

THE ABNORMAL MOVEMENT

LIVING IN AN ERA OF INCREASING TRIALS



by

HADHRAT MOULANA ABDUL HAMID IS'HAQ SAHIB

(DAAMAT BARAKATUHUM)

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Rasulullah Sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"The signs [of Qiyamah] are like pearls fastened by a string.
Once the string is cut, they fall one after the other."

(Musnad Ahmad)

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(Daamat Barakaatuhu)

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FOREWORD

All Praise is due to Allah Ta'ala, The Most Merciful,
The Most Beneficent, The Friend, The Protector and
The Inspirer of Faith.

May Peace and Blessings be upon the Beloved of Allah
Ta'ala, Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam*.

In the Ahadith, we are warned and cautioned regarding the trials and tribulations which herald the approach of Qiyamah. Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* said: **“Before the Hour (Qiyamah) comes, there will be Fitan (trials) like patches of the dark night...”**¹ and in another Hadith: **“I see Fitan descending in your homes like the falling rain.”**² And: **“...A man will awake as a Believer and end the day as a disbeliever; or end the day as a Believer and wake as a disbeliever.”**³

One of the greatest trials in this present day, which has left many bereft of Imaan, is the fitnah of the 'pride' movement or LGBTQ+. Like secularism, materialism, feminism and many other 'isms', this fitnah too has engulfed the Muslim Ummah, destroying morality and virtue. Such an effort is

¹ Sunan Abu Dawood

² Sahih Al-Bukhari

³ Sahih Muslim

made in campaigning for and advocating this evil, that it has been introduced in the formal education of our children, from an early age.

Our respected Sheikh, Hadhrat Moulana Abdul Hamid Is'haq Sahib (Daamat Barakaatuhu) has given pertinent, relevant advices regarding this fitnah as well as its indoctrination in our children. Hadhrat Moulana's advices stem from a deep hearted concern and compassion for the Ummah. These advices should be reflected upon and followed through, with a concerted effort to save ourselves and our children from these tribulations, which easily take a person out of Islam.

May Allah Ta'ala accept and make this a means of benefit and guidance. May Allah Ta'ala grant us Ikhlaas in our broken efforts and forgive us for our shortcomings. May Allah Ta'ala greatly reward all those who assisted in the compilation of this Kitaab.

Rabi-ul-Awwal 1444

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وَلَا تَقْرُبُوا الْفَوَاحِشَ مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَمَا بَطَّنَ ۗ

**“...AND DO NOT EVEN DRAW TO THINGS SHAMEFUL
- BE THEY OPEN OR CONCEALED...”**

[SURAH AL AN'AM 6 : 151]

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

تَسْتَعِذُّ بِهِ عَشِيرَتِي السُّخْتِيَّ مِنْ عَذَابٍ ثُمَّ الصَّلَاةُ عَلَى السُّخْتِيَّ فِي الْبَيْتِ
مَوْلَانِي مَبِيٍّ وَ سَلِيمٍ دَائِمًا أَبْنَسْنَا عَلَى حَبِيبِكَ عَلَى زَمَانِكَ تَحِيَّرَ السُّخْتِيَّ تَحَلَّى بِمِ
نَا زَيْتِ مَبِيٍّ وَ سَلِيمٍ دَائِمًا أَبْنَسْنَا عَلَى نَجْمِهِ لَيْلَهُمْ مَشْهُدًا
مَوْلَانِي مَبِيٍّ وَ سَلِيمٍ دَائِمًا أَبْنَسْنَا عَلَى مَهْ سَهْبَةِ السُّمْرَانِيَّ
تَلَعَّ سَلَامِينَ زَوْجَةَ بَيْنَنَا الْقَبِيَّ السُّخْتِيَّ
مَوْ حَبِيبِكَ الَّذِي تُرْحَى شَفَاعَتُهُ ... لَكُنْ هَوَالٍ مِنَ الْأَهْوَالِ مُنْتَجِمِ
نَا زَيْتِ بِالسُّطَطِيِّ تَلَعَّ مَقَامِيدَنَا وَ اعْفِزْ لَنَا مَا نَعِضِي نَا وَ اسْبِغْ الْكُرْمِ

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَلَوْ طَا إِذْ قَالَ لِقَوْمِهِ

إِن كُمْ لَتَأْتُونَ الْفَاحِشَةَ مَا سَبَقَكُمْ بِهَا مِنْ أَحَدٍ مِنَ الْعَالَمِينَ ○
أَيْنُكُمْ لَتَأْتُونَ الرِّجَالَ وَ تَقْطَعُونَ السَّبِيلَ لَا وَ تَأْتُونَ فِي نَادِيكُمْ الْمُنْكَرَ ط
فَمَا كَانَ جَوَابَ قَوْمِهِ إِلَّا أَنْ قَالُوا ائْتِنَا بِعَذَابِ اللَّهِ إِنْ كُنْتَ مِنَ الصَّادِقِينَ ○

“AND (MENTION) LUT, WHEN HE SAID TO HIS PEOPLE: INDEED, YOU COMMIT SUCH IMMORALITY AS NO ONE HAS PRECEDED YOU WITH FROM AMONG THE WORLDS. INDEED, YOU APPROACH MEN AND OBSTRUCT THE ROAD AND COMMIT IN YOUR MEETINGS (EVERY) EVIL. AND THE ANSWER OF HIS PEOPLE WAS NOT BUT THEY SAID: “BRING US THE PUNISHMENT OF ALLAH, IF YOU SHOULD BE OF THE TRUTHFUL.”

[SUHURAH AL-ANKABUT 29 : 28-29]

THE ABNORMAL MOVEMENT

Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* said: **“Verily, what I fear most for my nation is the deed of the people of Lut.”**⁴

Presently, in the world, there is a great effort to make the abnormal, normal. The agenda is to normalise everything Haraam (prohibited) ... and to make people worse than animals. Many ‘isms’ have already been promoted, over many decades, indoctrinating the masses and leading them far from the path of morality and humanity. Secularism, materialism, liberalism, feminism, atheism, etc. – to name some – have been instrumental in breaking down and ruining the structure of society.

Now, on all platforms, the ‘pride’ movement is being promoted, on a mass scale, furthering their satanic agenda to finish off whatever remnants there are of humanity. The ‘pride’ flag and rainbow colours, with its evil, shameless message will be found almost everywhere, for one and all to become familiarized with it. The agents of this movement prey on humanity, including our innocent, little children. ...Children’s toys, clothing, stationery, books and their schooling education are deliberately designed and

⁴ Sunan of Ibn Majah

planned to create an acceptance and connection to the 'pride' movement.

The governments of the world are advancing this Dajjali agenda and fitnah by legalizing immorality and the worst kind of conduct under the banner of 'pride' – whether it be gay marriages, LGBTQ+ adoption or surrogacy, gender transition and more. Their demands for all these so-called 'rights' gives clearance to paedophiles/MAPs (minor attracted persons), to also legitimize their perversion and abuse of children.

PRIDE

'Pride' is used as their slogan, whereas there is nothing but disgrace and humiliation in such actions. It is:

- P - Perverse / A Promotion of major sins / Inviting Divine Punishment**
- R - (Spiritual) Ruin / Severe Reckoning in the Hereafter**
- I - Immoral / A cause of different Illnesses and Infections**
- D - Deviant / damaging, destructive / Creating disunity and division**
- E - Evil / and it is the Effort, Encouragement and Enterprise of our enemy, shaytaan.**

From another perspective, it was due to pride that shaytaan was expelled from Jannah; it was due to pride that he became rejected and accursed, and condemned eternally to the fire. Similarly, the quality of pride (*kibr*) is destructive for man.

In shaytaan's revenge against man, whom he blames for his downfall, among his different lines of attack, he devised this 'pride' movement, which leads man to the same consequences and downfall: Man too becomes accursed, and without sincere Taubah (repentance), he becomes condemned as well. This is shaytaan's effort and promise, to mislead mankind and take as many as possible to hellfire, with him.

إِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ فَاتَّخِذُوهُ عَدُوًّا ط إِنَّمَا يَدْعُوا حِزْبَهُ لِيَكُونُوا
مِنَ أَصْحَابِ السَّعِيرِ ۝

“VERILY SHAYTAAN IS AN ENEMY TO YOU; SO TREAT HIM AS AN ENEMY. HE ONLY INVITES HIS ADHERENTS, THAT THEY MAY BECOME COMPANIONS OF THE BLAZING FIRE.”

[SURAH FATIR 35 : 6]

Moreover, shaytaan beautifies sin and falsehood. It is made attractive and impressive so that people are drawn to it and accept it. People are easily carried away with slogans,

colours, advertisements, marches, parades, etc. – as we find with this abnormal movement and fitnah. In this way, the worst of deeds also become appealing and pleasing to people, and they pay no heed to reason.

فَزَيَّنَ لَهُمُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَعْمَالَهُمْ

“...BUT SHAYTAAN MADE THEIR OWN DEEDS ATTRACTIVE TO THEM
(I.E. TO THE EVIL DOERS).”

[SURAH AN-NAHL 16 : 63]

THE ARGUMENT

Those who champion and campaign for such 'rights' provide lopsided views and very misleading information. One of their arguments is that a person is born with the instinct to be gay or lesbian, or “born in the wrong gender”. According to them, since the desire is more dominant and prominent in him to incline to a male, or for a female to incline towards a female, or there is the desire for a man to become a woman or a woman to become a man, then this should not only be accommodated, it should also be legal. In most countries, laws have already been passed in favour of the movement.

...We should understand that these laws are not about human rights; otherwise, the unborn child has rights as a human, but she or he is aborted at any stage of pregnancy, in the western world! Where are the human rights then? So

many others experience discrimination and suffer oppression, based on different factors, but their rights are not taken up and given attention. This movement is not at all about human rights. It is a well-planned agenda, rolled out against humanity - against life, family and religion, with the help of organized institutions and well-coordinated movements. There is no concern about helping such individuals overcome their unnatural desires because that would defeat the purpose of their movement.

These activists and campaigners insist that nothing can or should be done to counter these conditions; instead, people must be allowed to follow through with whatever is their orientation. Their twisted and corrupted thinking is that such desires should not be suppressed; rather expressed and fulfilled, no matter how evil and harmful.

This opinion of being born in the category of LGBTQ+ is not proven or conclusive. However, it is widely propagated to misinform and indoctrinate the people. ...And very sadly, many of the people have become 'sheeple'. They have become meek and docile, have completely surrendered their intelligence to anything and everything spewed out by the mainstream media and government, and they follow blindly. Yet, the media won't draw attention to the extraordinarily high-statistics of depression, suicide,

murder, drug-abuse, alcoholism, violence, HIV, other sicknesses, etc. which are found amongst this category of people. This is kept under the carpet because they want their movement to advance.

