



Assalato Wasallaamo 'Alaika Yaa Rasool Allah

صلى الله عليه وسلم

Wa 'Alaa Aalika Wa As Haabika Yaa Noor Allah

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Attributes of a Religious Preacher

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Muzda e Bakhshish

Dil Ki Duniya Ko Sajaa Aaqa
Apni Ulfat Mey Jilaa Aaqa

Hubbey Duniya Sey Bachaana Mujh Ko
Mujh Ko Apna Hee Banaao Aaqa

Shauq E Deedaar Mey So-Un Jis Shab
Apna Deedaar Karaao Aaqa

Fikr E Duniya Mey Na Aansoo Nikley
Apni Ulfat Mey Rulaa Aaqa

Jitney Mo'min Hain Pareyshaan Shaahaa
Sab Ki Bigri Ko Banaao Aaqa

Aakhari Dam Bhi Adaa Ho Sunnat
Peer Key Din Jo Qaza Ho Aaqa

Dil Tarapta Hain Huzoori Ko Huzoor
Sadqey Murshid Key Bulaa Aaqa

Mujh Ko Phir Dushmano Ney Gheyra Hai
Apney Daaman Mey Chupaa Aaqa

Shakir E Razvi Hai Aasi Shaahaa
Muzda Bakhshish Ka Sunaa Aaqa



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This booklet is written for those preachers of Sunni Dawat-e-Islami who have firm belief and complete faith in the truthfulness and loftiness of preaching and propagating; who have made the firm resolve to spend each breathing moment striving for the organisation, and if need be, are willing to give their life for the organisation. The colleagues of the organisation who have made such a resolve need to become practical, living examples of the points mentioned below:

1. A sincere commitment to propagating the true religion of Islam.
2. Taking it upon oneself to obey and imitate the blessed Sunnahs.
3. Respect and reverence of the Scholars and Saints of Ahle Sunnah.

Our guiding principles should be first and foremost in everything that we do.

Sincerity

To be sincere means that every step we take must be for the Pleasure of Allah Ta'ala and Rasool Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم. The heart should be pure of seeking fame, wanting respect, power, or wanting a title before our name. Allah Ta'ala says in the Holy Qur'an:

وَاللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَحَقُّ أَنْ يُرْضَوْهُ

**...And Allah and His Messenger had greater right,
that they should please him...**

(Surah Taubah Verse 62)

Whether the world praises us or curses us, we should ignore it and always remember that our living, our dying, rather, our very being is for the Lord alone, and for the victory of Islam. If Allah Ta'ala, through the alms of Rasool Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم, grants us success; if lost souls start to tread on the path of righteousness and goodness and seek forgiveness of their past sins, we must not think of this as our achievement or success. Rather, we must always have the faith that Allah Ta'ala alone is the One who changes hearts and it is with His Grace that this was possible, and it is His Mercy and His

Blessings that He made us a means of passing on the message. All qualities and beauties are for Allah Ta'ala alone.

Always remember that success and failure is from Allah Ta'ala alone. Thank Allah Ta'ala for all successes and try even harder if we fail. Look for the reason why we failed; was it lack of sincerity? Shortage of deeds? Forgetting the aim? Laziness in worship? These are the things that lead to failure otherwise no efforts go unrewarded by Allah Ta'ala. Our Creator says in the Holy Qur'an:

وَأَنْ لَّيْسَ لِلْإِنْسَانِ إِلَّا مَا سَعَى

And that the man will not get but what he endeavours.

(Surah Najm Verse 39)

Being disheartened or upset when failing is not the manner of believers. Sooner or later the Lord of the Worlds will definitely grant us success, because His promise is definitely true:

وَأَنْتُمْ الْأَعْلَوْنَ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ مُؤْمِنِينَ

...You are the very same who shall overcome if you have faith.

(Surah Aal e 'Imran Verse 139)

We should work on behalf of Sunni Dawat e Islami, spread its message and make known its aims and objectives solely for the Pleasure of Allah Ta'ala and His Beloved Prophet ﷺ. There should be no reason other than this as the Holy Qur'an says in relation to this sincerity:

مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ

...Being exclusively one sided.

(Surah Bayyinah Verse 5)

We realise that our actions and deeds should be only for our Lord; there should be no other hidden or apparent purpose or intention.

إِلَّا ابْتِغَاءَ وَجْهِ رَبِّهِ الْأَعْلَى

He only seeks the pleasure of his Lord Who is the Most High

(Surah Lail Verse 20)

The Prophets 'Alaihimus Salaam always announced that there was no worldly or personal profit for them in what they were preaching and propagating,

“And I ask you for no reward for it, my reward is only with the Lord of all the worlds.”

Hazrat Nooh ‘Alaihis Salaam also made the same announcement that is safeguarded in the Holy Qur’an:

وَيَقَوْمٍ لَّا أَسْأَلُكُمْ عَلَيْهِ مَالًا إِنِّ أَجْرِي إِلَّا عَلَى اللَّهِ

And O people! I ask no wealth on it from you. My reward is only with Allah...

(Surah Hud Verse 29)

Our Beloved Prophet ﷺ, through whose grace and benevolence we have been granted the honoured position of preaching this religion, was told by Allah Ta’ala to describe the state of his heart. Therefore, the Qur’an says:

قُلْ مَا سَأَلْتُكُمْ مِنْ أَجْرٍ فَهُوَ لَكُمْ إِنِّ أَجْرِي إِلَّا عَلَى اللَّهِ وَهُوَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ شَهِيدٌ

Say you, ‘if I might have asked you some reward against it, then it is yours.’ My reward is only upon Allah, and He is witness over everything.

(Surah Saba Verse 47)

In other words, ‘The Supreme Lord Who is the Knower of all things hidden is aware of my intentions; that they are not for any profit, but solely for Him.’

