying shortly after I said my Shahadah (testimony of Faith).

My change was slow, but steady. I started pondering over Akhirah (next life), I heard basic Ahadith and my tongue began to familiarise itself with the sweetness of zikr (glorification of Allah): Subhanallah, Alhamdulillah, Laa ilaha illallah, Allahu Akbar. I learnt, little by little, about Islam. I stopped going to church as was my habit every Sunday. I learnt about istinja (washing), wudoo (ablution), the importance of regularity in five times daily Prayer. I learnt Surah Al-Fatihah (the first seven verses of the Qur'an) and other small Surahs, began to shun alcohol, haraam food and to avoid the dogs and the music at my parents' place.

Gradually I stopped socialising in cafés with my Catholic-community friends. It became increasingly more challenging to spend time with my family, namely my mother, father, brother and sister-in-law and their children (I have another sister who lives separately from my

parents with her husband and children and do not see her so regularly.) My brother was furious over my conversion to Islam and was very verbal in his anger. With time, he became subdued and my parents started visiting me in my house, thus Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala ensuring I wouldn't be tempted to go back to my old ways in their environment. Whenever my parents would come I would gently give them Da'wah (invitation towards the Truth), at the same time honouring them with baked 'goodies' and showing empathy towards their feelings and problems without compromising my Islam. In this way, I learnt about honouring the rights of others, even if they be non-Muslim parents.

When I first became a Muslim, the hijab was a big issue for me. Allah has commanded all women to cover properly in front of non-mahram (marriageable) men. At first, I found the correct wearing of the hijab hot, uncomfortable and restrictive. However, after one complete year from my conversion, my heart softened from fear of Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala and I readily covered myself. When I put on my hijab for the

first time, this signified my cutting of ties I had with the haraam of my past life. Everyone that I knew or saw from our locality were non-Muslims and perhaps had a ignorant or distorted view of Islam's truth. I felt some apprehension over the reaction of other people in my neighbourhood and that of my family. If we only fear Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala, then we do not fear His creation, and if we start to fear His slaves then we should seek refuge in Him. This is exactly what I did and with time, this apprehension changed into elation, because I felt honoured, not oppressed.

Islam elevates the status of women by recognising us as invaluable to our families and therefore to be protected and cherished. Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala gives us dignity and modesty and makes us so special and precious that only our husbands can enjoy our individual uniqueness and elegance. Once again, I feel honoured because as women in Islam, we are known as daughters, wives, mothers, aunts, nieces; we are trustworthy ladies and some of us are the Hafizah of the Glorious Qur'an (those who have memorised every verse).

As Muslims, we must have sincerity of heart, namely that whatever we do, we do it for Allah alone, not seeking the praises of any human being. We are recognised for who we are, rather than what we look like, how much of our body we can show, or how much attention we can attract from men. Covering ourselves makes us think twice about sinfully mixing with strange men, or in any way compromising our chastity, honour or modesty. Allah gives us the respect that every woman deserves.

One thing I cherish is the brotherhood and sisterhood in Islam. The closeness that I feel to other sisters is a closeness that I never experienced with my non-Muslim friends. The help and support I have received from my dear sisters in Islam can only be rewarded by Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala. I understand that as Muslims we have to encourage other Muslims to do good, help them abandon their wrongdoings, and support each other in worshipping and pleasing Allah Subhanahu waTa'ala. We are like one united body, and it is our precious Islam that bonds us together. Islam is the solution to all of the problems of life.

Dates

A nutriment and a medicine

[Article condensed from the October, 2004 issue of the in-flight magazine, 'AHLAN WASAHLAN' of the SAUDI ARABIAN AIRLINES, and translated into English by Sh. Ali Duhmy.]

The date=palm is a good and blessed tree, that has many benefits and advantages to human beings. Allah Subhaanahu waTa'ala has mentioned it's virtues in many versus in His Holy Book, the Qur'an, with over twenty versus in sixteen chapters. For example, Allah Ta'ala says, "And shake towards thyself the trunk of the palm tree, it will let fall fresh ripe dates upon thee, so eat and drink and cool (thine) eye. And if thou dost see any man, say, 'I have vowed a fast to (Allah) the Most Gracious, and this day I will enter into no talk with no human being.'" (Maryam 25-26.)

