

NEWSLETTER

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Honouring Our Scholars

Respecting and showing gratitude to the 'Ulamā' has always been a defining quality of the people of knowledge. Through their dedication and sacrifices, the message of Islam has reached us in its complete and authentic form. Among the most distinguished of them were the four Imāms - Imām Abū Ḥanīfah, Imām Mālik, Imām al-Shāfi'ī, and Imām Aḥmad ibn Ḥanbal (RA) - whose teachings continue to illuminate the Ummah even today.

Imām Aḥmad ibn Ḥanbal (RA) mentions: "For the last thirty years, I have not slept without first supplicating and seeking forgiveness for Imām al-Shāfi'ī (RA)". 'Abdullāh (RA), the son of Imām Aḥmad, says: "I asked my father: 'What type of person was Imām al-Shāfi'ī (RA), for I often hear you supplicating for him?' Imām Aḥmad (RA) replied: "O my son! Imām al-Shāfi'ī (RA) was like the sun to this world and like health to the people. Tell me - is there anything that can possibly replace the sun or health?" (Tārīkh Baghdād)

From this, we learn several important lessons:

- 1) Respecting and honouring the 'Ulamā' and our seniors is an integral part of our Dīn. Along with showing reverence, we must express gratitude for their lifelong efforts and sacrifices for the preservation of Islam. One of the best ways to do this is by remembering them in our du'ā's.
- 2) When it comes to such eminent personalities, we should, at the very least, avoid speaking against them. They are the ones who paved the way for us to practise and enjoy the Dīn of Islam today.
- 3) Just as we honour our scholars for being our spiritual guides, we must also honour our parents, who are the means of our physical existence. In fact, their right and status are even greater. We should serve them with love, humility, and devotion - and never forget to make du'ā' for them every day.

Reference: Rays of Radiance, Volume 1, Pages: 40-41

100 ways to enter Jannah (86-90)

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Serving one's parents

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A wife who is obedient towards her husband

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Reciting the following du'ā' upon entering the markets:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ
وَهُوَ حَيٌّ لَا يَمُوتُ بِيَدِهِ الْخَيْرُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

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A person who stays away from idle talk

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A practicing scholar

The Islam of Abū Dharr al-Ghifārī (RA)

When news of the Prophet's ﷺ mission reached Abū Dharr al-Ghifārī (RA), his heart was immediately drawn to it. He said to his brother Unays: "Travel to Makkah and find out about this man who claims to be the Messenger of Allāh and that revelation descends upon him from the heavens. Listen to what he says and bring me word of him".

In obedience to his brother's request, Unays set out for Makkah and met with the Prophet ﷺ. Upon returning home, Abū Dharr (RA) eagerly asked: "What have you learnt about this man?" Unays replied: "When I arrived in Makkah, I found some calling him a liar or a sorcerer, while others described him as a soothsayer or poet. But by Allāh, he is neither a poet nor a soothsayer".

Being a renowned poet himself, Unays added: "I have heard the speech of soothsayers, but what he says bears no resemblance to their words. I also measured his speech by the standards of poetry, and it does not fit any poetic pattern. By Allāh, this man is truthful and sincere. I have only seen him enjoining good and forbidding evil, calling towards noble character, and his speech is certainly not poetry".

Abū Dharr (RA), however, was not fully satisfied. He desired to hear directly from the Prophet ﷺ. Taking some provisions and a water bag, he set out for Makkah alone. There, through the guidance of 'Alī (RA), he was taken to the Prophet ﷺ. After listening to his words and witnessing his truthfulness, Abū Dharr (RA) accepted Islam without hesitation.

His zeal for the truth could not be contained. Immediately after embracing Islam, he went to the Ḥaram and openly declared his faith. The infidels attacked him so brutally that he fell unconscious, and it was only through the intervention of 'Abbās (RA) that his life was spared.

The Prophet ﷺ then advised him: "Return to your people and convey this message to them. When you hear that Islam has prevailed, then come to me". Following this instruction, Abū Dharr (RA) returned to his tribe. Both his brother and mother accepted Islam, and together they began inviting the rest of their people. Half of the Ghifār tribe embraced Islam immediately - a testimony to his courage, conviction, and sincerity.

Reference: Muḥammad Idrīs Kāndhlawi, Seeratul Muṣṭafā (Page 57)

DID YOU KNOW?



Did you know that saying:

يَرْحَمُكَ اللَّهُ

when someone sneezes is a sunnah - but only after they first say:

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ

When a Muslim sneezes, it is from the mercy of Allāh ﷻ that they are able to release discomfort from their body. The Prophet ﷺ taught that one should thank Allāh ﷻ by saying اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ immediately after sneezing. Upon hearing this, those around should respond with يَرْحَمُكَ اللَّهُ (May Allāh have mercy on you). The sneezer then replies with:

يَهْدِيْكُمْ اللهُ وَيُصْلِحْ بِاَلْكُمْ

(May Allāh guide you and rectify your condition)