Similarly, at another point, Rasool Allah ﷺ is told to explain the reason for inviting people to the religion and to Allah Ta’ala:

قُلْ مَا أَسْأَلُكُمْ عَلَيْهِ مِنْ أَجْرٍ إِلَّا مَنْ شَاءَ أَنْ يَتَّخِذَ إِلَىٰ رَبِّهِ سَبِيلًا

Say you, ‘I ask of you no wage for this but whosoever wills may take a way towards his Lord.’

(Surah Furqan Verse 57)

In other words, ‘If you want to know the reason for this effort of mine, this struggle and endeavour, it is none other than the fact that you people may accept the truth.’

In light of the verses mentioned above, it must be quite clear and plain for everyone to see that sincerity is the most important quality that is needed in preaching and propagating. Even in worldly matters, sincerity is the foundation for success. No matter how great a job someone does, if it

becomes known that he did it for reasons of personal fame or profit, the value of that work immediately falls in the eyes of people.

Islamic Ideals

Our thoughts and attitudes should only be Islamic, extreme care must be taken to ensure that non-Islamic ideas or thoughts do not enter our minds. We should always remember that Islam is a complete way of life; there is no facet of life that is not covered by this code and way of life. It gives a message to reform characters, gives complete laws to ensure fairness and justice for all, and shows how to earn lawful sustenance along with its principles. Islam quenches the thirst in all aspects of people's lives; it does not leave them thirsty at any point.

It is crucial to strengthen ties with the Qur'an and the Hadith of Rasool Allah ﷺ when spreading the teachings of Islam, as our religion is not a religion of superstitions and suppositions. If Allah Ta'ala has granted us the wisdom and knowledge to solve our issues and questions from the Qur'an and Hadith ourselves, then that is a great blessing, Alhamdu Lillah. If not, we should benefit from the knowledge of those who have been granted closeness to the Qur'an and Hadith.

Islamic values and principals should be evident in all aspect of our lives, from our domestic life to business dealings and all in between, and we should have total faith and satisfaction in them. We should attempt to spread these values and standards in all directions. To ensure that we are clothed in the Islamic values and ideals, we should meet with the scholars of Islam. Spending time in their company, with respect, will make it evident to us how to live according to Islam. Visiting the shrines of the Friends of Allah Ta'ala and learning about their lives will be very beneficial and will lead to success, Insha Allah Ta'ala.

What should be done for the betterment of Islam and Muslims in any part of the world, and what Islamic activities are currently being carried out there? What is being done for Islam? You should try and obtain the answers to these questions. You should always spread the message about the aims and objectives of the organisation to all people. This organisation, with which we are attached, is spreading the message of following in the Sunnahs of and obedience to Rasool Allah ﷺ worldwide, and many countries around the world are currently waiting for our preachers to reach them. Remember! If we do not turn the thoughts of those Muslims around us towards Islamic principles and ideas, then Allah Ta'ala will hold us

accountable. Therefore, we should try and reform all those who we meet and allow them the opportunity to understand the organisation properly. There is no way that they can understand us totally in the first meeting, and neither can we understand them in a single meeting. The more we meet with them and the closer they get to us, the more love for Islam will be ignited in their hearts, along with hatred and revulsion for sins and prohibited things.

In this way, the number of colleagues will increase and then the thirst of those who are dehydrated can be quenched with love of Rasool Allah ﷺ. This can only be possible when we become living, walking examples of what we are preaching.

“The best person is one who is aware of his faults and shortcomings, and attempts to correct them.”

We should be like surgeons; a surgeon does not hate the patient, he hates the disease that is killing the patient. If we see someone who is embroiled in sins, we should attempt to make his life on earth and the hereafter better because he is a follower (Ummati) of Rasool Allah ﷺ. If our advice, guidance, and recommendations reform him, then as long as he is drowned in love of Rasool Allah ﷺ, he will continue to supplicate for our forgiveness.

Islam teaches us that we should like for our fellow Muslims what we like for ourselves. We desire that we should go into Paradise; therefore, we should make sure that we attempt to reform those brothers and sisters who are living their lives in sin, and take them with us into Paradise. If Allah Ta'ala has guided us to worship Him, we should not boast about this; rather, we should thank Allah Ta'ala for this blessing.

Self Sacrifice

Remember! No system or way of life has been established in the world without sacrifices and selflessness. If we want to lie on beds of comfort, then the Islamic way will never be established. We are not doing any favours to the religion by sacrificing our lives, wealth, and strength; it is actually our Lord who is doing a favour on us by accepting them. The reason for this is that Allah Ta'ala is without faults, yet we are presenting these things in His Court that are full of faults, as we are covered in faults. It is His untold Grace and Favour that He has granted us the guidance to work for His religion. If we face all difficulties on this path with calmness and remain patient and steadfast, up to the point that we present our lives to our Creator if need be, then that will be our ascension. The reason for this is

that those who die on the bed merely die, but those who give their lives in His path are alive even after dying and become deserving of eternal rewards. It should be remembered that there is no question of sacrifices in the path of Allah Ta'ala not being accepted, rather, they are rewarded greatly.

The reality is that Allah Ta'ala entrusts our lives and our wealth to us just as Allah Ta'ala says in the Holy Qur'an:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ اشْتَرَىٰ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَنفُسَهُمْ وَأَمْوَالَهُمْ بِأَنَّ لَهُمُ الْجَنَّةَ

No doubt. Allah has purchased from the Muslims their lives and their belongings against this return that for them is Paradise...

(Surah Taubah Verse 111)

In reality, we are guardians of these two things (lives and belongings). Wherever we are ordered to use these, we should use them so that we are not shamed and embarrassed on the Day of Judgement. If we fulfil the responsibilities of this guardianship properly and accurately then, according to the Creator of Paradise, we will be deserving of Paradise, Insha Allah Ta'ala.