On top of this virtue, several traditions by the Holy Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, have been reported regarding the virtuous qualities of the date-palm, some of which says, "When the Doomsday comes, and one of you is carrying a palm shoot in his hand, so if he can plant it before the Last Hour sets in, then he should plant it". (This shows how important is the date-palm, and the fruit itself.) Also, "Dates and it's tree are a blessing to the people and their offsprings." The Holy Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, also said, "Feed your women with dates in their childbirth duration, because this was Maryam's food when she gave birth, and if Allah had known of any other food better than dates, He would have fed her with it."

The palm-tree as is it an important tree; both economically and environmentally in the Saudi Community, it also yields dates which are considered to be an important agriculture produce of the Kingdom. And rarely will you find an agricultural land without having date=palms on it. Dates are regarded to be the principle consumer goods in the Kingdom, as it is consumed wholly; fresh (unripe), ripe or dry and preserved, particularly in the holy month of Ramadhan. Likewise the date-palm helps in protecting the environment from pollution. Also the date-palm is regarded to be the best amongst the many trees in adapting the desert environment and conditions, as it bears the extreme degrees of heat, dry weather and the salinity, that is unbearable to other plants. At present, there are more than 18 million date-palms in the Saudi Kingdom, which yield approximately 850 thousand tonnes of different varieties of

dates. There are nearly 400 species of date-palms, among which 50-60 species are the most common.

A FRUIT AND A NUTRIENT

Actually the date-fruit is a fruit, a nutrient, a medicine, a drink and a sweet-meat. Dates are regarded as a unique food item which suffices all the human needs, as it comprises the principal nutritive substances, such as; sugar, acids, metals and minerals, oil, proteins, etc. Dates also have the important healing qualities, as is reported in the noble traditions of the Holy Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam: "Dates remove diseases while it itself has no disease in it." The Holy Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, also said, "Whoever consumes seven dates first thing in the morning, neither poison nor witchcraft will harm him that day." And as it contains antioxidant materials and other

stimulants, so when consumed with fresh milk, it increases the sexual potency and fertility. Dates contain the phosphoric metal element in it, and this is an essential element for the reproductive aspects apart from containing the chief **الارجينين** 'arjineen' acids, which play vital and effective roles in masculinity, and its deficiency may affect the making of the reproduction cells, hence it has a decisive role to play to those who may complain of barrenness due to having few reproductive cells. Because of this, it is an important food and very helpful to men in safeguarding their reproductive capability.

Hence dates are considered to be foods of high quality. It has been reported by Ibnu Maajah, rahimahullah, on the authority of Abu Hurairah, radhiyallahu anhu, "Ajwah is from the Gardens of Paradise (Jannah), and it is a medicine for poison. Dates contain a high percentage

of sugar, which constitutes more than 72% of its dry weight. And because of this, it is considered to be among the richest fruits in calorific value. The calorific value in date-fruit is four times than that of an apple, and seven times than that of an orange and thirteen times than that of a melon. From this we therefore find that one kilogram of dates provides the body with more than 3000 units of energy, which is equivalent to that of ten kilograms of meat. Among the advantageous food nutrients present in the date-fruit is that it consists proteins, oils and a high percentage of metallic salts; and rare elements, which have great important nutrimental value. The date-fruit has been nicknamed as a mine for its rich resources of minerals and metals. It has been discovered that consuming seven dates, which is nearly 100grms. in weight, provides for a day's of all human requirements of vital minerals, such as: magnesium, manganese, copper and sulphur; and half of it's requirement of iron and a quarter of it's needs of calcium and potassium. Dates also contain a fair amount of vitamin "A" and a complete range of vitamin "B" especially thiamine, riboflavin and niacin. And as dates are considered to be a good source of folic acid, likewise they have a high fluorine content, which is five times more than in any other fruit having fluorine. This justifies the claim that consumption of dates does not cause tooth decay, but infact guards them. This is evidenced by the strong teeth of the Bedouins (desert dwellers), despite them consuming dates in abundance. Among the most loved habits among the Muslims, is the consumption of dates when breaking their fast

