



**PROTECT YOUR  
RELATIONSHIPS**



**MAULANA  
ABDUL SATTAR** حفظه الله





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ABDUL SATTAR حفظہ اللہ



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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ  
أَجْمَعِينَ أَمَا بَعْدُ! فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ ❁

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ ❁

وَلَا تَسْتَوِي الْحَسَنَةُ وَلَا السَّيِّئَةُ ۗ ادْفَعْ بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ فَإِذَا الَّذِي بَيْنَكَ

وَبَيْنَهُ عَدَاوَةٌ كَأَنَّهُ وَلِيٌّ حَمِيمٌ ❁ (Haa Meem Sajda:34)

صَدَقَ اللَّهُ الْعَظِيمُ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ

## Love and Tolerance are desirable

My esteemed Muslim elders, dear brothers, and respected mothers and sisters! Our beloved Prophet ﷺ has greatly praised the Muslim who maintains cordial relations with people and who patiently bear any negativity shown by people. He declared:

إِنَّ الْمُسْلِمَ إِذَا كَانَ يُخَالِطُ النَّاسَ وَيَصْبِرُ عَلَى أَذَاهُمْ خَيْرٌ مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِ  
الَّذِي لَا يُخَالِطُ النَّاسَ وَلَا يَصْبِرُ عَلَى أَذَاهُمْ

*“Indeed, he who maintains cordial relations with people and bear with patience any pain caused by people is much better than he who avoids people and does not tolerate the pain caused by them”*(Tirmidhi)

A person who maintains good relations with the people in his life and mingles with them, is amiable and treats people affably, and tolerates any ill-will that others show





him is a much better Muslim than one who prefers to be a hermit, and who has no patience while dealing with people's negativities.

## **Reclusiveness is Contrary to the teaching of Islam**

Islam teaches us that the way to spend a happy and productive life and to get closer to Our Lord Allah ﷻ is through maintaining good relations and respecting the bonds and alliances attached to us. Islamic teaching forbids reclusiveness, living like a hermit somewhere in a forest, serving all ties to mankind; these are not teaching of our Holy Prophet ﷺ, this is the belief of the Christians, who saw this as a way to get closer to God. However, our Holy Prophet ﷺ stressed the importance of respecting the relationship and delineated that as a way of being one of Allah ﷻ beloved.

What a beautiful concept, isn't it? Live in harmony with your peers and get closer to the Al-Mighty! This quality is solely found in our Religion; it teaches us to live peacefully amongst other humans, respecting their needs and boundaries and getting respect in return.

## **A small illustration of the Lord's Might**

Out of Seven Billion People in the world, you would find





it extremely hard to find two people whose features are the same. The face is such a small part, and generally, everyone has eyes, a nose and a mouth, a jaw, and a chin; yet it is difficult to find humans who are a hundred percent similar. There are twins, triplets, doppelgangers, people resemble each other, yet when it comes down to the tiniest details, we will always be able to find uniqueness. This is just a small example of Allah ﷻ Might. The All-Powerful Lord Who is our Omnipotent Leader, Who created more than billions of people, and all of them with completely different fingerprints! The small, extremely fine lines on our fingers are unique to each one of us.

The Great Mufti of Pakistan, Hazrat Muhammad Shafi Sahab رَحِمَهُ اللهُ wrote that the non-believers used to ask the Muslims that when we will die and turn into dust, our bones will crumble into nothingness, is it possible that we will be brought back to life? Allah All-Mighty replied to these queries, He said:

أَيَحْسَبُ الْإِنْسَانُ أَنْ نَجْمَعَ عِظَامَهُ ۖ بَلَىٰ قَدِيرِينَ عَلَىٰ أَنْ نُسَوِيَ بَنَانَهُ ۚ

*"Does man think that We will never reassemble his bones? Why (can We) not (do so), while We are able to reset (even) his fingertips perfectly?" (Al-Qiyamah 3-4)*

Take note here that Allah ﷻ did not say We will reconstruct





his face, his hands, his legs, or his feet. Instead, he says We will restore his very fingertips. These fingertips are a testament to the Might of our Lord; despite it being a minuscule part of our body, our Allah ﷻ has established such a distinction that no two humans can have the same fingerprints. Nowadays, due to advancements in technology, the experts claim that these fingerprints can help in the digital reconstruction of the owner's face.

## **Humans have different Temperaments**

My friends! When no two humans have the same features, then it is a given that the people in this world possess extremely divergent temperaments. And so, we must realize that these contrasting dispositions will result in us facing many situations that will go against our nature. The natures of a son and a father can be poles apart; as well as the nature of spouses. Life would become very hard if we all expected others to act the way we want them to; if a parent expected a child to mimic their nature or if someone expected their spouse to subdue and change their personalities to match their own.