Knowledge

Once we have taken on the responsibility and enthusiasm of preaching the religion; once we have made sacrifices in attempting to reform ourselves and those around us; once we have become punctual and regular in the ways and qualities of a preacher, one of the most important things that is needed, to move the work and the message forward, is knowledge. According to the words of Rasool Allah ﷺ, knowledge of the religion is our best companion. Rasool Allah ﷺ said, "Make obtaining knowledge compulsory on yourselves as knowledge is the best companion."

Knowledge is such a companion that it will be there in the grave, helping us to answer the questions of the Angels. Those who meet with preachers have great hopes and expectations that their questions will be answered and that they will find solutions to their problems. If their problems are not solved according to the Qur'an and Hadith, they will leave thirsty and unsatisfied.

Our homes and offices should be decorated with religious books as opposed to souvenirs and displays, and they should not just be for display but should be for research and knowledge. The research should not be just for the sake

of learning, but so that we act upon what we learn as well, as this is the requirement and obligation placed upon us by our religion.

Dedicate sometime in the course of the day that can be spent in learning knowledge and carrying out research, and supplicate for beneficial knowledge. Keep in mind that it is a Sunnah of Rasool Allah ﷺ and always ask Allah Ta'ala to increase your knowledge, **“O my Lord increase me in knowledge.”** We should ask Allah Ta'ala to grant us increased knowledge and He will grant it to us, Insha Allah Ta'ala, through the alms of Rasool Allah ﷺ. After we have performed the compulsory worships, the best worship is attaining knowledge.

Hafiz e Millat Allama 'Abdul 'Aziz Muraadabaadi 'Alaihir Rahmah (Founder of Al Jaamia tul Ahsrafiya, Mubarakpur) stated that the best incantations (Wazeefas) for preachers are studying and researching. Huzoor Sayyedul 'Ulema Sayyed Aal e Mustafa Marehrawi 'Alaihir Rahmah stated that preachers of the religion should study at least two hundred pages of religious books every day.

Remember! Without the light of the Qur'an and Hadith, working for the religion is a case of going astray and leading others astray. Research and study the translation of the Qur'an (Kanzul Iman), books of Tafseer and Ahadith, history of Islam, and the life of Rasool Allah ﷺ according to the scholars of Ahle Sunnah, especially the books and writings of Imam Ahmad Raza Khan Faazil e Bareilly 'Alaihir Rahmah. It should be remembered that, in the light of the Qur'an, the most respected person is one who is most pious. Allah Ta'ala says:

إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتَقُّكُمْ

Undoubtedly, the most respected among you in the sight of Allah is he who is more pious...

(Surah Hujurat Verse 13)

Piety cannot be gained without knowledge, whether it is obtained from institutions, direct from Allah Ta'ala, or from the glances and graces of pious people. Spend your lives in this path so that you can brighten the world through the light of knowledge.

For your convenience and to enable you to increase your knowledge, the following list of books is presented. These books will not only help you in increasing your knowledge, but will make your faith and beliefs stronger. May Allah Ta'ala grant us the enthusiasm and desire to study and gain

knowledge, and may He grant us profitable knowledge through the alms of Rasool Allah ﷺ, Aameen.

Essential to Study

- Kanzul Iman
- Bahaar e Shari'at Part 1
- Tamheed e Iman
- Qanoon e Shari'at
- Tajalli ul Yaqeen
- Suroor ul Quloob
- Jazbul Quloob
- Bahaar e Shari'at Part 16
- Akhbaarul Akhyaar (Translation)
- Takmeel ul Imaan (Translation)
- Tahqeeqat 1 & 2
- Fatawa e Africa
- Seerat e Rasool (Arabic)
- Seerat ul Mustafa
- Mubarak Raatain
- Makaashifatil Quloob
- Keemyaa e Sa'aadat
- Nafhatul Ins Bazm e Auliya
- 'Azmat e Waalidain

Deeds and Actions

Very important attributes in the qualities of a preacher are his personal deeds and actions, and they are the things that assist him in this path. The actions of a Muballig are in themselves an invitation, because knowledge without deeds is like a tree without leaves. It is a great hypocrisy if we say one thing and do the opposite. Allah Ta'ala says:

اتَّامُرُونَ النَّاسَ بِالْبِرِّ وَتَنْسَوْنَ أَنْفُسَكُمْ

Do you order righteousness to mankind and forget

yourselves...

(Surah Baqarah Verse 44)

It is essential that we colour ourselves totally in Islamic colours and act upon its teachings before we advocate it to others. Each and every action of ours should be within the bounds of Islam. If we do not act upon the teachings ourselves, yet we travel the world propagating and inviting people to Islam, then we are making fun of our religion. If this is not blatant hypocrisy, then what is it? What can be achieved other than disgrace in both worlds?

The actions and deeds of a preacher are an example for the community. If the lack of deeds or the presence of bad deeds in a preacher is used as proof and confirmation by an ignorant person as to its validity, we can all imagine the impact of that. May Allah Ta'ala save us all from disgrace and humiliation through the alms of Rasool Allah ﷺ, Aameen.

Good Company

Allah Ta'ala says in the Holy Qur'an:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَكُونُوا مَعَ الصَّادِقِينَ

O believers! Fear Allah and be with the truthful.

(Surah Taubah Verse 119)

The company of pious people ignites knowledge into action. The company of good people increases the enthusiasm for goodness. We should look towards those individuals in the organisation who are punctual with their deeds and are successful and profit by spending time with them so that we can learn and master the art of protecting ourselves from laziness, irregularity, mistakes, and the (evil) whisperings of Satan. We should not hesitate in accepting truth and goodness, as this is a sign of dutiful, obedient people. Stubbornness, inflexibility, and pig-headedness are the preludes to ruin.

Benefit should definitely be acquired by keeping the company of pious scholars, and time should be made to attend their lectures and commentaries so that we can become familiar with the secrets and symbols of the Qur'an and Hadith. Sometimes, it only takes a single word of wisdom to remove years of rust and ignorance. Avoid those gatherings where the conscience is put to sleep rather than awakened, otherwise you will be classified as one of the idle time wasters and your heart will become dark.