in the holy month of Ramadhan, which gives the fasting person a doze of vital nutrients which reduces his pangs of hunger and raises his appetite. Likewise, the date enhances the digestive system and guards against hardening of the stomach (or constipation), as well as regulating the acidity in the intestine and in the blood. To this effect, is the sacred saying of the Holy Prophet, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, which says, "Whoever breaks his fast, should do so with fresh ripe dates, and if he doesn't get them, then with dry dates, and if he fails to get them, then with water, as it is pure." In another holy hadith it says, "Whoever feeds a fasting person with a piece of date, he will get to enter) Jannah (Paradise)."

A NUTRIENT AND A MEDICINE

The following are some of the health and medical benefits of dates:-

1. Dates provide general body strength and cures blood deficiency and prevents disturbances in the nervous system as they contain high contents of sugar and potassium.
2. Dates increases the secretion of hormones which induces an increase in the production of milk for breast feeding (e.g. the prolactine hormone). This is due to the presence of glissy and thenon (جليسي و شريونين).
3. Dates decreases the possibility of contracting heart diseases and arterioes blockages as dates are considered to be among the nutrients that help to prevent and also cure the

increase in the level of cholesterol in the blood. Dates actually reduce the balance of cholesterol suction in the intestines as they contain a great deal of antioxidants.

4. Dates are useful in treating chronic constipation as they activate the intestines and soften them as they contain an adequate amount of cellulose.
5. Dates play a vital role in treating the liver and gall bladder diseases as they have high sugar content in them.
6. Dates are considered to be important foods which guard against cancer related diseases as they contain antioxidants.
7. Dates are among the most important foods enriched with nutrients that activate the immunity system. They are rich in substance 'Beta 1-3 de-glocane'. Among the most important benefits of this substance is that it activates the immunity system in the body. Also it has the capability of uniting; guarding and dispelling the foreign matters in the body. It also detects the cancerous cells and destroys them. It also guards the body from viruses, bacteria, fungus and other parasites and destroys them as well. Again it detects the damaged cells which are damaged as a result of being exposed to rays from computers, medical x-rays, mobile phones, ultra-violet rays, or rays emanated in air flights. It checks them and destroys them.

8. It repairs and makes new cells the same way as the substance 'Beta 1-3 de-glocane', which is found in abundance in dates and this helps and activates some of the important substances; like anti-germ, anti fungi and anti parasites.
9. The skin of the date-fruit is rich in flap hones (فلافونويدات), which in recent years, has been to have a high concentration of antioxidant ingredients. These have numerous active physiological benefits, the most distinct of which being an activator of the heart, and it does so despite being in a small quantity. It also strengthens the blood vessels and prevents penetration (of foreign matters) and also effusion of blood; and at the same time acting as an anti fungal, bacterial and viral infections, and anti cancerous agent.
10. Dates are effective in combating allergies as they contain zinc substances.
11. Dates reduce acidity and heartburn as they contain alkaline-base substances.
12. Dry date powder and grinded date-seed powder help in curing asthma and difficulties in breathing.

khalid 1963@hotmail.com

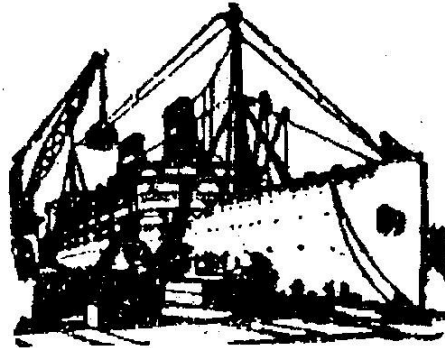
As reported by Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, that Allah Ta'ala said:

"Spend*, O son of Adam, and I shall spend on you."