## **The needs of Human Life**

Friends! We've all heard the saying 'Man is a social animal', and we will know that it rings true. Living in





this world, it is important to maintain the relations and this encompasses the many different associations that humans forms during their life. The associations between a parent and a child, siblings, a teacher-student dynamic, the attachment between a husband and wife, the relationship of a boss and his employee. A person forms and maintains all these and many more such relations, from birth till the eventual demise. And if we accept the fact that maintaining relations is important, and also that no two people are born with a twinning personality, then we have to accept that we will face a difference in opinions, and will have to often make painful adjustments which go against our nature.

One way of dealing with such scenarios is to feel despondent when a conflict arises and to take it to heart. This just leads to misery instead of resolving issues. Another way to deal with such conflict is plotting revenge, thinking about getting equal with the other person. Such a strategy leads to unnecessary flights; jealousy and hatred rear their ugly heads and eventually, it will lead to both severing their connections and the world and hereafter will both be ruined.

## **The Thing that destroys faith**

Our beloved Prophet ﷺ has condemned every action





that leads to fight and conflict and that destroys the Muslim brotherhood. He declared:

أَلَا أُخْبِرُكُمْ بِأَفْضَلِ مِنْ دَرَجَةِ الصِّيَامِ وَالصَّلَاةِ وَالصَّدَقَةِ قَالُوا: بَلَى  
قَالَ: صَلَحُ ذَاتِ الْبَيْنِ فَإِنَّ فَسَادَ ذَاتِ الْبَيْنِ هِيَ الْحَالِقَةُ، وَيُرْوَى عَنِ  
النَّبِيِّ ﷺ أَنَّهُ قَالَ: هِيَ الْحَالِقَةُ لَا أَقُولُ تَحْلِقُ الشَّعْرَ وَلَكِنْ تَحْلِقُ الدِّينَ

"Shall I not tell you of something that is better than fasting, prayers, and charity?"

The Companions رضي الله عنهم said, "why not ?"

He ﷺ said,

"love and interaction between one another because hatred among each another leads to destruction"

In another riwayat, Prophet Mohammad ﷺ said:

"Breakdown amongst each other shaves away, and I do not say that it shaves hair, but that it shaves (i.e. destroys) the Deen (i.e. religious commitment)"

Just like this at another point our Holy Prophet ﷺ said:

دَبَّ إِلَيْكُمْ دَاءُ الْأُمَمِ قَبْلَكُمْ: الْحَسَدُ وَالْبَغْضَاءُ هِيَ الْحَالِقَةُ لَا أَقُولُ  
تَحْلِقُ الشَّعْرَ وَلَكِنْ تَحْلِقُ الدِّينَ

*"There have come to you the diseases of the nations before you: envy and hatred, and hatred is the razor. It shaves, it does not mean it shaves hair, but it shaves (destroys) the religion."* (Tirmidhi)





## Deadly Diseases

Discord amongst Muslims weakens faith. That is why our Holy Prophet ﷺ has declared fight and discord amongst Muslims as a sign of a corrupting society; and he ﷺ has declared it to be a deadly disease for the Islamic world. When facing disagreeable situations, it's best to bear it patiently and with grace; so that we don't become perpetrators of depravity and our faith doesn't take a hit. The former nations were destroyed precisely due to these deadly diseases.

Dear friends! There is no couple more celebrated and esteemed than the beautiful pairs of our Holy Prophet ﷺ and his pious wives ﷺ. The love and affection between them are exemplary. However, even in that environment of mutual respect, differences of opinion were to be found. Once, our Holy Prophet ﷺ distanced himself from his wives for a month due to some incident that upset him.

Such differences of opinions are natural when two people of contrasting natures interact. Grievances arise when personalities clash; they can also arise when either person has unnaturally high expectations of the other. Failure to live up to those expectations leads to disagreement and disunity.



## Hazrat Ayesha's رضي الله عنها way of showing affection

The Holy Prophet ﷺ once said to Hazrat Ayesha رضي الله عنها:

إِنِّي لَأَعْلَمُ إِذَا كُنْتُ عَنِّي رَاضِيَةً وَإِذَا كُنْتُ عَلَيَّ غَضِبِي

*"I know very well when you're pleased with me and when you are angry."*

Hazrat Ayesha رضي الله عنها asked, "How does Prophet Muhammad ﷺ know of this?"