Remember! Lectures and gatherings mean the lectures, gathering and teachings of the rightly guided scholars, the scholars of Ahle Sunnah. It is useless listening to the blabbering of those people whose lamp has been extinguished, because the one who himself is travelling in darkness will never be able to show you the light.

Steadfastness

Another quality that is critical on the path of preaching and propagating is determination. The factors that will make you successful in reaching the destination are doing the work whole heartedly with enthusiasm and being determined and firm. There will be thousands of problems on this path, but the work of preaching must not stop and you must not be sidetracked. You have to pass through trials and tests on this path; sometimes there are mountains of problems and issues, other times the taunts and scorn of others are enough to make one tremble and shake.

Sometimes, people try and buy the preachers; other times they are trapped and tricked in such a manner that one finds it impossible to figure out. Sometimes, even after great efforts are made, success is not seen and this leads to a feeling of disappointment and dejection. The point is that preachers are tested and tried in many different ways but the successful preacher is one who does not lose his steadfastness but forces the storm to change its direction. The people taunting should be forced to think that 'There is no way we can sidetrack him from his work'. The one who is steadfast and determined will Insha Allah, receive the Help of Allah Ta'ala, because He has promised:

وَكَانَ حَقًّا عَلَيْنَا نَصْرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

...And it is on Our Grace binding to help the Muslims."

(Surah Rum Verse 47)

You will see that those opposing you will stand shoulder to shoulder with you and will assist you in making the religion victorious. It is not possible for any organisation to be successful without determination, firmness and steadfastness.

Love of Rasool Allah

صلى الله عليه وسلم

This quality is the perfection of religion. If this quality is found in normal people, it is a sign of a soul that is alive as this quality is related to faith. If it

is necessary to have this quality in a normal believer, it is even more crucial for it to be present in a preacher. The more this quality is found in a preacher, the more touching, pure, and effective the message will be. The reality is that the foundation and core aim of Islam is that a believer's heart becomes a treasure chest filled with love of Rasool Allah ﷺ. Therefore, how much love should we have for Rasool Allah ﷺ? Let us find out from the blessed, wisdom-filled tongue of Sayyedina Rasool Allah ﷺ, who stated, "None of you can be a believer until I become dearer to you than your mother, father, children, and all other people." (Agreed Upon)

What was the motivation for the enormous enthusiasm in obeying Allah Ta'ala and obeying Rasool Allah ﷺ that was present in the Companions and the blessed Friends of Allah Ta'ala 'Alaihimur Ridwaan? The principal reason was that they had undying and endless love for Rasool Allah ﷺ and were fearful of doing anything that may hurt that relationship, or would give people a chance to say, 'Is that what a lover of Rasool Allah ﷺ does?'

Therefore, we should fill our hearts with love of Rasool Allah ﷺ, and this love is born with remembrance of Rasool Allah ﷺ. To aid this, we should study books about the qualities and miracles of Rasool Allah ﷺ and speak about them often. Also, we should study and understand the status and respect of the court of Rasool Allah ﷺ that has been explained by Allah Ta'ala in the Qur'an. Studying A'ala Hazrat's booklet 'Tajalli ul Yaqeen' and Shaikh 'Abdul Haq Muhaddith e Dehlvi's book 'Jazbul Quloob' are also very profitable in this matter.

Reciting and listening to poetry (Na'ats) in praise of Rasool Allah ﷺ is another way to increase the love and affection for Rasool Allah ﷺ in our hearts. The best way to measure how much love for Rasool Allah ﷺ we have in our hearts is that when anything clashes with and is against the teachings of Rasool Allah ﷺ and would disappoint him, how do we react?

If we stop ourselves from going towards those things, even if they are profitable in terms of worldly wealth, apparent fame and fortune, and apparent respect, then we should prostrate and thank Allah Ta'ala that He has brightened our hearts with love of Rasool Allah ﷺ. If our feet slip and stumble in this matter, then we should be fearful because we have not reached the level of love and obedience that are demanded by Allah Ta'ala and by Rasool Allah ﷺ.

Let us look at the lives of a few blessed Companions 'Alaihimur Ridwaan and see the status of love for Rasool Allah ﷺ that was present in them so that we are encouraged in our mission and it becomes easier for us to obtain true love of Rasool Allah ﷺ.

Hazrat Zaid bin Khalid Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu narrates that Rasool Allah ﷺ said, "If I did not worry about my Ummah being put into difficulty, I would order them to use Miswak before each prayer." After this, it became the habit of Hazrat Zaid bin Khalid Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu that whenever he would come to the Mosque for prayer, he would have a Miswak behind his ear, just as one who writes places a pen behind his ear. When he would want to perform prayer, he would rub the Miswak on his teeth and then perform prayer. (Tirmidhi, Abu Dawood)

Hazrat Zaid bin Khalid Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu was not ordered to perform Miswak by Rasool Allah ﷺ; he had merely expressed an opinion and a preference. Hazrat Zaid bin Khalid Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu made this preference of his Beloved an essential part of his whole life in order to obtain the pleasure of Rasool Allah ﷺ. This was not only the state of Hazrat Zaid bin Khalid Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu, rather, this was the level of devotion and love of all the Companions Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhum of Rasool Allah ﷺ. May Allah Ta'ala grant us the graces of these great Companions of Rasool Allah ﷺ, Aameen.

Hazrat Ibn Hanzalah Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu narrates that Rasool Allah ﷺ said, "Khazeem Asdi Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu is a great person except for the fact that his hair is too long and that he drags his lower garment."

When Hazrat Khazeem Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu found out about this, he got a razor and cut his hair so that it was in line with his ears and he pulled his lower garment up to his shins. (Abu Dawood)

The proof, through actions, of the love of Rasool Allah ﷺ that was displayed and shown by the Companions Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhum cannot be found amongst the followers of any other leader. This is the reason that the enemies of Islam were helpless against the devotion and love of Rasool Allah ﷺ that the Companions had, and would run away from the battlefield.