...It is ironic that the same governments considered these same actions as illegal, not long ago. They were criminal offences and even considered an illness. Now, it is being thrust down everyone's throats.

INTOLERANCE

If their views and ways are not accepted, there is a barrage of condemnation. If you don't toe the line, you are the problem. You are homophobic; you are intolerant, bigoted and discriminatory. How inconsistent and contradictory when they are themselves intolerant to a different view! ...In their tirade that everyone must accept them for who and what they are, they forget that they did not accept themselves for who and what they were. They were men, but they could not accept that they were men, and chose to be women, or vice versa - yet they take exception to others!

The proponents of the pride movement don't follow common sense. They don't have common sense. The Qur'aan Sharief says:

أُولَئِكَ كَالْأَنْعَامِ بَلْ هُمْ أَضَلُّ ط

“...THEY ARE LIKE ANIMALS - RATHER, THEY ARE MORE
ASTRAY...”

[SURAH AL-A'RAAF 7 : 179]

DISPROVING THEIR ARGUMENT

Allah Ta'ala informs us:

وَاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُمْ مِنْ بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا لَّا

“AND ALLAH BROUGHT YOU FORTH FROM THE WOMBS OF YOUR
MOTHERS WHEN YOU KNEW NOTHING...”

[SURAH AN-NAHL 16 : 78]

When Allah Ta'ala brought us into this world, we knew nothing. We were also unable to own anything - not even one cent. Now, according to their philosophy, if you are born with certain qualities, those qualities should always remain. They should be sustained. If we apply that same principle: you were born ignorant, stay ignorant; you were born poor, remain poor. ... According to their logic: Remain ignorant and poor for the rest of your life. ...Will anyone accept this?

In the same Ayah, Allah Ta'ala informs us that He granted us the instruments of acquiring knowledge:

وَجَعَلْ لَكُمْ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ لَا تَعْلَمُكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ ۝

“...AND HE GAVE YOU HEARING, SIGHT AND HEARTS THAT YOU MIGHT GIVE THANKS.”

[SURAH AN-NAHL 16 : 78]

It is through these means and faculties that man learns and acquires knowledge and skills. Through the correct and proper channels of knowledge, he progresses as a human-being and fulfils the honour of being the best of creation – *Ashraful Makhlukaat*; if not, then owing to the evil of his actions, he becomes the ‘lowest of the low.’

ثُمَّ رَدَدْنَاهُ أَسْفَلَ سَافِلِينَ ۝

“THEN WE REDUCED HIM TO THE LOWEST OF THE LOW.”

[SURAH AT-TIN 95 : 5]

According to the philosophy of the ‘pride’ movement, their adherents and devotees, everyone must be left as they are. No effort should be made to correct and improve anyone. ...Just let everyone live in obedience to nafs and shaytaan, and self-destruct in the process! This is their call and what an evil one it is!

OUR CRITERIA

Our criteria, in all matters, is the guidance of our Creator; not our desires or what man regards as normal. The teachings of Qur'aan and Hadith are clear-cut: These actions are prohibited. They are immoral. Even logically and rationally, this is not natural.

There are those who assert that these actions can be found amongst certain animals and creatures. Strangely, they look towards animal behaviour to substantiate that these actions are natural in man. This line of thought only proves the absence of their intelligence. We are not animals. We are human beings. ...There are animals who kill and also eat their offspring. Does this make it natural for human beings to do the same – kill and eat their children?

The Qur'aan Shareef rebuffs the groundless assertion that this kind of obscenity is inherent in man. ...Homosexuality was initiated by the people of Lut (*Alaihis Salaam*). Prior to them, no one in the entire world, engaged in such crime.

إِنَّكُمْ لَفَاعِلُونَ الْفَاحِشَةَ مَا سَبَقَكُمْ بِهَا مِنْ أَحَدٍ مِنَ الْعَالَمِينَ ○

**INDEED, YOU COMMIT SUCH IMMORALITY AS NO ONE HAS PRECEDED
YOU WITH FROM AMONG THE WORLDS.**

[SURAH AL-ANKABUT 29 : 28]

It is mentioned in the Tafsier (commentary) of the Qur'aan Sharief that before the people of Lut (*Alaihis Salaam*), the worst of human beings had not even thought of such transgression. The Umayyad Khalifah, Abdul-Malik, had said: *"Had this incident, of the people of Lut, not been mentioned in the Qur'aan, I would have never thought that a human being could do something like that."*

The person who engages in such actions is 'mal'oon' (cursed). Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* said: **"Allah's curse be upon those who do the action of the people of Lut."**⁵ This curse was repeated three times!

The world is now reeling with monkeypox. It is a fact that the overwhelming majority of monkeypox patients belong to the 'pride' group. They are the ones who have the highest risk of infection. We have been forewarned that immorality has severe consequences and invites Divine punishment. Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* said: **"...Immorality never appears among a nation to such an extent that they commit it openly, but plagues and diseases that were never known among the predecessors will spread among them..."**⁶

⁵ Sahih Ibn Hibban

⁶ Sunan Ibn Majah

DESTRUCTION OF THE PEOPLE OF LUT (AS)

The people of Lut (*Alaihis Salaam*) were opposed and hostile to any form of guidance and advice. They were rebellious and defiantly disobedient:

إِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا قَوْمَ سَوْءٍ فٰسِقِينَ ۝

“...INDEED, THEY WERE A PEOPLE OF EVIL; A REBELLIOUS PEOPLE.”

[SURAH AL-AMBIYAA 21 : 74]

Allah Ta'ala sent such a punishment whereby the very land they resided on was raised up and thrown back, upside down - completely destroying them - because they did an upside-down act. Thereafter, stones were rained upon them. They received the worst punishment because their deeds were the worst.

لَعَمْرُكَ إِنَّهُمْ لَفِي سَكْرَتِهِمْ يَعْمَهُونَ ۝ فَأَخَذْتَهُمُ الصَّيْحَةُ مُشْرِقِينَ ۝

فَجَعَلْنَا عَالِيَهَا سَافِلَهَا وَأَمْطَرْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ حِجَارَةً مِنْ سِجِّيلٍ ۝

إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّمَنْ تَلَمَّتَو سَمِيعِينَ ۝

وَإِنَّهَا لِسَبِيلٍ مُّقْتَدِمِينَ ۝ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَةً لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ ۝

“BY YOUR LIFE (O NABI SALLALLAAHU ‘ALAYHI WASALLAM) THEY WERE CERTAINLY WANDERING BLINDLY, INTOXICATED BY LUST, SO THE MIGHTY BLAST OVERTOOK THEM AT SUNRISE.

THEN, WE TURNED IT (THE CITY) UPSIDE DOWN AND SENT OVER
THEM RAIN OF STONES MADE OF CLAY.

SURELY IN THIS ARE SIGNS FOR THOSE WHO CONTEMPLATE.
AND SURELY, IT (THEIR CITY) IS LOCATED ON THE STRAIGHT ROAD.
SURELY IN THIS IS A SIGN FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVE.”

[SURAH AL-HUR 15:72-77]

Our respected Sheikh, Hadhrat Moulana Hakim Muhammad Akhtar Sahib (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) would repeatedly warn against these same evil actions; the need to be very cautious and to stay away from young boys. In the poem, Sukoon-e-Dil, Hadhrat (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) said:

بچو گندے عمل سے مردوں سے دور ہو جاو
اگر یہ فعل اچھا تھا خدا پتھر نہ برساتا

*“Abstain from filthy acts; stay far from young lads.
If this act was regarded as good, Allah Ta'ala would not have
rained stones upon those involved (in sodomy).”*

There is no Sukoon - no peace of mind, no tranquillity of heart - when we engage in sins. Many even become demented and deranged because of their excessive indulgence in sins. If people have to give an honest, truthful account of their lives in sins, they would say that life becomes very depressing and miserable.

LIBERAL VIEW

Presently, there is a group of modernists, whose lifestyles are already at odds with Islam and who are part and parcel of this 'pride' movement. They choose to re-interpret and distort the story of Hadhrat Lut (*Alaihis Salaam*), to justify their actions and find acceptance amongst people. These people are astray and misrepresent Islam. Their misleading and biased interpretations do not change the facts, do not carry weight and do not lessen the gravity of the sin. They attempt to make Halaal what Allah Ta'ala has declared as Haraam.

One is to engage in the sin. So long as there is acknowledgement of sin, the person remains a Believer, although a transgressor. Sincere Taubah is required which includes giving up the sin. The other is to consider homosexuality permissible; accept, support, condone and justify it. This would render a person out of the fold of Islam.

SHOWING SYMPATHY AND SOLIDARITY

The wife of Hadhrat Lut (*Alaihis Salaam*) was not involved in their sins but she accepted their ways, sympathised and supported them. Her loyalties were with them and so she was destroyed along with them.

إِلَّا امْرَأَتَهُ قَدَرْنَا لَا إِنِّهَا لَمِنَ الْغَابِرِينَ ۝

**“...EXCEPT HIS WIFE. WE HAVE DECREED THAT SHE WILL BE
AMONG THOSE WHO WILL REMAIN BEHIND
(I.E. SHE WILL BE DESTROYED).”**

[SURAH AL-HIJR 15 : 60]

This Ayah conveys a very strong message for those who claim to be Muslims, even Imams and Scholars, but choose to associate with, support and advocate for gay rights and participate in their parades and programmes, wanting to be inclusive and accepted by all. Take lesson: She was the wife of a Nabi of Allah Ta'ala, but Allah Ta'ala says that her end is the fire, eternally. ...Why? – For siding with and showing solidarity with the evil-doers.

صَرَبَ اللَّهُ مَثَلًا لِّلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا امْرَأَتَ نُوحٍ وَامْرَأَتَ لُوطٍ ۗ

كَانَتَا تَحْتَ عَبْدَيْنِ مِنْ عِبَادِنَا صَالِحِينَ فَخَانَتُهُمَا فَلَمْ يُعَيِّنَا عَنْهُمَا مِنَ اللَّهِ شَيْئًا

وَقِيلَ ادْخُلَا النَّارَ مَعَ الدَّٰجِلِينَ ۝

**“ALLAH HAS CITED FOR THE DISBELIEVERS THE EXAMPLE OF THE
WIFE OF NUH AND THE WIFE OF LUT. BOTH WERE MARRIED WITH
TWO OF OUR RIGHTEOUS SLAVES, BUT BETRAYED THEM. SO THEY
COULD NOT AVAIL THEM AT ALL, AND IT WAS SAID: ‘ENTER THE
FIRE ALONG WITH THOSE WHO ENTER...’”**

[SURAH AT-TAHREEM 66 : 10]

Their honourable status as wives of Ambiyaa (*Alaihimus Salaam*) could not save them from Hellfire. Similarly, having the status of being an Imam or Scholar will be of no avail if one approves – even tacitly – what Allah Ta’ala has declared Haraam, and affiliates, endorses or promotes the movement or ideology.