He ﷺ replied,

أَمَّا إِذَا كُنْتُ عَنِّي رَاضِيَةً فَإِنَّكَ تَقُولِينَ: لَا وَرَبِّ مُحَمَّدٍ وَإِذَا كُنْتُ عَلَيَّ غَضِبِي قُلْتِ: لَا وَرَبِّ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

*"When you're pleased with me, you say, 'No, By the Lord of Muhammad ﷺ, but when you're angry, you say, 'No, By the Lord of Ibrahim عليه السلام.'"*

She رضي الله عنها said,

أَجَلُ وَاللَّهِ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ مَا أَهْجُرُ إِلَّا اسْمَكَ

"You're right, but by Allah, O Holy Prophet ﷺ, I leave nothing but your name." This goes to show that even when angry, she just omitted our Prophet's ﷺ name, but her heart was still full of the love and esteem she had for him.

These are the most admirable people in the world, yet



they too faced such situations that clashed with their natures.

## The Harmony Between The Prophet's ﷺ Companions

The Companions ﷺ of the Prophet ﷺ i.e. the Sahaba are the most revered humans. Amongst them, the highest ranks belong to Hazrat Abu Bakr ﷺ and Hazrat Umer ﷺ. The friendship between these two was so strong that the other Companions ﷺ used to mention their names in sync. For example, they used to say,

“Abu Bakr and Umer came”

جَاءَ أَبُو بَكْرٍ وَعُمَرُ

Or

“Abu Bakr and Umer left”

ذَهَبَ أَبُو بَكْرٍ وَعُمَرُ

Or

“Abu Bakr ﷺ went out and Umar ﷺ also went out”

خَرَجَ أَبُو بَكْرٍ وَعُمَرُ

Their camaraderie was exemplary; whenever the Holy Prophet ﷺ wanted to consult Hazrat Abu Bakr ﷺ on some matter, he ﷺ called Hazrat Umer ﷺ too. An instance of the commendation they had for each other can be illustrated by the following example, where Hazrat Umer ﷺ said to Hazrat Abu Bakr ﷺ: “Siddiq! Take all the good deeds that I have collected in my lifetime,





and give me the good deeds that you gained during that one night that you spent with our Beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in the cave of Saur during migration.”

However, despite the reverence they had for each other, they too found themselves disagreeing with each other. Once, the two gentlemen were conversing when their discourse got a bit heated. Hazrat Umer ؓ got upset, and despite Hazrat Abu Bakr's ؓ efforts to appease him, got up and left. Hazrat Abu-Bakr ؓ followed him to his house, where Hazrat Umer ؓ shut the door and left him standing on the threshold. Hazrat Abu-Bakr ؓ turned around and left. Now, after a while, Hazrat Umer ؓ realized that he acted somewhat unreasonably. He felt remorseful, so he decided to go back to ask his companion to forgive him.

Instead of going home, Hazrat Abu-Bakr ؓ went straight to the Holy Prophet ﷺ abode; the Holy Prophet ﷺ was sitting with the group of his companions. The companions ؓ relate that when Hazrat Abu-Bakr ؓ was coming towards them, Rasool Allah ﷺ glanced at his face and declared,

*"Looks like your friend has argued with someone."*

In the meanwhile, Hazrat Umer ؓ arrived at that gathering too. When Hazrat Abu-Bakr ؓ saw him, he turned to the Holy Prophet ﷺ and said, "Ya Rasool Allah





ﷺ! I have come to ask you to tell Umer رضي الله عنه to forgive me."

Hazrat Umer رضي الله عنه said, "Rasool ﷺ! I too came to ask you to ask my friend to grant me forgiveness."

SubhanAllah! Pondered upon the grace and superiority of these companions, Nowadays, such precedent is hard to find.

## The Correct way to spend your Life

As I mentioned before, man is a social animal. Living in this world, it is necessary to preserve all relations: be it the relationship with parents, siblings, children, spouse, friends, all even neighbors. Some prefer to leave behind every relation and walk alone on the path of life. But such a stance does not suit a Muslim; this destroys faith and ruins life as well as the hereafter. The ideal way is to treat everyone with the respect and kindness that our religion teaches us. Allah ﷻ causes hearts to soften towards such a believer, and that believer earns the Almighty's favor.

Dear Muslims! Revenge is a common reaction to pain; when facing any sort of injustice, humans tend to retaliate and they want to get even. However, we have to keep in mind that while exacting revenge, we could go overboard; and then, on the day of Judgement, we'll be forced to stand with transgressors, instead of the ones





who suffered. Because how do we measure the amount of injustice or pain doled out to us? And how do we take the exact amount of revenge needed to balance that misdemeanor?