Muslim

*i.e., in charity

MUSES MOHAMED & CO.



SHIPCHANDLERS

**EST. 1888
MOMBASA**

**Telex: 2213661 MUSES KE
FAX: 2311826 / 2227956**

E-mail: museshipstores@swiftmombasa.com

**P. O. BOX 81347
Digo Road.
MOMBASA
(Kenya)**

**Telephone.
Office. 2224738 / 2220100
Res: 222589 / 2493462**

**Telegrams & Cables
"SHIPSTORES"**

Go for the truth

Some Important Questions For The Christians On The Present Bible

- 1: Do the gospels claim in any verse that it is a revelation of God?
- 2: Was only one or more than one gospels revealed on Holy Jesus Christ (peace be upon him)?
- 3: If only one gospel was revealed, how did the present Gospels of Matthew, Luke, Mark, John and others, like that of Barnabas, etc., came into being?
- 4: Are all the present Gospels revealed by God in the same way? If it is so, why do they bear the names of their authors, and when were these names attributed? If all these are revealed Gospels, how could the contradictions and controversies of their contents, events and teachings be counted for?
- 5: In all these Gospels, the life of Jesus Christ, his genealogy and his preaching and teachings have been mentioned. Could such events be revealed by God? Matthew and Luke discuss the genealogy of Jesus Christ. Matthew mentioned 28 and Luke 43 ancestors in his genealogy. The names of the ancestors vary in both the gospels. Which of the genealogy is the correct one? The story of Herod is given only in Matthew's Gospel. The other three Gospels are silent about it. What is the reason for this and what is the proof of its truth?
- 6: What was the original language of the Gospel revealed on Christ? Do you know that the language of Christ was Aramaic? Is there any Gospel present in this language? If there is one, where is it? Prove with reference.
- 7: Which was Bishop's Bible, the contents of which were changed by King James of England?
 - {a} Is it a fact that in King James' Bible, 20,000 errors were found after the gospel was considered authentic for 259 years?
 - {b} Is it a fact, that in 1884, this Bible was reviewed and another Bible replaced it?
 - {c} Why did Americans, in 1901, produce a new Bible, and again amendments were made in this in 1952?
 - {d} Which one of the various Bibles produced by different countries is authentic and why?
- 8: The Roman Catholic Bible contains 72 books, while the Protestant Bible contains only 66. Which one of the two Bibles is correct?
- 9: The Old Testament contained 56 books, while the present edition contains only 39. Where are the 17 missing books?

10. Please study the following:

1. "For as much as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us.
2. Even, as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eye witnesses, and ministers of the word.
3. It seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write unto Thee in order, most excellent. Theophilus."

[St. Luke, Ch. 1, 1-4].

These verses speak of many authors. Would it be possible to locate them? If these were Divine Words, why were they addressed to Theophilus?

4. The study of Hebrew and Greek texts dissolved at last the cement by which the doctrine of Inspiration had held together the whole Bible as a homogeneous Divine product. The discrepancies and disharmonies in the scriptures could no longer be disguised.

{Encyclopaedia Britannica
vol. 111, p. 501 para 34}.

The Bishop of Canterbury appointed a commission in the year 1930 who, while supporting the above statement, stated that till the commencement of the nineteenth century, the Church was of the same view that the Bible is free of errors; but in the light of modern knowledge and research, this view cannot be maintained.

Do the Christian scholars, today, attest or refute all the above statements? If so, satisfactory arguments may be put forward for both.

For correspondence, write to: Islami Mission, Sant Nagar, Lahore, Pakistan. {Ph. 62978}

OH ALLAH! HOW DEAR HE IS TO ME!

He made so beautifully the eyes for me to see

He made so miraculously the ears for me to hear

He made so excellently the hands for me to catch and hold

He made so proficiently the feet for me to stand and walk

Oh Allah! How dear He is to me!