Allah Ta’ala commands us to keep far away from every kind of immoral conduct:

وَلَا تَقْرُبُوا الْفَوَاحِشَ مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَمَا بَطَّنَ ۗ

“...AND DO NOT EVEN DRAW TO THINGS SHAMEFUL - BE THEY OPEN OR SECRET...”

[SURAH AL-AN'AAM 6 : 151]

BE FIRM BELIEVERS

This movement for “gay rights” constantly highlights that their people are ‘marginalised’, ‘oppressed’, ‘ostracized’, discriminated, etc. and that their fight is for ‘equality’, ‘justice’, ‘empowerment’ and so forth – whereas this is perversion and abnormality which has been raised to the false platform of a “worthy cause”. ...As Muslims, we should be careful not to get carried away by their play on emotions, to garner approval, support and acceptance, nor should we fear being criticized for our beliefs and principles. We must be firm on our Dien.

Allah Ta'ala's Commandments and Prohibitions are accompanied by His Infinite Wisdom. They preserve human dignity and sustain moral values. They offer protection. ...On one occasion, our Sheikh, Hadhrat Moulana Hakim Muhammad Akhtar Sahib (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) was asked by a non-Muslim: "Why is adultery forbidden in Islam?"

Hadhrat (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) replied: **"Allah Ta'ala has forbidden adultery so as to keep His servants legitimate."**

Subhanallah! This is Islam's preservation of not only one's lineage but of the marriage bond. Similarly, Islam preserves humanity; it safeguards and supports our health, wealth, intellect ... everything.

As Muslims, there should be complete allegiance and adherence to Allah Ta'ala's Laws. We can have no association with a people who choose rebelliousness and defiance to Allah Ta'ala's Commands. We certainly cannot be building bridges of friendship, unity and love with such a group. This will only bring regret and loss. On the Day of Qiyamah, when it will be too late, a person will wish he had nothing to do with such a cause.

HATE THE SIN

Our hatred for sins should be clear and strong, with full conviction, as expressed by Hadhrat Lut (*Alaihis Salaam*):

قَالَ إِنِّي لَعَمَلِكُم مِّنَ الْفَالِقِينَ ۝

HE SAID: "CERTAINLY, I AM OF THOSE WHO HATE YOUR CONDUCT."

[ASH-SHUA'ARA 26:168]

This is Imaan. There must be hatred and abhorrence for sins. ...Yes, the person, who is caught up in sin, has the potential to repent and mend his ways.

When a person is physically sick, he requires diagnosis, medication and sometimes hospitalization. The doctor does not look down upon him because he is sick; rather, the doctor looks towards restoring his health. Similar is the case when a person is spiritually sick.

REFORMATION

The desire may be there, where a man is attracted to a man or a woman to a woman, etc. but this desire does not justify that it be normalised, accepted or legalized. An effort needs to be made to overcome the evil desire and do what is right. There are many evil desires that assail the heart: jealousy, hatred, anger, revenge, etc. If left uncontrolled, there is

chaos – like what we find today. The need is for us to strive against and overcome the evil demands of our egos and adopt the right course of action.

In the case of the people of Hadhrat Lut (*Alaihis Salaam*), who were involved in the evil of homosexuality, Hadhrat Lut (*Alaihis Salaam*) advised them towards reforming.

قَالَ هُوَ لَأَبْنَاتِي إِن كُنْتُمْ فَاعِلِينَ ۝

HE SAID: “THESE (THE GIRLS OF THE NATION) ARE MY DAUGHTERS (TO MARRY LAWFULLY), IF YOU MUST ACT (SO).”

[SURAH AL-HIJR 15 : 71]

He advised them that they should marry women and satisfy themselves in the correct manner. By making the effort against their nafs and rectifying the action, their weakness would be remedied. But they were a wayward people who did not want to set right their wrong actions.

Presently, in our time, there are a growing number of men and women who have come out of this abnormal way of life. With effort and even struggle, they overcame and changed their feelings and live healthy, normal lives. Many such men are now married to women and vice versa. In the Western and European countries, there are now organisations offering counselling and help to such people who want to be normal again. These people have come to realise how

unnatural their actions are and want to wean themselves off them ... and they do.

This is clear substantiation that shaytaan and nafs glorify Haraam, and when caught up in Haraam, the individual, personal experience is one of great spiritual, emotional, mental and physical harm. Nonetheless, when the proper effort is made, the person comes out of sin.

If others can change and return to the natural way of living, there is great potential for a Muslim, embroiled in these sins or any sins, to also change through Dua and effort. If he is determined to give up sins, he will have Allah Ta'ala's assistance in defeating nafs and shaytaan. He should:

- Turn to Allah Ta'ala in sincere Taubah (repentance).
- Seek Allah Ta'ala's help with Dua.
- Separate from company which encourages towards this fitnah or any Haraam – be it physical company or virtual company.
- Remove those influences which are prompting these urges.
- Safeguard the gaze.
- Stay far from places which accommodate these sins.
- Contemplate the consequences of the actions of the people of Hadhrat Lut (*Alaihis Salaam*).
- Keep the company of the pious.

COMPANY

It is the general experience that amongst the benefits of keeping company with the righteous – with the friends of Allah Ta'ala – sins leave us. We don't have to make much of an effort to give up sins. By spending quality time with the pious 'Ulama and Mashaa'ikh, listening to their talks and reading their books, great goodness and guidance will be attained. ...Among the many blessings of their company are:

- giving up sins,
- reformation of one's actions,
- purification of the heart,
- forgiveness of sins,
- protection from sins,
- turning away from this fleeting world,
- enjoyment in one's Ibaadah,
- preparing for one's return to Allah Ta'ala.

Allah Ta'ala instructs us to the company of the righteous as it is a means of protection and progress for our Imaan and Taqwa:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَكُونُوا مَعَ الصَّادِقِينَ ○

“O YOU WHO BELIEVE, FEAR ALLAH AND JOIN THE COMPANY OF THE TRUTHFUL ONES (THE PIOUS, THE AULIYA ALLAH).”

[SURAH TAUBAH 9 : 119]

In the company of the pious, there is shelter and protection from the raging storms of fitan. It is a strong and solid fortress against the onslaughts of shaytaan.

IMITATING THE OPPOSITE GENDER

Just as homosexuality and lesbianism are prohibited, so too is it prohibited for a man to behave like a woman, or a woman to behave like a man, whether in dressing, conduct, speech, etc. Hadhrat 'Abdullah ibn 'Abbas (*Radhiyallahu 'anhu*) reports: **“Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam cursed those men who imitate women and those women who imitate men.”**⁷

There are some Muslims who feel emotionally strained by their inclination to be other than what they are born as. With the publicity and coverage of 'pride', they feel that they must 'embrace' who they are and live according to their desires. Here too, the demand is to go against one's base desires. Although it is difficult, this should be taken as a test.

The 'pride' movement also encourages people to change their gender. This too is propped up as normal and acceptable, and upheld as if it is some virtue. It is prohibited

⁷ Sahih Al-Bukhari

to undergo a gender change. ...With 'pride', everything they do is mixed up. What they advocate for is against the Commandments of Allah Ta'ala and it is against the natural disposition of a human being.

On the basis of their theories, which keep changing, the laws of Allah Ta'ala are undermined, whereas the laws of Allah Ta'ala and the teachings of Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* are 100%. They are without fault. In man-made laws, the component of human error is so prominent and striking. Those who prefer to align themselves to and accept man-made laws over the laws of Allah Ta'ala, do so at the cost of their Imaan.

Haraam will remain Haraam. There will be no change to Allah Ta'ala's Commands even if the societies of the world applaud, commemorate and venerate Haraam. All of their corrupt, immoral laws are cancelled by the Qur'aan and Sunnah.

BE A LEADER AND NOT A FOLLOWER

As Muslims, we are supposed to be leaders for mankind. From our side, it is for us to explain to them and offer them guidance. We are supposed to teach them; not keep silent. They are not meant to lead us and we are not meant to follow them. It is not for us to adorn ourselves with their

culture, traditions, rainbow colours, etc. or even support and promote those who are in favour of this abnormal movement. So many sports players, celebrities and other well-known companies sponsor and fund 'pride' organisations and endorse the movement.

Allah Ta'ala selected us to be of the Ummah of Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam. We have to set the example and lead people. Our Sheikh, Hadhrat Moulana Hakeem Muhammad Akhtar Sahib (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) would say: "It is a common sight to see non-Muslims take their dogs for walks. The dog walks ahead. When the dog decides to urinate or defecate, the owner stands by - compliantly - waiting for the dog. They have made their dogs, their Imams. ...How can we make such people our Imams, who have made their dogs, their Imams?"

We have Sayyidul Ambiyaa, Nabi Muhammad Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam, whom Allah Ta'ala declares:

وَإِنَّكَ لَعَلَىٰ خُلُقٍ عَظِيمٍ ۝

"AND VERILY, YOU (O MUHAMMAD SALLALLAAHU 'ALAYHI WASALLAM) ARE ON AN EXALTED STANDARD OF CHARACTER."

[SURAH AL-QALAM 68 : 4]

Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam is our Imam and what a perfect guide and leader! Is it even conceivable to turn away from the best and noblest of creation and choose to follow a people who have lost all morals and decencies?

THE EFFORT OF DIEN

Look at this whole scenario of Covid. Such an effort was made by the governments of the world and the media, that everyone in the world knows of Covid. It is on the tongues of all. 24/7, throughout the world, the focus of discussion was Covid!

Our duty was to make such an effort on the Kalimah that everyone in the world hears of the message of Islam. We were to make the Kalimah common in the world, that everyone knows '*La-ilaaha illallaah*'. We were supposed to promote *La-ilaaha illallaah*. Nabi's *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* mission was, '**Say, '*La-ilaaha illallaah*' and you will become successful.**'⁸

We did not do this. As a punishment we have Covid in the entire world. Instead of the Kalimah on our tongues and the tongues of others, what is spoken about, is Covid. Instead of the Sukoon and tranquillity that comes on the Kalimah, we have the restlessness and anxiety of Covid.

It is not too late. If, even now, we take on this responsibility of the mission of Nabi *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* and we invite to the Kalimah, this Ummah will become leaders. We

⁸ Ibn Hibban

are not being told to move mountains. We are commanded to spread the Kalimah in the world. The people will listen. Allah Ta'ala will make them listen. ...When Haq comes, Baatil vanishes:

وَقُلْ جَاءَ الْحَقُّ وَزَهَقَ الْبَاطِلُ إِنَّ الْبَاطِلَ كَانَ زَهُوقًا ۝

**AND SAY, "TRUTH HAS COME AND FALSEHOOD HAS VANISHED.
FALSEHOOD IS SURELY BOUND TO VANISH."**

[SURAH AL-ISRA 17 : 81]

Unfortunately, most of us choose to keep silent and trail in the ways of the non-Muslims. It is a sad state of affairs when so many of us suffer from an inferiority complex and are embarrassed, ashamed and apologetic of Islamic teachings. *Na-uzu Billahi min zaalik*. We should understand that Islam's superiority is not diminished or impaired by modern 'ideals'. Islam's supremacy has been Divinely established and overcomes all other belief systems. There is no doubt that it prevails over every kind of doctrine, ideology, movement or philosophy.

لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَى الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ ۝

**"... THAT HE MIGHT CAUSE IT (ISLAM) TO PREVAIL OVER ALL
RELIGIONS..."**

[SURAH AT-TAUBAH 9 : 33]

PROCLAIM THE TRUTH

We just have to proclaim the truth. ...If there is darkness, then with the switch of a button, light comes on. We don't have to chase the darkness away. We just need to bring the light and the darkness will disappear. From our side, we have to make the effort. Allah Ta'ala will turn the hearts to Him.

The correct way must be adopted, with the correct intention. Haq spreads with Haq. Haq does not spread with Baatil. Haq does not spread with Haraam. We must promote Dien as was done by the Sahabah-e-Kiraam (*Radhiyallahu 'anhum*) and our Aslaaf (pious predecessors). We do not need to become YouTube stars, television presenters and social media celebrities to spread Dien. Unfortunately, in the name of spreading Dien, most of us market ourselves on these platforms and make Dien a commercial venture. ...And where there are big profits involved, there are generally big compromises on Dien and Shari'ah.

SOCIAL MEDIA FITNAH

Then, and regrettably, we have many social media 'influencers' who influence to sin and Kufr and promote Haraam, as well as promote the 'pride' movement. They,

themselves, are not educated in matters of Dien; they are not authorities in Dien but to please the people, for 'likes', more followers, attention, money, name, fame, etc. they take it upon themselves to present a modern-day brand of Islam – which is not Islam – creating more fitnah and harm in the Ummah, and leading people astray.

In addition to other prohibitions, Allah Ta'ala forbids that you speak about Him without knowledge:

قُلْ إِنَّمَا حَرَّمَ رَبِّيَ الْفَوَاحِشَ مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَمَا بَطَّنَ وَالْإِثْمَ وَالْبَغْيَ بِغَيْرِ الْحَقِّ وَأَنْ تُشْرِكُوا بِاللَّهِ مَا لَمْ يُنَزَّلْ بِهِ سُلْطَانًا وَأَنْ تَقُولُوا عَلَى اللَّهِ مَا لَا تَعْلَمُونَ ۝

“SAY: ‘MY LORD HAS ONLY FORBIDDEN IMMORALITIES – WHAT IS APPARENT OF THEM AND WHAT IS CONCEALED – AND SIN, AND OPPRESSION WITHOUT RIGHT, AND THAT YOU ASSOCIATE WITH ALLAH THAT FOR WHICH HE HAS NOT SENT DOWN AUTHORITY, AND THAT YOU SAY ABOUT ALLAH THAT WHICH YOU DO NOT KNOW.’”

[SURAH AL-A'RAAF 7 : 33]

It is foolishness to take random persons as a source of Dien merely because they are known as celebrities or influencers. Does a person go to an engineer or attorney for medical treatment, when he is sick? No. ...He will make proper enquiries as to who is a good, reliable doctor and seek diagnosis and treatment from a qualified practitioner.

Why don't we adopt the same concern regarding our Dien? Why don't we learn Dien from those who are qualified - the 'Ulama-e-Haq? Why don't we seek Dien through the correct channels?

Our Sheikh, Hadhrat Moulana Hakim Muhammad Akhtar Sahib (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) would say that just as we seek out experts for our worldly work, we should, to a greater extent, seek out the true scholars of Dien - those who have true knowledge of Allah Ta'ala - for our guidance and direction. Allah Ta'ala instructs us:

فَسْئَلُوا أَهْلَ الدِّعْرِ إِن كُنتُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ ۚ

“SO ASK THE PEOPLE OF KNOWLEDGE IF YOU DO NOT KNOW.”

[SURAH AN-NAHL 16:43]

Our Dien is the greatest gift given to us. Our Imaan and Islam are priceless bounties. This is no trivial matter. Without Imaan, there is no salvation in the Hereafter. ...We have been cautioned regarding whom we take our knowledge from. Muhammad Ibn Sireen (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) had said: *“This knowledge is Dien (religion), so be careful from whom you receive your Dien.”*

SPORT AND DA'WAH

Today, people want to make the effort of Dien through entertainment. What will spread will be entertainment, not Dien. Sometimes it is done through soccer tournaments, excursions and social events, but the outcome is more soccer, more excursions and more social events. These will increase and spread, not true Dien. Follow the Sunnah and the way of our Akaabir. We won't go wrong.

To set the example, we have to live the example. We will have to live by the Qur'aan Sharief and Sunnah. We will also have to give up our sins. In these times of great fitan, hold fast to the teachings of the Qur'aan and Sunnah. Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam said: **"I have left you with two matters. You will never go astray, as long as you hold fast to them: the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Nabi."**

Allah Ta'ala grant us the Taufeeq and true concern for Dien.

ACCEPT WHO AND WHAT YOU ARE

Allah Ta'ala says:

وَلَا تَتَمَنَّوْا مَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بِهِ بَعْضَكُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ ۗ لِلرِّجَالِ نَصِيبٌ مِّمَّا كَسَبُوا ۗ
 وَلِلنِّسَاءِ نَصِيبٌ مِّمَّا كَسَبْنَ ۗ وَاسْأَلُوا اللَّهَ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ ۗ
 إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا ۝

“AND DO NOT WISH FOR THAT BY WHICH ALLAH HAS MADE SOME OF YOU EXCEED OTHERS. FOR MEN IS A SHARE OF WHAT THEY HAVE EARNED, AND FOR WOMEN IS A SHARE OF WHAT THEY HAVE EARNED. AND ASK ALLAH OF HIS BOUNTY. INDEED, ALLAH IS EVER, OF ALL THINGS, KNOWING.”

[SURAH AN NISAA 4:32]

With regard to this Ayah and its teachings, we are instructed by Allah Ta'ala not to covet and pursue those bounties which others have been given, in preference over us. People are recipients of different bounties from Allah Ta'ala and certain bounties cannot be otherwise achieved. We should not pursue vain desires and fall behind those things. Rather, we should ask Allah Ta'ala for those bounties which are possible to attain and within our means. With Dua, we should also make an effort.

In Allah Ta'ala's perfect distribution, He knows who to give, who not to give, how much to give and when to give. Allah Ta'ala's Wisdom accompanies all that He does. We should understand this point and accept Allah Ta'ala's decisions and decrees as He has given the best to everyone. If a person is not content with his or her lot, there will be jealousy, hatred, revenge and even murder. Life will be very miserable.

REASON FOR REVELATION

This verse was revealed when Umm Salamah (*Radhiyallahu anha*), the noble wife of Rasulullah *Sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam* as well as other women expressed their desire to also get the rewards men get, on what is specifically prescribed to them, such as performing Salaah in congregation, attending the Jumu'ah Salaah, participating in military expeditions and Jihad, etc. ...Allah Ta'ala has established a system and delegates different and unique roles to males and females, and rewards both according to what is commanded of them. The Ayah encourages that we should instead ask Allah Ta'ala for His Bounty.

Women should be pleased with their roles as wives, mothers, etc. This is their Jihad. Although not on the battlefield, women are regarded as forefront fighters. They are the ones who are tasked with the great work of nurturing and raising

generation after generation. Thus, if she leaves her post to work on a factory floor, in an office, as an air-hostess, etc. there is nobody else who can fulfil her role as a wife, mother, etc. – as she would. As such, we find the present chaos! There is no boredom or uselessness for a woman to be at home! It is her greatest honour. It is also her wonderful support to her family and contribution to humanity!

Women should not be deluded by the call and stance of feminists, modernists and others. Their distorted ideas divest women of respect and dignity and leads to a displaced life, outside of the safe haven of her home, where she is vulnerable to all kinds of exploitation and evil.

CHANGING THE CREATION

In our times, on a very different level, people are consumed with vanity and pursuing physical changes and transformations. ...We all know that people are born of different nationalities, colours and features - Chinese, Arab, African, Indian, etc. People are of different heights, have different skin colours, different eye colours, different hair colours and so forth. ...This variety and diversity in the creation opens the door to the Ma'rifah of Allah Ta'ala. There is no end to the originality of Allah Ta'ala's creation. Man merely copies or clones and thereafter dishonestly and fraudulently credits himself.

Unfortunately, there is much stereotyping when it comes to beauty, colour, race, ethnicity and so forth. These are matters which are not in our control. If we pursue them, we will fall into depression or go to extremes. For example: many want to lighten their complexion and they use all sorts of creams and undergo different treatments. Others are light-skinned and want to tan themselves. Many are unhappy with the type of hair they have and will spend thousands on hair pieces, extensions, etc. Others are obsessed with tattoos and body piercings to look different. People undertake cosmetic surgery because they are unhappy over what Allah Ta'ala has granted them of their shape and form, yet Allah Ta'ala says:

وَصَوَّرَكُمْ فَأَحْسَنَ صُوْرَكُمْ ۗ

“...AND (HE) HAS GIVEN YOU SHAPE AND MADE YOUR SHAPES BEAUTIFUL...”

[SURAH TAGHABUN 64 : 3]

لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِيَ أَحْسَنِ تَقْوِيمٍ

“WE HAVE INDEED CREATED MAN IN THE BEST OF MOULDS.”

[SURAH JIN 95 : 4]

When we look into the mirror, we read the Dua:

اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ حَسَّنْتَ خَلْقِي فَحَسِّنْ خُلُقِي

“O Allah, You have beautified my features, so beautify my character as well.”

In this Dua, we express our gratitude to Allah Ta'ala, who beautified us in our appearance. The Dua then draws our attention to what takes precedence to physical beauty, and that is beautiful character. These extreme measures and procedures, which are undertaken to change physically are an expression of ingratitude to Allah Ta'ala.

Today, people have gone further, wanting to change their gender and they undergo complex procedures. In the process, they suffer tremendous physical, emotional and psychological harm. And once this kind of gender re-assignment surgery is done, it is irreversible - with so many deeply regretting their decisions and dealing with painful consequences life-long.