A much better way of approaching such a situation would be to forbear and forgive. Our strongest relationship should be our Lord; and His Opinion is the only one that should matter. So even if the whole world unites to criticize the individual, no amount of abuse can disgrace them if they have earned Allah's favor. Similarly, if someone has fallen out of Allah's favor, all the respect earned by him in the world would not help in the Hereafter.

## Seek out good deeds

Out of all the worldly relations, the bond between a husband and wife is the strongest. Often, because of the closeness, disagreements occur, which can become quite severe. That is why our Holy Prophet ﷺ instructed us to think about the person's good qualities if a negative aspect of their personality irks us. One time He ﷺ said:

لَا يَفْرُكُ مُؤْمِنٌ مُؤْمِنَةً إِنْ كَرِهَ مِنْهَا خُلُقًا رَضِيَ آخَرَ

"A believing man must not hate a believing woman (i.e. his wife); if he dislikes one habit of hers, he would be pleased with the other habit."





Think about it. Who, other than the Messengers of Allah ﷺ, has all good qualities? Who amongst the humans is perfect? Everyone has some defects, some faults, but instead of berating a person about their shortcomings, or breaking off ties, that fault should be taken as a difference of opinion. That is in perfect compliance with our Holy Prophet's ﷺ teachings, he instructed us to ignore a quality that angers us, and focus on the pleasurable habits. If you keep thinking about and talking about the faults of your partner, then all you will ever be able to see are their shortcomings. However, if you immediately think about the more appreciable aspects, life will be much easier.

## **Positive thinking**

If we start thinking and talking positively, IN SHA ALLAH, we will never feel disappointed or let down. For example, there are two approaches towards a fruit-bearing, yet thorny tree. One is the negative approach, where you view the tree as a nuisance, because of the thorns. And the other is a positive view of the tree, where the fruit-bearing quality overshadows the thorny nature of vegetation. My dear companions! Relationships never thrive on negativity; positive thinking is the key to strengthening bonds. If every issue arising in a home becomes a point





of contention, then not only is the hereafter ruined, but no peace is to be found in the world either.

## The immeasurable Rewards for Patience

If someone offends you or hurts you, it is best to forgo and forgive. Life is too short to hold grudges, and if you decide to exact revenge, and you are not able to do it justly, you will have to spend the rest of your days as the oppressor instead of the oppressed, and you will rise as a transgressor on the Day of Judgment. Meanwhile, if you decide to forgive your transgressor, and display patience in the face of maltreatment on the Day of Judgment with a clean record. ALLAH ﷻ has declared:

إِنَّمَا يُوفَّى الصَّابِرُونَ أَجْرَهُمْ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ ﴿١٠﴾

*Certainly those who observe patience will be given their reward in full without measure. (Az-Zumar: 10)*

So Allah ﷻ has promised to give immeasurable rewards to those who bear maltreatment patiently. Imagine my dear Friends! Our Lord is so Rewarding, that the Bounties He Bestows upon us cannot be counted by any means!

## Patience brings families closer

Patience is a virtue; it strengthens relationships and





promotes unity. Not only does it improve the bond between spouses, but it also keeps the two families connected. A person bereft of this blessing is unable to find peace in his/her own house. That is why our beloved Prophet ﷺ gave us the golden rule for spending a happy life; have patience. We tend to encounter a lot of different people, and everyone has conflicting personalities. If we can develop tolerance, we can save the society from crumbling around us; and save our faith and hereafter along with it.

## Importance of connections of hearts

Once, our beloved Holy Prophet ﷺ said.

أَلَا أَدُلُّكَ عَلَىٰ خَيْرٍ مِّنْ كَثِيرٍ مِّنَ الصَّلَاةِ وَالصَّدَقَةِ

“Shall I not tell you what deed is better than too many prayers and charity?”

The companions رضي الله عنهم said. . “Prophet of Allah Definitely tell us,

The Holy Prophet ﷺ replied,

إِصْلَاحُ ذَاتِ الْبَيْنِ.

*“Reconciliation between those who fight with us (or one another)”*

The companions رضي الله عنهم were firm believers and had a thirst for knowledge since they understood the importance





and magnificence of Allah ﷻ commandment. So, they used to listen to the declarations of the Holy Prophet ﷺ with undivided attention. And here, our Holy Prophet ﷺ told them that mending broken relationships is a much greater act than prayers and charity. Unfortunately, we no longer give relationships the importance they deserve. Patience is a virtue that is nowhere to be found; and arguments are resolved by taking revenge. Allah Taa'la decreed.

إِدْفَعْ بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ

"Repel (Evil) with what is Best."