He levelled the sky above as ceiling for me to rest my fears and grasp at His Might

He adorned the space with galaxies of stars for me to marvel at His Supremacy

He stationed the big big mountains for me to ponder at His Greatness

He spread out the earth with different terrains for to be fascinated of His Majesty

Oh Allah! How dear He is to me!

He sent His choiciest Rasool ﷺ to elevate me from nothingness to superiority

He sent His most beloved Slave ﷺ to guide me towards eternal bliss

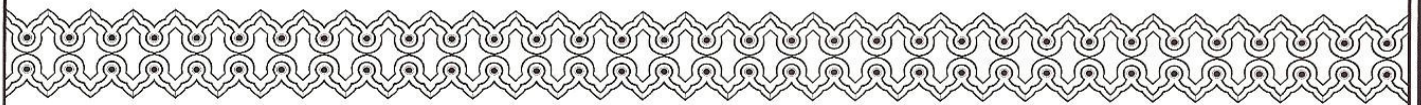
He sent the Leader of all the Messengers ﷺ to crave for my pardon and forgiveness

He sent His most blessed Nabi ﷺ to seek my entry into Jannah on Resurrection day

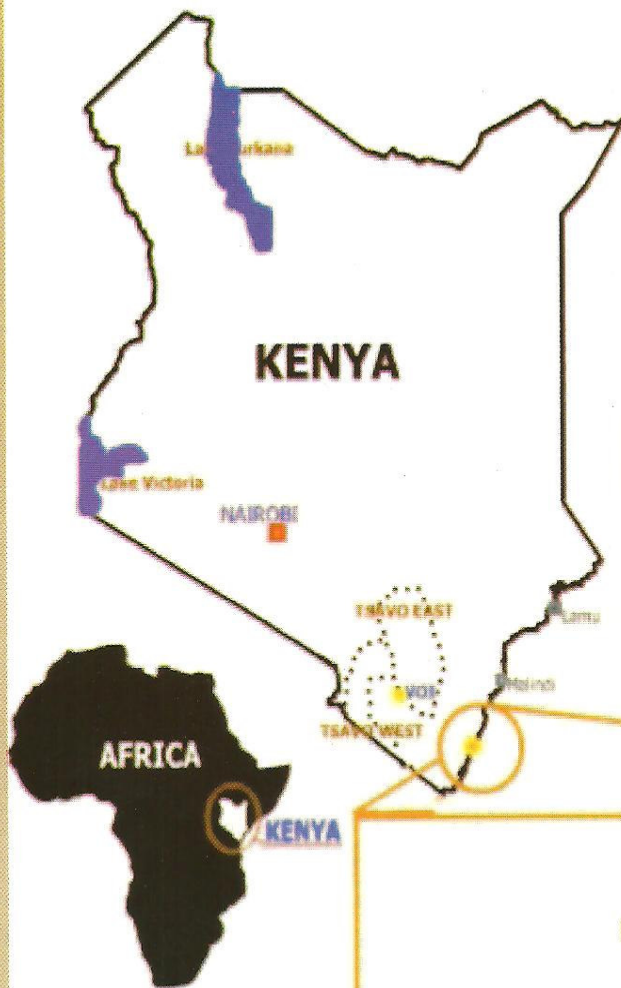
Oh Allah! How dear He is to me!

On the authority of Anas, radhyallahu anhu, who said, 'I heard Rasoolullah, sallallahu alaihi wasallam, say, 'Allah, the Almighty, said, "O son of Adam, so long as you call upon Me, I shall forgive you for what you have done, and I shall not mind. O son of Adam, were your sins to reach the clouds of the sky, and were you then to ask forgiveness of Me, I would forgive you. O son of Adam, were you to come to Me with sins nearly as great as the earth, and were you to face Me, ascribing no partner to Me, I would bring you forgiveness nearly as great as it." (at-Tirmidhy and Ahmad)

[From 'Forty Hadith Qudsi']



PHYSICAL LOCATION OF MAJLISUL MA'ARIF EL-ISLAMMIYYAH



A view of MASJID-UN-NAEEM



A View of Classes and Dormetry