Therefore, it is essential for a preacher to fill his heart with love of Rasool Allah ﷺ, and just as it has been stated previously, love of Rasool Allah ﷺ is created by remembering him and listening to his praises. It is true that a person always talks about the one he loves the most

and if we claim to love Rasool Allah ﷺ, we should mention him at all times and remember him the most.

There is a need for infatuation and obsession, but the desire to sacrifice everything out of love for Rasool Allah ﷺ needs to be created. From the remembrance of Rasool Allah ﷺ, we need to move towards the concerns of Rasool Allah ﷺ; from the concerns of Rasool Allah ﷺ, we need to move towards the Sunnahs of Rasool Allah ﷺ; from Sunnahs of Rasool Allah ﷺ, we need to move towards the greatness of Rasool Allah ﷺ. Keep moving forward and you will soon overpower the whole world. Is that possible?

Yes, that is possible and it has happened before. We need to wake up and be alert; we need to pull our hands away from those who put us to sleep and awaken all those who are sleeping. We should remove all other collars from our necks and put on the collar of obedience to Rasool Allah ﷺ around our necks. Then you will see that you can sit on a mat and still rule, just give yourself in obedience to Rasool Allah ﷺ and the whole world will be yours.

Stay Away from Those with False Beliefs

There are countless sects with false beliefs prevalent in the world today such as Deobandi, Wahhabi, Sulleh Kulli, Ghair Muqallid, Jama'at e Islami, Tableeghi Jama'at, Raafzi, Qadyani, Munkareen e Hadith etc. These people are repulsive and should be avoided, as it states in a Hadith that Rasool Allah ﷺ said, "Stay away from them and keep them away from you for they may misguide you and put you in tribulations."

In another Hadith, it states, "You should not eat with them, nor drink with them, nor sit with them, nor marry or have relations with them, nor pray with them, nor should you pray the funeral prayer on them." Their company or closeness is a deadly poison for faith and beliefs. Therefore, to stay away from them is critical. You should also save yourselves from lying, backbiting, jealousy, malice, spite, greed, fighting and quarrelling etc." Let us supplicate to Allah Ta'ala that along with saving us from these sins, He gives us the guidance to stay away from those with false beliefs, Aameen.

Brotherhood

All believers are brothers to each other, but our responsibility is greater than that. Due to the fact that we are connected to an organisation whose aim is to foster a feeling of brotherhood amongst all, the brotherhood

amongst members of the organisation needs to be stronger and more powerful. Establish a system of mutual understanding amongst members of the organisation; join in each other's happiness and console each other at times of grief and sadness; talk about the qualities of each other and help each other to get rid of bad habits; instead of revealing each other's faults, cover them up.

Thousands of efforts will be made to destroy this brotherhood and mutual understanding, but be firm and remain united and stand side by side like a solid wall. If a colleague upsets you, you should get into the habit of 'forgive and forget.' We should create a love in our heart for the successful colleagues amongst us, copy their good qualities and attempt to become a traveller on the path of success ourselves. We should never become a victim of Satan's whisperings and hold malice or spite in our heart. We should always pay attention to each colleague's pain and comfort; sacrifice our own interests for the sake of the organisation's best interests, and even after triumphing thousands of times, never let an ounce of arrogance or pride enter our heart, and we should never look down at any colleague and think that he is not as good as us.

We should also always remember that if people love, respect and have faith in us, it is solely because of this religion of ours, otherwise there is no difference between us and other people. Therefore, thinking of ourselves as successful before we die with faith is foolishness. The thing that destroys brotherhood and mutual understanding is teasing and mocking each other, which have been severely condemned in the Qur'an and Ahadith and therefore we should avoid it:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا يَسْخَرْ قَوْمٌ

O believers! Let not the men scoff at the men...

(Surah Hujurat Verse 11)

May Allah Ta'ala protect us all from the whisperings and mischief of Satan and guide us to work for His religion with sincerity, with brotherhood, and with mutual understanding, Aameen.

Cheerful and Good Natured

It is necessary to be cheerful and good-natured in order to have a pure and wholesome society; therefore we should be good-humoured and make jokes occasionally as this creates love and understanding amongst colleagues. It is necessary for a preacher to be good natured and pleasant in

addressing everyone. However, beware that the need for humour does not make us disrespectful. Therefore, in this regard, it is also necessary to keep in mind the Sunnahs of Rasool Allah ﷺ. The good nature and cheerfulness of Rasool Allah ﷺ is beyond comparison and knows no bounds.

Once, Hazrat Umm e Salma Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anha's daughter, who was the stepdaughter of Rasool Allah ﷺ, came and Rasool Allah ﷺ had just stepped out from taking a bath. Rasool Allah ﷺ cheerfully sprinkled drops of water from his blessed fingers onto her face. The blessings of those drops of water placed beauty and elegance on her face that never washed off, the look of youth remained permanent on her face. Subhan Allah!

Another incident from the many incidents of good nature, regarding Rasool Allah ﷺ, is as follows. There was a villager, called Zaahir, who used to occasionally bring certain vegetables that grew in the village as a gift to Rasool Allah ﷺ. When Zaahir would leave, Rasool Allah ﷺ used to give him something from the city, such as a piece of cloth for example. Rasool Allah ﷺ was very friendly with him, and would say, 'I have a friendship with Zaahir, and I am his city friend.'

One day Rasool Allah ﷺ went to the market place and saw Zaahir standing. Rasool Allah ﷺ covered Zaahir's eyes with his blessed hands and pulled Zaahir towards him, so that his back was against the blessed chest of Rasool Allah ﷺ. Zaahir could not see Rasool Allah ﷺ and said, "Who is this?" When he realised who it was, he pressed harder against the blessed chest of Rasool Allah ﷺ and did not want to be separated. Rasool Allah ﷺ said, "Is there anyone who wants to buy this slave?" Zaahir said, "Yaa Rasool Allah ﷺ, do you think I am useless and worthless?" Rasool Allah ﷺ said, "You are not worthless in the sight of Allah Ta'ala, you are very valuable."