All of these efforts to change are from shaytaan. It is shaytaan's promise:

وَلَا مُرْتَبَهُمْ فَلَْيَعْبُرَنَّ خَلْقَ اللَّهِ ط

**“... AND I WILL SURELY ORDER THEM SO THEY WILL SURELY
CHANGE THE CREATION OF ALLAH.”**

[SURAH AN-NISAA 4 : 119]

It is Haraam - totally forbidden - to undergo a gender change. Be content with what Allah Ta'ala has made you. You are what you are and accept what you are. If Allah Ta'ala has made you a man, be a man. Don't try to become a woman or vice versa. Don't pursue what is not in your control. All

these evils, which stem from shaytaan and the enemies of mankind, are meant to destroy humanity; not better humanity. ...If we learn our Dien, all these matters will be resolved.

THOUGHTS

Thoughts will come. ...The Sahabah (*Radhiyallahu 'anhum*) also experienced bad thoughts. On one occasion, some of the Sahabah (*Radhiyallahu 'anhum*) presented themselves to Rasulullah *Sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam* and said: *"Our condition is that sometimes we experience such evil thoughts and sentiments in our hearts that it is most painful to even mention them."*

Rasulullah *Sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam* said to them: *"But that is pure faith."*⁹

The Sahabah (*Radhiyallahu 'anhum*) were not comfortable or happy with those thoughts; on the contrary, they were concerned and uneasy, which is a clear indication of Imaan.

We will not be taken to task or held accountable for what thoughts comes on their own, into our minds. However, to invite, accommodate and entertain the wrong thoughts, pursue them and try to attain them will lead to great problems.

⁹ Sahih Muslim

WHISPERINGS OF SHAYTAAN

Shaytaan will whisper all kinds of evil to mislead us and create doubts in us. At such times, we should turn to Allah Ta'ala. Seek protection in Allah Ta'ala:

مِنْ شَرِّ الْوَسْوَاسِ الْخَنَّاسِ ۝ الَّذِي يُوَسْوِسُ فِي صُدُورِ النَّاسِ ۝

“...FROM THE MISCHIEF OF THE WHISPERER (OF EVIL), WHO WITHDRAWS (AFTER HIS WHISPER). HE WHO WHISPERS INTO THE HEARTS OF MANKIND.”

[SURAH AN-NAAS 114: 4/5]

Recite Ta'awwuz:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ¹⁰

Establish the habit of daily reciting the three 'Quls'¹¹, three times each, after Fajr and Maghrib. ...Our Sheikh, Hadhrat Moulana Hakim Muhammad Akhtar Sahib (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) would stress the importance of the recitation of the 'Quls'. It is a great fortification against every evil, fitnah and mischief – including the mischief of the nafs.

When leaving home, read the Dua:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ تَوَكَّلْتُ عَلَى اللَّهِ لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

¹⁰ I seek protection with Allah from shaytaan, the cursed one.

¹¹ Surah Al-Ikhlâs, Surah Al-Falaq and Surah An-Naas

*In the name of Allah, I rely on Allah.
There is no protection (against evil) and no power (to do good)
except with the help of Allah.*

Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam said: **'Whoever recites this Dua, it is proclaimed to him, 'You have been guided, you have been sufficed (i.e., your needs have been taken care of), you have been protected,' and shaytaan leaves his path.**¹¹²

DESIRES

If a person has desire to be something else or somebody else – this does not mean that he must give into the desire and fulfil the demands of the nafs. We are not the slaves of our desires. We are the slaves of Allah Ta'ala. ...Just as a car has brakes and hand brakes and will have to be used, so a Mu'min applies brakes on his evil desires by fearing Allah Ta'ala, remembering death and the hereafter.

If one's desires are in the right direction and fulfilled in a Halaal, permissible way – there is no problem. However, when we give into wrong desires, there is great danger. We should understand that at times, these wrong things are put as a test for us.

¹¹² Sunan Abi Dawud / Sunan al-Tirmidhi

What is carrying on presently - all the unnatural and abnormal behaviour of the 'pride' movement - is not for a Muslim. A Muslim must not go in that direction. Don't go in the direction of Haraam. If caught up in fitnah, make the effort to come out. Change the direction from Haraam to Halaal. If people are allowed to fulfil their evil desires, this world will be a jungle of animals in human form. ...In fact, this whole fitnah has made man worse than animals.

Fulfilling one's evil desires will drive one further into Haraam. Hadhrat Moulana Jalaluddeen (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) had equated sins to the salty water of the ocean. Drinking sea water does not quench one's thirst; rather it increases thirst and causes serious harm. Similarly, giving into one's evil desires increases one in sins, and inevitably wrecks one's spiritual well-being and health. Don't be deceived by shaytaan.

A Muslim restrains himself from Haraam and strives against the evil demands of the nafs. In this Jihad against the nafs, there will be great spiritual progress. Our Sheikh, Hadhrat Moulana Hakim Muhammad Akhtar Sahib (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) would say: *"Don't make Dua that Allah Ta'ala removes one's desires. If there is no desire, one's spiritual progress is stunted. Spiritual progress is when you have evil desires and you suppress and sacrifice them for Allah Ta'ala's Pleasure."*

Allah Ta'ala promises Jannah for those who restrain themselves from evil desires:

وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَافَ مَقَامَ رَبِّهِ وَنَهَى النَّفْسَ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ ۗ فَيِنَّ الْجَنَّةَ هِيَ الْمَأْوَىٰ ۝

“BUT AS FOR HIM WHO FEARED (IN THIS WORLD) TO STAND BEFORE HIS LORD (IN THE HEREAFTER) AND RESTRAINED HIMSELF FROM (UNLAWFUL INDULGENCE IN) LUST, LO! PARADISE WILL BE HIS HOME.”

[SURAH AN-NAAZI'AAAT 79 : 40/41]

WHO IS PROMOTING THIS FITNAH?

The actual enemy is shaytaan who deploys his agents. We should be careful not to become an agent of shaytaan. A true Muslim can never subscribe to these evils or promote them in any way. We should not promote their agenda by talking about their pride month, participating in their marches, etc.

Many non-Muslims also cannot tolerate these evils and shamelessness. They are speaking out against these vices because of their own religious and traditional beliefs, wanting to protect their children and preserve humanity. ...As for governments – almost all are bought out and are sell-outs; if not they are coerced and threatened. We cannot look towards them as flag bearers of justice, morality and goodness. As for the media, it is merely a propaganda tool to delude the people and mislead.

Don't fall prey to all these immoralities. To combat them, we must speak about the truth. Don't keep quiet. Unfortunately, we shy away. The agents of shaytaan talk of the wrong thing and they continue ceaselessly. They do not stop. We, on the other hand, worry about others and keep quiet.

Concealing the truth invites great punishment. The Bani Isra'eel received the curses of Allah Ta'ala because they concealed the truth. This warning is not only applicable to the Ulama. It is very easy to blame the Ulama and similarly for the Ulama to blame the people. All are responsible in their capacity. Each one will be questioned and held accountable.

Hadhrat Moulana Muhammad Ilyas Sahib (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) would advise that one way to annihilate falsehood is to talk about Haq. Talk about the right thing. What you talk about will flourish in the people. Our effort is to promote true, correct morals and ways. Bring goodness in the people and it will spread. If we want righteousness, bring righteousness alive.

We must not condemn those who have become victims; rather try to bring them back 'home'; to the safety of Dien. Make them also understand that shaytaan, the devil, is our evil, open enemy, determined to destroy humanity and take

as many to hell with him. Nafs is our other evil enemy - within us! Allah Ta'ala is our Protector. We have to turn to Him, seek His help and seek His protection against the assaults and deceptions of shaytaan, as well as the mischief of nafs. We must also make every effort to obey Allah Ta'ala, earn His Pleasure and Jannah.

May Allah Ta'ala grant us the Taufeeq and give us firmness and steadfastness in Dien.

PARENTING | MAKE THE RIGHT EFFORT

Allah Ta'ala informs us:

وَاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُمْ مِنْ بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا ۗ

“AND ALLAH BROUGHT YOU FORTH FROM THE WOMBS OF YOUR MOTHERS WHEN YOU KNEW NOTHING...”

[SURAH AN-NAHL 16 : 78]

When you came into the world, you were completely ignorant. You did not know Alif, Baa ...1, 2 ... A, B. ...Nothing was known.

When a child is born, he comes with a clean slate. A lot of effort is to be made on the child. If the correct effort is made, he will become of the noble human beings and progress further than the angels. For this, he will have to be raised in a wholesome and spiritually healthy environment, nurtured with beneficial knowledge; corrected and trained in good qualities, as well as obedience to Allah Ta'ala and His Rasul Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam. He will have to be taught and guided in fulfilling the rights of the Creator and the creation.

If this process is adopted, we will have good human beings. The world will become an abode of goodness: Those who have knowledge, will teach others; those who have wealth, will spend on others, those who have strength, will help others ... and people will look to benefit and support each other in good.

Thus, with the right effort, the child will become a human being in the true sense and will be of the grateful servants of Allah Ta'ala. Of course, as parents, we have to make the right effort on ourselves as well. We need to set a true example. Then, we and our children will express Shukr (gratitude) to Allah Ta'ala, as mentioned in the Ayah.

وَجَعَلْنَا لَكُمْ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ تَشْكُرُونَ ۝

“...AND HE GAVE YOU HEARING, SIGHT, AND HEARTS THAT YOU MIGHT GIVE THANKS.”

[SURAH AN-NAHL 16 : 78]

When we use the faculties given by Allah Ta'ala, in the proper way, the outcome will be gratitude ... because of our personal and actual experience in connecting with Allah Ta'ala, which is the objective of our creation and which brings great joy and ecstasy.

On the other hand, if no effort is made, the child will be spoiled and ruined.

WHEN THERE IS NO EFFORT

'Ulama have written that if a person makes no effort on himself and chooses to remain as is, he will deteriorate. This applies to anything. If there is no effort, there will be decline and degeneration.

There are many examples: If a person says that he took a bath once and does not need to bathe ever again, what will his condition be? ...If you have a beautiful house - a show-house - but if it is not maintained, dust and dirt start to accumulate. It will slowly become derelict and will lose its value. If you have a beautiful garden and you neglect it, weeds will invade the garden and it will become a jungle. If you have a sparkling blue pool and you do not take care of it, algae begin to grow and the water turns green in colour. No one will want to swim in such a pool. Similarly, you may have a car which is top of the range, but if you don't maintain it and service it, that neglect will lead to vehicle damage and a major break-down.

In everything, there is a need for maintenance, upkeep and effort. To spoil or destroy anything, all that is required is to not maintain it. Don't make an effort. Just leave it and there will be decline and destruction. ...However, when it comes to

material possessions, then generally, there is pride in maintaining, upkeeping and even upgrading.

Our children are, by far, more valuable to anything material. They are trusts from Allah Ta'ala. If we make an effort on their nurturing and upbringing, Insha-Allah, they will become assets for the Ummah, true representatives and flagbearers of Islam, and a means of great goodness for us in both worlds.