Concern for the Hereafter

Together with sincerity, obedience to Allah Ta'ala, and making people aware of the laws and values of Islam, we must also create an awareness and understanding about the hereafter in our hearts. The reason for this is that if concern for the hereafter is embedded in the mind of a preacher, the reward and punishment for every action he takes will always be at the front of his mind. The greatest and most sincere preachers do not even think

about rewards, their gaze is always fixed on the Pleasure of Allah Ta'ala and their own sins.

Great, blessed Companions Ridwanullahi Alaihim would shake and tremble with concern for the hereafter. Huzoor Sayyedina Abu Bakr Siddique Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu stated that, "If, on the Day of Judgement, Allah Ta'ala says that I have forgiven all except one, I will think that the one that has not been forgiven is me. If Allah Ta'ala says that everyone is going to be thrown into Hell except one, I will think that the saved one is me."

Just look at the concern for the hereafter of the one who is the most exalted after the Prophets of Allah Ta'ala. If we want to be successful in our aim and mission, then we will have to follow in the footsteps and ways of the successful preachers. Allah Ta'ala will make us good and successful through the alms of the good and successful ones, Aameen.

Obedience to the Leader (Ameer)

Obedience to the Leader (Ameer) is a condition and quality that is needed for a preacher to be successful. Each person in the organisation should have total faith in the Ameer, should have confidence in his ability, and should be satisfied that he is sincere and able to carry out his task. Respect and honour for the Ameer should be firmly established in the hearts of all members of the organisation.

Remember, without faith in the Ameer, the caravan of the organisation will not reach its destination safely; rather it will falter and be scattered along the way. There are thousands of organisations in the past that went from success to failure very quickly, due to a lack of faith in the leader. In respect of religion and the laws of Islam, obedience to the Ameer is vital and critical. The decisions and orders given by the Ameer should be final; there is no room for debate and never attempt to find faults in them. Leave no stone unturned in trying to help, and if any decision needs to be looked at again, then definitely advise about it and express your opinion, but ensure that it is done respectfully and with sincerity.

Remember the nicer the atmosphere that exists between the Ameer and the preachers in terms of trust and confidence, the stronger the set up of the organisation will be. Rasool Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم has said, "If a lowly slave is made the Ameer who leads you according to the book of Allah Ta'ala, listen to him and obey him." (Muslim Shareef)

At another point, Rasool Allah ﷺ said, "Listen to and obey (an Ameer) even if an Ethiopian slave is made responsible over you whose head may be small like raisins, and is ungraceful."

From the previous two Ahadith, we realise that even if someone who appears to be unsuitable is made the leader; many people may look down on him and think he is not worthy; the collective Ummah is told that it is essential to respect his authority, his extensive powers, and to obey him. Not only this, but rather, even if the Ameer displays conducts or any habits and tendencies that are not liked by certain people, he must still be obeyed. The exception to this is that if he displays any conduct that is against the laws of Islam, each and every Muslim has the right to reprimand him.

The person, who dies without obeying and complying with the order of the Ameer, dies a death that has been called an "ignorant death" by Rasool Allah ﷺ. The Beloved Prophet of Mercy ﷺ further said, "If someone sees something in his Ameer that he does not like, he should be patient, because the person that moves even an inch away from the collective group and dies in that state, his death is an ignorant death."

Advice of Pious People

The words and actions of our pious predecessors are examples for us to follow and it is only in the light of them that we can reach our destination. We are therefore presenting the sayings of certain pious people below, please pay attention and read them carefully.

Golden Sayings of Hazrat 'Ali Radiiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu

1. Do not make a greedy person your advisor, as he will steal away the wealth in your heart and your contentment.
2. Do not make one who is eager for rank or status your advisor as he will instil in you greed and lust and make you cruel and a tyrant.
3. The faith of those who are mean, cowardly, and greedy is taken away.
4. The best advisors are those who have been given intelligence and insight by Allah Ta'ala, who are pure from sins and from helping in any tyranny.
5. To ponder on the beauties of nature is also worship.
6. Calamities and disasters are hidden in every moment of the day, and death is an unknown companion.

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7. Repentance destroys sins and pride destroys good deeds.
8. Forgiving quickly is extremely courteous, and rushing for revenge is meanness.
9. An evil person does not think good of anyone, as he thinks everyone is like him.
10. Make your weigh scales of deeds heavy with the weight of charity.
11. Those people who become friends for ill gotten worldly gains, the greed of this world will not stop such friends from attacking each other.
12. The person who is modest with his words will also be modest in his actions.
13. The person whose own thoughts are corrupted is always suspicious of others.
14. Friendships with worldly people break over small things.
15. It is better to be behind someone in doing good deeds, rather than in front of those committing an evil act.
16. Whether it is appreciated or not, do not stop doing good.

Imam e A'azam Abu Hanifa's Priceless Pearls **Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu**

If a preacher of the religion acts upon these, he will achieve success in both worlds.

1. Keep your relationship with kings like your relationship with fire. Stay at a safe distance and make use of them, do not get too close.
2. Only speak about what you are asked in front of the masses; do not laugh or smile in front of them.
3. Do not frequent the market places too often. Do not sit in other people's shops and do not stand around on the roads.
4. If you want to sit anywhere other than your home, then go and sit in the Mosque.
5. Do not take up residence at the home of your in laws with your wife, and do not keep two wives in the same home.
6. Do not be biased, even if the decision is against the king of the time.
7. Worship more than the masses and those around you.
8. When you go to a city of knowledgeable people, go as a common man, so that the people of knowledge do not think that you are trying to

Attributes of a Religious Preacher

take away their right. Do not answer any questions in their presence and do not argue with or debate their answers.