COMMON WEAKNESSES

We see certain qualities and different habits within our children: Sometimes they have stinginess and greed in them. For example, they don't want to share their toys with other children – which makes apparent stinginess. Yet, when they see other children with toys, they want those toys also. They will still be eating something but will demand something else – which makes apparent greed. ...They reach a certain age, which people describe as 'terrible', because of the tantrums and the outbursts. There is uncontrolled anger.

...At times, the mother wants to give the child a bath, but he runs away from her – because of laziness. She will repeatedly tell the child to put away his toys – but again, there is laziness. The child enjoyed playing but does not like the idea

of work. Often, it is a great challenge for the parents to make sure that good and wholesome food is eaten. Children generally prefer sweets; if they could do as they like, they will live on sweets, and that would be destruction for them.

Then, we find with older siblings: they have the bad habit of fighting over petty things. They are triggered over trivial matters and that sets in motion the screaming, hitting, crying, etc. The poor mother has to deal with it and she becomes exasperated.

There is obviously a need to remedy these weaknesses and bad habits. There is an effort that needs to be made and must be made. The child should be taught to share and give; the child should be corrected and disciplined, the child should be trained in cleanliness and good habits, and the children should not be left to fight like cats and dogs, rather they should understand each other's rights and work to accommodate each other and overlook small inconveniences.

PARENTING

Today's modern parenting causes harm and impairs children long term, if they will just be left to their own devices; not supervised, advised, corrected or disciplined. The Sunnah directs to the most balanced and sensible

parenting: Together with mercy, compassion, kindness and tolerance, there is a need to educate and guide children in matters of Deen, remind them of their obligations as Muslims, and build their characters. Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam said: **“There is no gift that a father gives his child more virtuous than good manners.”**¹³

There will also be a need to discipline. For example: Hadhrat Abdullah Ibn Abbaas (Radhiyallahu 'anhu) related that Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam said: **“Hang your whip where the members of the household can see it, for that will discipline them.”**¹⁴

Now, this must be understood. Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam did not say: 'Use the whip.' He Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam said, keep the whip hanging as it will be a great deterrent. ...If, in this country, which has become almost lawless, a law is passed that the punishment for murder will be the death sentence, this law alone will reduce the number of murders. It will be a deterrent.

Like this, if we look into the Sunnah, we will find the best methodology in the upbringing of children, which will make them strong, resilient and responsible.

¹³ Sunan Tirmidhi

¹⁴ Tabraani

'DO NOT BURY YOUR CHILDREN ALIVE'

There is an incident in Hayatus Sahabah (*Radhiyallahu 'anhum*): A Sahabiyah, Hadhrat Azza bint Khaabil (*Radhiyallahu 'anha*) took the pledge of allegiance from Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* that she would not engage in Zina, would not steal **and would not bury her children alive, neither in public nor in secrecy.**

She said: "I knew well what Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* meant by publicly burying children alive but I did not ask Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* what burying them alive in secrecy, meant; neither did he inform me. It occurred to me that it refers to **spoiling children.** By Allah, I shall not spoil any child of mine."¹⁵

Whilst the Arabs, prior to Islam, killed their daughters by burying them alive, we kill our children spiritually - by providing them Haraam and allowing them access to everything that will ruin them spiritually.

...Then, there is another kind of effort that is made, which regrettably is even recommended and applauded. This effort is the wrong effort.

¹⁵ Tabraani / Hayatus Sahaba (RA) - Volume 1

THE WRONG EFFORT

One is the person does not take a bath and he becomes dirty. What will we say of a person who makes the wrong effort and throws dirt on himself, or he covers himself with sewage? If a person does not eat healthy, nutritious food, his health will suffer sooner or later, but what will we say of a person who chooses to ingest poison?

It should have been uncommon that the wrong effort is made on a person, where, for example, he is taught and trained to steal, torture, murder, etc. But crime and evil are taught. People are coached in crime. Nowadays, evil and immorality are also taught formally and officially – in schools, colleges, universities – even in pre-school. It is taught in a sugar-coated and sophisticated manner. One has to just review the CSE¹⁶ syllabus and you will find fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism and so forth, being taught to our children – from an early age. Unfortunately, most parents are clueless. They don't know what is being taught and don't make an effort to find out.

...When we were in Jamaat in Belgium, and were doing *ghusht*, we passed by a place where little children were having a sand bath. They were 3 and 4 years of age. Boys and

¹⁶ Comprehensive Sexual Education

girls were hugging one another and exploring one another's bodies. This is what they were encouraged towards. ...When this is the teaching, what will be the outcome? This is not limited to Belgium or Europe, but this is part of "educating" children at pre-school and kindergarten, in different parts of the world. These are from the first steps in teaching immoral conduct.

In many countries today, an LGBTQ+ inclusive curriculum and integration have been implemented from pre-school and primary school, under the charade of "healthy learning". There is such an aggressive drive to manipulate and indoctrinate children, to influence them to change their gender, to accept the concept of two mothers, two fathers, etc. Unsurprisingly, when the wrong upbringing and education are given, depravity sets in, which destroys human qualities. If the wrong effort is made, the human being will then become worse than an animal.

SECULAR EDUCATION AND MATERIALISM

We see the wrong effort being made in the name of secular education and in the chase to acquire the material world. Often, due to secularism and materialism, we lose our qualities of being human. Due to the same, we find hedonism is the order of the day - 'I', 'Me' and 'Myself' becomes the priority in life. Added to which, further corruption and

degeneration set in where many subscribe to the ideologies of LGBTQ, feminism, liberalism and so forth. Some Muslims proudly identify as gays, lesbians, transgender, etc. Many are proud to announce that they have given up Islam and live a 'free' life. They publicise and broadcast that they are now 'ex-Muslims', recruiting more. This is what happens when the nafs (ego) is taken as god.

أَفَرَأَيْتَ مَنِ اتَّخَذَ إِلَهَهُ هَوَاهُ

**“HAVE YOU SEEN HIM WHO TAKES HIS OWN LUST (VAIN DESIRES)
AS HIS ILAAH (GOD)...”**

[SURAH AL-JATHIYAH 45 : 23]

When this is the end result, then we, as the parents are blameworthy because we are making the wrong effort, by giving our children the wrong education, whereby they are indoctrinated with Kufr and Shirk. Instead of learning Dien and gaining closeness to Allah Ta'ala and His Rasul Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam, we choose secular knowledge and move away from our Dien. Instead of teaching our children Qur'aan and Sunnah, we instil within them, all the isms which destroy them - morally, physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. ...Where the aspiration was to gain the pleasure of Allah Ta'ala, now it is pleasing nafs and shaytaan. Where the effort was to gain Jannah, now the effort is to secure Jahannam!

Someone defined diplomacy as: *The art of telling people to go to hell in such a way that they ask for directions and look forward to the trip. ...*The secular system and the culture of hedonism and wantonness do exactly this. Many of us don't only thank those who coach and prime us in that direction but pay enormous amounts for tickets to hell. What is actually total and open destruction, we see as success. In the process – very sadly – the teachings of the Qur'aan and Sunnah are downgraded or cancelled. - *Na-uzu Billah.*

AN ABSOLUTE FARDH

We need to be aware and alert of what is happening, especially with our children's education and their social media interaction. The secular schooling system as well as the media are fraught with Kufr ideologies, and our children are just absorbing it all, with many no longer having Imaan in their hearts. Many believe in the theory of evolution; many are feminists and fight for so-called women's 'rights', or support and promote the 'pride' movement and other Haraam. These sins are taught and our children are trained towards becoming criminals in the Court of Allah Ta'ala.

It is an absolute Fardh for parents to undo the harm that has been done. It is crucial to apprise and advise our children and educate them of the Commandments and Prohibitions

of Allah Ta'ala. If we do not undo this damage, then on the Day of Qiyamah, be sure that your children will hold you by your necks and blame you for their pitiable conditions. They will bitterly complain to Allah Ta'ala: *Our parents allowed this. They encouraged us. The blame is upon them. It is because of our parents that we learnt evil and engaged in evil and now we see before us the punishment of the fire!*

Instead of main-stream or private schooling, do home-schooling and carefully monitor that as well. Living in this world, we do need some worldly knowledge and skill but we do not need that knowledge which is specifically devised to make a person an atheist.

SAVE YOURSELVES AND YOUR FAMILY

Allah Ta'ala says in the Qur'aan Sharief:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا قُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ

**“O PEOPLE OF IMAAN! SAVE YOURSELVES AND YOUR FAMILIES
FROM A FIRE WHOSE FUEL IS MEN AND STONES...”**

[SURAH AT-TAHEEM 66 : 6]

Unfortunately, we are too occupied with our cell phones, social media accounts, attending social events and pursuing dunya. As such, we are unconcerned about our children,

their Dien and Aakhirah; almost as if we forget that we have a responsibility towards **spiritually** nurturing them.

This Command of Allah Ta'ala, to save ourselves and families, was explained by Hadhrat Ali (*Radhiyallahu 'anhu*): We should save ourselves from the fire through obedience to Allah Ta'ala and His Rasul *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* and good actions, and save our families through teaching them Dien and providing them guidance and correct advice. For this, we will have to live by the Commandments of Allah Ta'ala and avoid all prohibitions.

Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam*, said, **“Every one of you is a shepherd and is responsible for his flock. The leader of a people is a guardian and is responsible for his subjects. A man is the guardian of his family and he is responsible for them. A woman is the guardian of her husband’s home and his children and she is responsible for them. The servant of a man is a guardian of the property of his master and he is responsible for it. No doubt, every one of you is a shepherd and is responsible for his flock.”**¹⁷

Adopt a balanced approach in bringing up the children and teaching them Dien. There should be hope and

¹⁷ Sahih Al-Bukhari

encouragement. Let it not be only about punishment. We must obviously be good role-models and present a true example of a noble Muslim. Create an Islamic environment at home, conducive to practising on the Qur'aan Shareef and Sunnah. This means that we should clean out the home of all Haraam elements such as television, music, musical instruments, etc. and introduce Ta'liem, recitation of Qur'aan Shareef and other forms of Ibaadaat. We will then witness Allah Ta'ala's Barakah (blessings), Rahmah (mercy), Nusrah (help) and Hifazah (protection). Our children will then become the coolness of our eyes. We will be happy to spend time with them and they will be honoured to spend time with and serve their parents, grand-parents and family. They will enjoy the success of both dunya and Aakhirah.

Allah Ta'ala guide us to the best and grant us the Taufeeq of making Amal.

UNDERSTANDING SECULAR EDUCATION

When I was lecturing at the Rand Afrikaans University, a professor, who was head of the department, mentioned to me during a conversation:

“The day the Primary Level Religious Institutions (Makaatib) do not exist, the Muslim community will exist as a professional community and as a business community - but they will not exist as a Muslim community anymore.”

It was at that point that I realized the agenda and planning of the enemies of Islam. They were systematically trying to break down the structure of Dien, which had been established in South Africa. Their foremost effort was and is drawing the Muslims to their secular institutions - primary, secondary and tertiary - where they would further break down the individual's Dien - until the mind-set, the lifestyle and the beliefs become secular! **Then we would be Muslim in name, but not in identity and not in our outlook - perhaps not even in belief. ...May Allah Ta'ala protect us all.**

And this is what we see today: The modern secular-educated Muslim lives a life which is not aligned to the Qur'aan and

Sunnah, in the true sense. There is a wide chasm created between the individual and true Islam. This is the effort of secularists in their quest to alienate mankind from religion.

For many, a “modern”, “moderate” Islam is accommodated, where the customs, culture and trends of the non-Muslim societies are also adopted. The Ulama are considered outdated and orthodox and are criticised for holding onto what has passed on from generation to generation of the pure and pristine Dien of Islam.

On listening to the professor, I understood that the university – and other such western secular institutions of learning – had a specific and detailed strategy to harm the Muslim community. I thus resigned from the post of lecturing.¹⁸

It should be understood that worldly education is permissible in Islam. This is not objectionable. It is a fact that Muslims have been pioneers and forerunners in the field of science, medicine, mathematics, etc. They were great inventors. Their contribution to the progress and advancement of mankind is distinct.

¹⁸ Hadhrat Moulana has publicly repented regarding his term at the university. The decision to lecture at the university was based on the Mashwarah of Hadhrat Moulana's Asaatiza and Elders, with the purpose being that they will be attracted to and accept Islam. Then the above became known and Hadhrat Moulana resigned.

The knowledge that is being rejected is that knowledge which deliberately aims at cutting man off from religion; from his Creator. And this is the knowledge which has been given the name, “secular” – by its architects.

If a person had to do a little research, then just the definition of secularism exposes the aim of secularists. Secularism is a system which removes and rejects all forms of religious faith and worship. Secularism demands that religion – if it is believed in – should be a private affair and not a public one – and that religion should play no part in education or politics. Most secularists are themselves atheists. One article explained: “They (Secularists) think that religious schools are divisive (disruptive/incompatible) and damage the prospects of a harmonious and diverse society.”

So, it follows that their efforts will be to eradicate religious institutions. This is also being done by engrossing man in the pursuit of materialism, entertainment and anything that diverts his attention away from religion, practising on religion or wanting to be religious. Man thus becomes far removed from the religious institutions until he sees no need for religion and no need for such institutions.

The Darul Uloom are the bastions, the strongholds of Dien. They are the forts of Islam. It is in the Darul Uloom that we

find Dien being taught, comprehensively, meticulously and fully. The Ulama-e-Haq are the shields of Islam; they are a great means of protection for the Ummah; preserving Islam in its pristine purity.

The Maktab is the backbone of the Ummah and establishes a strong faith in Allah Ta'ala. Tauheed¹⁹, Risaalat²⁰ and Aakhirat²¹, which are the principles of Dien, are well-grounded in our children. This is what assists in making them firm Believers in Allah Ta'ala. ...Wherever in the world there is no establishment of the Maktab system, the people there easily lose their direction in Dien.

We see, in our own society, how the secular institutions keep our children occupied fully in everything other than religion. They have extracurricular and extramural activities. They have various events and functions which consume time. Our Muslim children are thus greatly hindered from attending the Maktab and Madrasah on a regular basis. In this manner, our children are kept away from connecting with Dien and improving in their Dien.

Parents look to give their children the best secular education; they may consider the prestige and status of

¹⁹ Tauheed: The Oneness of Allah Ta'ala

²⁰ Risaalat: The mission of the Messengers (in conveying the message of Dien)

²¹ Aakhirah: The Hereafter

attending such institutions, but sadly, they do not look at the repercussions to the Dien and Imaan of their children. And there is no doubt that this kind of education is at the great cost of our children's Dien – if only we would take understanding. We are dealing with different cases and we are seeing the results. Huge amounts of money are being paid for the destruction of our children's Imaan.

We may not see this today or tomorrow. Secularists have a long-term strategy. Over the twelve years of schooling and thereafter the multiple years of tertiary education, they groom, they tutor and they prepare students in such a way, that when they complete their education or when they graduate, they leave the institution with a secular mind, with material aspirations and ambitions, and generally, with an aversion to religion – because religion is played out as a system that restricts, and secular education promotes freedom and material success. They train them to fit into a western secular society, into a system where they are just pawns – used to support and strengthen the system, where religion is not allowed to feature.

Very recently, I met a young Muslim brother who is studying at a tertiary institution. In conversation, I enquired of him, what subjects he studied – and he mentioned history. I asked regarding the history of mankind. He replied: “Darwin’s

theory of evolution. We come from an ape.” ...*Inna Lillahi wa inna ilayhi ra’jioon.*

He honestly believed that his ancestors were apes or monkeys. When I asked him about the creation of the universe, he responded: “*The big bang theory...*”

These beliefs are in total conflict with Imaan and Islam. In fact, it is Kufr – because Allah Ta’ala has already explained the creation of man in the Qur’aan Sharief. Darwin’s theory is a rejection of the Qur’aan Sharief. Sadly, the brother did not see anything wrong with what he explained. ...This is one of too many cases that we have dealt with. Many are Muslims, from good Muslim homes, but due to secular education accept the false belief that they have evolved from a monkey or ape.

Today, Darwinism and the big bang theory are taught in pre-schools, in primary, secondary and tertiary institutions. These ideologies are impressed in the minds of our children. As a result, many Muslims are very confused in their beliefs.

Hadhrat Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (*Rahmatullahi ‘alayh*) had said that the people censure and slate the Ulama regarding their stance on secular education. However, the Ulama are looking at the consequences of the modern secular curriculum and have therefore adopted this

position. They are against that education which leads to rejection of religion and which leads to atheism.

Hadhrat Moulana (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) had said that were we to take note of what is actually happening, we would observe that often, the modern, secular-educated people are unconcerned about Salaah, about maintaining the identity of the Muslim, and they do not heed the other Commands of the Shari'ah. They may go against it, criticize it, and even proclaim Islam to be regressive and out-dated. *Na'uzu Billah.*

...There are some exceptions, but by and large this is the outcome.

Those Ulama were blessed with foresight and understood the purpose of the introduction of western secular education. Without Dini education, the western secular system asserts and establishes an "Anti-God", "Anti-Religion" frame of mind. And we should understand that without Dini and without Imaan, Jannah is lost. The consequences are far reaching and extremely grave. The Hereafter is the destination and there are only two places of residence: Jannah or Jahannam.

The opportunity of this worldly life is not given to us to merely secure degrees and material commodities - but it is to secure the Pleasure of Allah Ta'ala and salvation in the Hereafter.

Reflect for a while: What accompanies us when we depart from this world? With the exception of a shroud, none of our material possessions, no matter how beloved, will be taken with us. What will be taken are our deeds. When the reality of death manifests itself and the door to the Hereafter is opened, then our worldly qualifications and degrees won't matter, but our faith will be all that matters.

We need to prioritize here and now and without any delay, if we want the best of the next life - for ourselves and for our children. ...If we prioritize on Dien and strive to fulfil the objective of our creation, Allah Ta'ala will also grant the good of this worldly life.

May Allah Ta'ala give us the understanding. May Allah Ta'ala grant us the concern regarding our Dieni education and that of our children.

THE HARMS OF SECULAR EDUCATION AND SECULAR INSTITUTES

Presently, we find that many learned people, dieni-inclined people, Ulama and even Mashaa'ikh, condone and even encourage secular education and attending such institutes. They stipulate conditions such as: Not getting involved in sins and any immoral behaviour, maintaining one's identity as a Muslim, performing Salaah and so forth.

However, dealing with so many cases and we find that even good Muslim children, with a good Dieni upbringing, from good homes and Dieni families, become victims to the environment and get caught up in illicit relationships, fornication, abortion, marriage to non-Muslims, atheism, homosexuality, Shi'ism, Qadianism, drugs, alcohol, etc. These are the incidents that are brought to us - when the damage is done.

My Ustaadh, Hafiz Muhammad Salloo Sahib (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) had related that a father requested Dua for his young daughter, who he was sending to the UK, to study medicine. The father requested Dua that Allah Ta'ala protects her from all evils and harm since she would be alone in a foreign country.

Hadhrat Hafiz Sahib (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) said to the father: "You are telling me that you want to send your daughter out in the pouring rain and I must make Dua that she must not get wet. If she goes out in the rain, she must get wet." ...And being alone in a foreign country, or even in another part of the country, leaves her without the "umbrella" of a Mahram to offer her protection.

If there is a young, beautiful, tender and healthy buck in front of a hungry lion, then even if you were to give a lecture to the lion that it must not eat the buck, that advice will not mean anything to the lion. The lion only sees a delicious meal before him, which he will devour. ...We send our children into the universities and colleges - this is akin to sending them into the lion's den - except that these institutes are shaytaan's dens. And we have seen so many devoured by the environment - not only losing their Hayaa and chastity, but their Imaan as well. ...There is an escalation and surge of cases brought to us.

A doctor from Welkom mentioned to me that after his son completed high school, he took him to one of the universities to register him for his tertiary education. On seeing how degenerate and corrupt the environment at the university is, he decided against enrolling his son. He said to me: "If I send my son to university, I will be paying thousands of

Rands to send him to Jahannam. I will be signing a cheque to dispatch my son to Jahannam!"

This was the observation of a medical doctor and he had the good understanding that this secular education is not worth anything if it meant that his son lost his connection with Dien and lost his Aakhirah.

A FEW INCIDENTS

One brother asked me for advice regarding his son's education. I suggested that he enrol his son in a Darul Uloom and make him an Aalim. Insha-Allah, this would invite success and honour in both worlds – for his son and for the parents. The father was not keen on the suggestion, so I said that his son should join him in the business. The father's inclination was a university education and this was the decision of the father and son. Later, it was brought to my attention that the son was influenced by Shias and was even propagating Shi'ism at the university he was attending. May Allah Ta'ala save us all.

Recently, a girl from a very Dieni family was sent to a local university to study. She came home with a local non-Muslim boy and informed her family of their relationship. The parents refused to accommodate any Haraam. ...Despite the Dieni upbringing that had been given, the girl refused to

take understanding, saying that there was no way she would give up the Haraam relationship. She chose to leave her family and chose to live in sin. The parents are naturally devastated.

Another incident was of a student who would boldly announce to Muslim students, at one of the South African universities, that he had been a Muslim, gave up Islam, is an atheist and also a homosexual. This is what the university/college life and secular education took from him and what it gave him ... and many, many more like him. It took away the gems and jewels of Imaan and Dien, chastity, morality and modesty.

EDUCATION

Worldly education is permissible in Islam. It is not prohibited. ...Generally, our emphasis is on university degrees, to secure a high-paying profession, etc. However, there are many other fields of work that we tend to overlook. There are trade careers such as plumbing, carpentry, mechanics and so forth, which are a means of Halaal and a profitable income.