9. Laughing too much and talking too much with (non-permissible) women kills the heart.
10. When you walk on the streets, walk with dignity and tranquillity. Do not rush things, and do not pay attention to people that call you from behind.
11. Do not scream when talking. Mention Allah Ta'ala amongst the people so that people may learn.
12. Fix a specific incantation (Wird) upon yourself after each prayer (Salaah). Choose certain days every month to fast, and guard your soul.
13. If you find out about someone's vice, do not mention it to others. Find some good quality about him and mention that to others.
14. Recitation of the Holy Qur'an, visiting shrines of the pious, and visiting blessed places should be done regularly and abundantly.
15. Refrain from being miserly, as it disgraces a person. You should not be greedy nor should you lie; rather, safeguard your good qualities at all times
16. When elders are present, do not show your authority or excellence in any matter until and unless the elders introduce you to people themselves.

The above are from a list of one hundred that Imam e A'azam Abu Hanifa Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu gave to Imam Abu Yusuf Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu.

Sayyedina Ghauth e A'azam Shaikh 'Abdul Qadir Jilani Radiallaho Ta'ala 'Anhu's Valuable Words of Wisdom

1. If we have no sins other than love of this world, then we are still deserving of Hell.
2. Worldly people run after the world and the world runs after the people of Allah.
3. Having a home to live in, clothes to wear, food to eat, and having a wife does not mean you are 'worldly.' Worldly means focusing on the world and turning your back on Allah Ta'ala.
4. There are three kinds of creations, Angels, Satan, and humans. Angels are full of goodness and Satan is completely evil. Humans are mixed

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and have goodness and evil in them. The ones in whom goodness is more powerful mixes with the Angels and the one in whom evil is more powerful mixes with Satan.

5. A believer leaves his family in the care of Allah Ta'ala and a hypocrite depends on wealth and treasures.
6. Hide your difficulties; you will be blessed with closeness to Allah Ta'ala.
7. When remembrance of Allah Ta'ala takes root in the heart, a person always remains busy in His remembrance, even if his tongue may be silent.
8. Remaining silent when on your own is not bravery. Try and remain silent in a gathering.
9. The best deed is to give to people, not take from them.
10. Display respectability in front of people. If you display poverty you will fall in the sight of people.
11. Moderation is half of sustenance and good character is half of faith.
12. Very unfortunate is the person who does not have mercy for animals in his heart.
13. Your worst enemies are bad/evil companions.
14. The collection of all goodness is to learn good deeds, act upon them, and teach them to others.
15. One who becomes friendly with Allah Ta'ala shows hospitality to the creations of Allah Ta'ala.
16. When you receive no satisfaction from your good deeds, understand well that you have not done that deed.
17. As long as you are boastful and cannot control your temper, do not count yourself amongst the scholars.
18. A tyrant destroys a helpless person's world with his tyranny and destroys his own hereafter.
19. An intelligent person first consults with his heart and then opens his mouth.
20. Try and ensure that you do not start conversations. You should merely answer questions.
21. One who is not troubled with any afflictions has no good qualities.
22. A disrespectful person earns the displeasure of the Creator and the creations.

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23. A deserving poor person is a gift from Allah Ta'ala that is sent towards you.
24. You are busy in trying to satisfy the desires of the soul, and the soul is busy trying to ruin you.
25. The person who wants to control his soul should control it with silence and respect.
26. I have lived in the company of such pious guides (Sheikhs) that I have not even seen the whiteness of their teeth.
27. Distrust and suspicion blocks the road to all success.
28. Knowledge is linked with deeds. If you acted upon the knowledge you have, you would run away from the world. There is nothing in knowledge that gives evidence for loving this world.
29. In the eyes of the Friends of Allah Ta'ala, the creations of Allah Ta'ala are like children.

Some Requests

1. Perform compulsory (Fardh, Waajib) and preferable (Sunnah) worships at their prescribed times.
2. Allocate some time every day for the recitation of the Holy Qur'an. Try to complete the whole Qur'an in no less than three days and no more than three months.
3. Recite the translation of some verses each day from Kanzul Iman and read the commentary of those verses.
4. Never speak any words except the truth. Lies should not be uttered even by mistake.
5. Always fulfil promises, no matter what the situation.
6. Always be dignified and solemn. It is not wrong to smile sincerely and display signs of happiness on your face. However, constant joking around and mischief reduces respect and dignity, creating distances between colleagues.
7. Be sensitive and show the effects of good and bad (display happiness on seeing good and display sadness on seeing evil). Never forsake humility and humbleness and avoid flattery and shamelessness.
8. Make the right decision and use anger wisely. Do not look at someone's good qualities with hostility no matter how much grief they may have

- caused you. Similarly, do not mistake someone's evil as goodness out of love for that person.
9. Be fair even if it is to the disadvantage of you or those who are close to you.
 10. Take full part in serving the creations of Allah Ta'ala, and think of the opportunity to serve as a blessing. Thank Allah Ta'ala for the opportunity that He has granted you. Visit the sick, and console those who are in difficulties. Never ever mention the favours that you have done as Rasool Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم said that the one who reminds people about his favours will not be looked at with mercy by Allah Ta'ala on the Day of Judgement.
 11. Make it a habit to always forgive. Treat all humans and animals with love and compassion.
 12. Keep in mind the laws of respect that Islam has given us. Love those who are younger, respect those who are older, refrain from mentioning the faults of others, and protect your tongue from backbiting. The best person is one who looks for faults in himself.
 13. Be well educated and stay well informed and up to date on current issues. Read the newspaper daily and analyse what is happening globally.
 14. Remain busy in earning lawful income, even if you are not in dire need of it. In this way, you can profit others and you can support those who have no support.
 15. You should carry out your duties and responsibilities diligently and thoroughly, never do it half-heartedly or leave it incomplete.
 16. Always earn lawful money; never think of handling or earning any kind of unlawful money, no matter how pure the intention behind it is.
 17. Be very careful in fulfilling the rights of people. Failing to fulfil the rights of parents, family members and relations leads to disgrace in both worlds.
 18. Whether you have a business or are an employee, allocate some of your income for the success of the organisation. Donate some money to the poor and needy as well, even if you can only give a little.
 19. Work hard to ensure that you adopt an Islamic character. Our characters should differentiate us from other religions and should make people realise the truthfulness and beauty of Islam and create a