We should also remember that worldly knowledge is necessary to the extent of its necessity and for who it is necessary. One principal of Darul Uloom Deoband was told

to introduce worldly education in the Darul Uloom. He replied: *"There are enough toilets available. I do not have to introduce more of those toilets in the Darul Uloom."*

What he was alluding and indicating to was that worldly education is a necessity just as a toilet is a necessity. And worldly education was and is already more than sufficiently catered for by governments, NGOs, private schools, etc. There was no need for the Darul Uloom to also offer it.

Dieni education is a necessity like air and water - and is by far more important. We are dependent on air and water for our survival. To a greater extent we are in need of Dien to survive spiritually. Dien is the basis of salvation in the Hereafter.

Qaasimul Uloom wal Khairaat, Hadhrat Moulana Muhammad Qasim Nanotwi (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) also explained that where worldly education was flourishing, the knowledge which was sacred (Dieni knowledge) was abandoned. This is why Darul Uloom Deoband focused entirely on Dieni knowledge.

On one occasion, there was a meeting held by various Madaaris, in Bangladesh, to incorporate modern sciences in the curriculum of the Madrasah. Allamah Yusuf Binnori (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*), who was a Sayyid, was present and said

that he thought it could benefit the children. He then related that when he slept that night, he had a dream. In the dream, a grass mat was opened up. On it was written:

الْخَلاَءُ فِي عِلْمِ الْمُصْطَفَى صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

“Salvation is in the knowledge of Mustafa²² Sallallaahu ‘alayhi wasallam.”

Thereafter, in his dream, he saw himself calling out the Azaan loudly, and he was saying:

الْخَلاَءُ فِي عِلْمِ الْمُصْطَفَى سَيِّدِ السَّادَاتِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

“Salvation is in the knowledge of Mustafa, Sayyidus Saadaat²³ Sallallaahu ‘alayhi wasallam.”

This is true knowledge; the knowledge of Qur’aan and Sunnah. This is our salvation.

Many are not even aware of the aims of secular education but they endorse and support it. It is knowledge minus the belief in Allah Ta’ala. It is entirely atheistic in essence. Behind the secular education system are hard-core atheists. Their aim is to divest us of our religion.

²² Chosen / Selected. One of the names of Rasulullah Sallallaahu ‘alayhi wasallam

²³ Leader of all leaders

Sadly, materialism has become our pursuit. There are some of us who even have a connection with Dien, yet look towards our children's dunya first. Dunya takes priority. Dien takes a back seat or is left out. ...May Allah Ta'ala guide us. We fail to understand the serious repercussions when secular education is favoured over Dieni education. When dunya is given preference, Dien and Aakhirah can easily be lost.

Secular education is a deception. We are deceived into believing that it is a need and a must, and without it, there is no worldly success. Yet, Allah Ta'ala promises success in both dunya and Aakhirah if we give precedence to Dien.

Sometimes, our thinking and our priorities are very wrong. We hear people say that their daughters have to study, they have to get their degrees and they have to earn a living. They consider this a must and their reasons are: *What if she gets divorced? Or: In today's time, you need two incomes per family. ...Inna Lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji'oon.*

Where is our Imaan? Up until Matric (Grade 12), did Allah Ta'ala not make all the arrangements for their food, shelter, clothing, etc. without them going out to earn? Do we doubt His ability to provide? Why do we have to adopt such negativity regarding our daughters' futures that we assume

divorce is likely and that they will have to go out and fend for themselves?

This mind-set makes evident our weak and diluted trust in Allah Ta'ala and it is chalking out a Taqdeer of adversity and perhaps even a failed marriage - Allah Ta'ala forbid.

Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* said: "Allah Ta'ala said: **'I am as My servant thinks (expects) I am.'**"²⁴

Hafiz Ibn Hajar (*Rahmatullahi 'alayh*) had said that this means: "I am able to do whatever he expects I will do."²⁵

If our expectation in Allah Ta'ala is good, we invite good circumstances. If our expectation is bad, we invite bad circumstances. Our lives are in the full control of Allah Ta'ala. This kind of negative thinking indicates a very poor opinion of Allah Ta'ala... that Allah Ta'ala will not create favourable conditions and situations. (*Na'uzu Billah*).

With two incomes today, people still complain that it is not enough. And the truth is that even two incomes are not sufficient in the face of materialism and greed. ...Our Rizq (sustenance) is Muqaddar. It has been pre-destined. It will reach us - nothing less and nothing more.

²⁴ Sahih Bukhari

²⁵ Fath al-Bari

Women have written, stating that in trying to juggle a career, marriage, responsibilities of children, etc. they have completely exhausted themselves and have lost their bearings spiritually. The second income and all the material luxuries did not buy them happiness and peace; it just brought in its wake, a lot of stress, tension, depression and sickness.

Brothers have written that in all their efforts, exertion and sacrifices to acquire the luxuries of the world, there is still a vacuum. There is something missing. This is because dunya cannot satisfy the Rooh (soul). The soul only finds its peace and contentment in Dien.

Let us not foolishly remain trapped in the rat race of dunya – weighed down and shackled by worldly worries and expenses – and Allah Ta’ala forbid, at the time of death, exiting the world spiritually bankrupt.

Not one single thing of all the material comforts of dunya accumulated will be accompanying us to the Hereafter. Take the provision that is essential – the provision of Imaan and good deeds. Work hard for this, to reap the best of the Hereafter. The worldly life is fleeting. The Hereafter is forever. Be intelligent. Invest where there are never-ending returns.

Rasulullah *Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam* said: **'Verily, the world has been created for you and you have been created for the Hereafter.'**²⁶

May Allah Ta'ala grant us the understanding, the concern and the effort towards learning Dien and achieving Allah Ta'ala's Pleasure and Jannah.

²⁶ *Tambeehul Ghaafil een*

PROTECT THE HEART

On return from our recent Safr, being very tired, I had a very deep sleep. I dreamt that a person should look after and protect his heart from all alien interferences, particularly the Baatil (false) sects of Shi'ism, Qadianiasm, Barelwi'ism, Salafism, etc.

When I awoke and reflected over this dream, I also understood that protection is not only necessary from Baatil sects, but from every type of evil and sin, as well as ideologies such as secularism, Darwinism, feminism and the various other 'isms' being propagated.

When in our houses, especially at night, before retiring to bed, we make sure we read all our Duas, Aayatul Kursi, etc. We also check that the doors, windows and gates are properly closed and securely locked, and that our alarm systems are operational. We take various measures to protect ourselves, our families and our homes. When we leave home, we recite our Duas; we check around for any signs of danger or if there is someone lurking about; we lock the doors of our cars, etc.

Similarly, we should check that the doors of our hearts are firmly locked and all security measures are in place: that no wrong beliefs and no sins and no evil desires can enter the heart. Great care and vigilance must be adopted to protect the heart in these present times, where there is temptation and invitation towards every kind of Haraam - where the darkness of great Fitan is spreading and enveloping the world - and where all kinds of sins are accessible with just a touch of the button.

In these challenging times, we need to guard ourselves against these Fitan, by:

- Equipping ourselves with the correct Aqaa'id (beliefs) and knowledge of Dien;
- fulfilling the Commandments of Allah Ta'ala - especially establishing Salaah, five times a day;
- abstaining from all sins;
- engaging in good deeds, plenty of Dua and Istighfaar;
- giving Sadaqah;
- keeping ourselves attached to the company of the Ulama-e-Haq, Mashaa'ikh and the righteous;
- carrying out the great responsibility and duty of "Amr bil Ma'roof and Nahy anil Munkar" (Enjoining good and forbidding evil).

These are measures for our safety and Istiqamah (steadfastness).

We need to take all precautions for the protection of our Imaan, A'maal, Akhlaaq and Taqwa, wherever we may be. Our Sheikh, Hadhrat Moulana Hakim Muhammad Akhtar Sahib (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) would make Dua:

'O Allah! wherever I am - whether on earth or in the skies - my Taqwa must always remain safe.'

Hadhrat Moulana (Rahmatullahi 'alayh) would also encourage us to read the following Dua, in these times, where many people cannot differentiate between Haq and Baatil (Truth and Falsehood) and are easily lead astray:

اللَّهُمَّ ارِنَا الْحَقَّ حَقًّا وَارْزُقْنَا اتِّبَاعَهُ
وَ ارِنَا الْبَاطِلَ بَاطِلًا وَارْزُقْنَا اجْتِنَابَهُ

"O Allah! Show us (enable us to see) the Truth as Truth and give us the ability to follow it. And show us the falsehood as false and give us the ability to refrain from it."

May Allah Ta'ala grant us the understanding and the concern of securing our Imaan and Islam.

“Without any request or application, Allah Ta’ala gave us this passport of Imaan – which is our passport to Jannah.

If we lose it and return to the Hereafter without it, there are no application forms that can be filled in for a new passport.

May Allah Ta’ala grant us the understanding, the concern and the Taufeeq of all those deeds which will be a means of preserving our Imaan. May Allah Ta’ala protect our Imaan, in these times of great Fitnah.”

Hadhrat Moulana Abdul Hamid Is’haq Sahib (DB)

“Recite Surah Kahf daily, or at least the first and last ten Aayaat; and on Jumu’ah, the entire Surah.

When it is a protection against the Fitnah of Dajjaal, it will definitely be protection from these fitan we are dealing with.”

[Hadhrat Moulana Abdul Hamid Is’haq Sahib (Daamat Barakaatuhu)]

Approaching the end of times, we see an escalation of trials and tribulations as predicted by Rasulullah Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam. Shaytaan and his agents have come out in a full-scale war against mankind, with their evil and deadly agendas. As such, we have to take extra care and protection, and remain firm and grounded on the teachings of the Qur'aan and Sunnah, without compromise. The safety of our Dien is the safety of our Aakhirah. We should thus remain resolutely affiliated to the 'Ulama-e-Haq - the true scholars of Islam - who are, with great earnestness and concern, navigating the Ummah through these dangerous trials. Insha-Allah, in this, will be our salvation.

This book is a compilation of beneficial and valuable advices taken from different talks given by our respected Sheikh, Hadhrat Moulana Abdul Hamid Sahib (Daamat Barakaatuhu). Hadhrat Moulana discusses one of the great fitan of our times: the pride movement: its aggressive and extensive promotion in all facets of life, its inclusion in education and systematic indoctrination, and its harsh and brutal impact upon the Muslim Ummah. Indeed, this is such a trial which is a direct onslaught on Imaan. Alhamdulillah, Hadhrat Moulana provides important guidance and constructive guidelines for the Ummah at large. The onus is upon us to take heed and follow through. May Allah Ta'ala grant us the Taufeeq.