- love for Islam in their hearts. From greeting and talking to eating and dining, Islam should be totally evident on us.
20. Prepare for the hereafter and always keep the thought of reward and punishment in your mind. Remember that Allah Ta'ala knows everything that is hidden in the heart. There is no action that can be hidden from Allah Ta'ala, whether it is done in the dark of the night, or the brightness of the day.
 21. Always pay attention to your health. Have regular checkups if you are suffering from any ailments. Remain healthy at all times and for this, eating on time and sleeping regularly is crucial. Avoid drinks that are too hot, smoking cigarettes, paan with tobacco and consuming intoxicants; all these are hazardous to the health and it is necessary to avoid them.
 22. Always remember the favours of Rasool Allah ﷺ upon us and be determined to live and die with love of Rasool Allah ﷺ.
 23. Be enthusiastic about performing your prayers on time in peace and tranquillity, and try to perform them with the congregation. Always try and improve the lives of the Ummah; be passionate about giving your life for the sake of Allah Ta'ala so that if the need arises, you can give your life in His path and be successful.
 24. Recite Durood and seek forgiveness (Taubah & Istigfaar) constantly. Never mind large sins, stay away from even the smallest of sins. Take stock before sleeping so that the days' good deeds and bad deeds can be assessed.
 25. Value time because time that has passed will not return. Do not let even a single moment go to waste.
 26. Make it a habit to remain with ablution (Wudhu) at all times, as this will create a desire to do good deeds and avoid sins.
 27. Do not even go near evil people and places of sins.
 28. Remain busy in spreading the work of the organisation to all corners of the world. Obey the orders and instructions of the leader when doing the work of the organisation. Provide regular reports of the activities in your area to the leadership and do not take any step without permission, as it may be detrimental to yourself and to the situation around you. You are like a soldier that is eagerly awaiting the orders of his commander in chief. Non-compliance of orders or hesitating in obeying the orders of the leader will suck the life out of the

organisation and will scatter the unity and harmony of the organisation.

Alhamdu Lillah! These requests were written in Makkah Mukarramah for our sincere colleagues with the sole aim of pleasing Allah Ta'ala and His Beloved Prophet ﷺ so that they may become a necklace of the hereafter for us; and for it to become a means for the world to become enlightened with the beauty of Islam.

Five Additional Qualities of a Preacher

It is necessary for a preacher to have five additional qualities:

1. Without sufficient knowledge the work cannot be completed accurately. Knowledge does not mean that he should be a fully qualified scholar. Rather it means that he should have enough knowledge that he knows right from wrong and that he can effectively communicate the message to others and teach others righteousness.
2. His aim should be the Pleasure of Allah Ta'ala and upholding the truth.
3. He should be polite, kind and considerate when ordering others to do things.
4. A leader should be tolerant and patient.
5. He should practice what he preaches. This does not mean that a person who does not perform deeds himself should not advice others. Rather it means that he should attempt to be punctual in his deeds whilst advising others. Otherwise he will become proof of the verse of the Holy Qur'an which states, "Why do you preach what you do not practice?" It displeases Allah Ta'ala when you preach but do not practice. It has also been stated in the Holy Qur'an that, "You order people towards goodness when you yourselves have forgotten?"



Obtain Religious Knowledge

It is compulsory for all Muslim men and women to obtain religious knowledge. Studying and reading books, newsletters, magazines etc. is a way of increasing knowledge. If you want to increase your knowledge, you should study the books and writings of the Scholars of Ahle Sunnat and the writings of Ameer e Sunni Dawat e Islami, Hazrat Maulana Shakir 'Ali Razvi Noorie. Specifically reading and studying "**Barkaat e Shariat Parts 1 & 2**" will be very beneficial, which cover the topics listed below and are both now available.

Barkaat e Shariat Part 1

- * Faith
- * Salaah
- * Benefits of Congregation
- * Warnings for Missing Salaah
- * Fasting
- * Poor-due (Zakat)
- * Pilgrimage (Hajj)
- * Remembrance of Allah
- * Rights of Parents
- * Good Relations
- * Rights of Neighbours
- * Condemnation of Backbiting
- * Pride & Arrogance
- * Jealousy
- * Lying

Barkaat e Shariat Part 2

- * Blessings of the Qur'an
- * Benefits of Duood
- * Inviting to Good
- * Knowledge & Scholars
- * Repentance & Forgiveness
- * Respects of the Mosque

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Sunni Dawat e Islami

Sunni Dawat e Islami Quarterly is a publication of the worldwide Ahle Sunnat Wal Jama'at organisation, Sunni Dawat e Islami. It has been published punctually since January 2005. It is filled with the writings of the brightest, most luminous Scholars nationally and internationally. Sunni Dawat e Islami Quarterly is a means to bring the teaching of the Qur'an and Ahadith, along with the correct teachings of our pious predecessors.

We urge you all to become members yourselves and pass it onto family and friends and especially to religious institutions.

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SUNNI DAWAT E ISLAMI

Aims and Objectives

- Bringing people closer to the Qur'an and Rasool Allah صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم.
- Reformation of faith and deeds.
- Strive & struggle to act upon the teachings of the Qur'an and the Blessed Sunnahs of Sayyidina Rasool Allah صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم.
- Populate and keep the Mosques full through Salaah.
- Tackling and finding a solution for the increasing non-performance of religious duties.
- Creating awareness of the requirements of the religion of Islam
- Loving the young, respecting the elders, and serving humanity.
- Eliminating illiteracy and ignorance through education and reformation of characters.

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