(سوره حم سجده آیت نمبر ۳۴)

So how does one benefit by repaying a grievance with kindness? Dear Friends! Allah ﷻ will give a great reward for this behavior; a reward beyond the realms of our imagination! And what is that reward? Allah Taa'la declared,

فَإِذَا الَّذِي بَيْنَكَ وَبَيْنَهُ عَدَاوَةٌ كَأَنَّهُ وَلِيٌّ حَمِيمٌ

*"Then (See how) he between whom and you there was enmity (will become) as though he was a close friend."*

(Surah Fussilat:34)

## Religion means reciprocating associations

Severing connections is no big feat. Maintaining them,





and reciprocating them, even when faced with adversity is the actual talent. Our religion has placed great importance on the need to retain relations. When facing maltreatment, it is better to behave graciously. Before reacting to a situation, it's always best to take a moment to think about one's deeds; and then aim to behave in a way that's been taught by our Lord and His Prophet ﷺ. Allah ﷻ has promised great bounties to a person who retains their patience and reins in their anger; IN SHA ALLAH, that Muslim will be judged with the pious on the Day of Judgment and will emerge victoriously.

There was once a very pious gentleman, with a very delicate constitution. So delicate that anything slightly out of order gave him a headache. Even a wrinkle in the sheet he was sitting on, or an incorrectly placed lid made him anxious. His wife's personality was the complete opposite. One day, he sent his pupil to his house to fetch an object. When that pupil knocked on the door and relayed his request, he was met with a torrent of abuses directed towards his teacher. The student was shocked at the words uttered in that harsh voice for his venerable mentor, but out of respect, he kept quiet. Back in the presence of that gentleman, the student tried to forget what had happened, but that incident was weighing heavily on his heart, and at last, he built up the courage to ask, "Sir! Whose house did you send me to? I stayed silent





out of respect, but the woman of the house besmirched your great name!" The Pious man replied, "This is the thing due to which my Lord Allah ﷻ has granted me all this worldly respect. I tolerate all her insults and bitter taunts, and as a reward, Allah ﷻ has given me this rank."

## Importance of Patience

If a husband possesses a controlling, difficult nature, but his wife bears it without complaining, she keeps attaining higher ranks; and vice versa. However, the key to smooth sailing is when their relationship is strong and their attitude is positive, and when the eyes are kept on the prize Allah ﷻ has promised us in return. This also enables families to stay together successfully. Allah Bestows His Mercy on the homes where these binds are revered and viewed in a positive light.

A society that loses the virtue of endurance spirals downwards quickly. Then the peace turns to anxiety, calm descends into pain, and homes are stripped of blessings.

Stubborn behavior never helps intimacy. Instead, it leads to incompatibility; if both the spouses insist on asserting their dominance, the love between them is slowly replaced by impatience and hatred. Hazrat Luqman عليه السلام advised his son,



يُبَيِّتْ أَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ وَأْمُرْ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَأَنْهَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَأَصْبِرْ عَلَى مَا  
 أَصَابَكَ إِنَّ ذَلِكَ مِنْ عَزْمِ الْأُمُورِ ❖

*"O my son! Establish worship, and enjoin what is virtuous and forbid evil; endure patiently whatever (trouble) may befall you. This is to be truly resolute." (Surah Luqman:17)*

In the same way, Allah ﷻ has declared this about those who are tolerant,

وَلَمَنْ صَبَرَ وَغَفَرَ إِنَّ ذَلِكَ لَمِنْ عَزْمِ الْأُمُورِ ❖

*"And surely whoever is patient and forgives, then that is the act of the truly resolute" (Surah Ash-Shura:43)*

Friends, trust me when I say it's easy to maintain prayers and to perform Pilgrimage, and Umrah, and to praise Allah ﷻ, but it is extremely difficult to retain relationships for the sake of Allah ﷻ. To forgive and forget is truly an act of bravery.

## The Advice of Nizam-ud-Din Aulia رحمته الله

A young man came to Hazrat Nizam-ud-Din Aulia رحمته الله and said, "O Hazrat! My brother has made my life miserable. He tries to impede everything that I do and scatters thorns in my path. I have decided to do the same to him. I, too, will disperse thorns in his path.", to which Hazrat Nizam-ud-Din Aulia رحمته الله replied, "Son! If both of



you scatter thorns in each other's paths, the world would be filled with thorns. There should be someone who picks up the thorns instead. If he scatters them, you pick them up. If he misbehaves, forgive him. If he wants to damage your relationship, you should try to mend it. If he does not support you, you should support him instead. You should take the moral high ground and make the first move to make amends. It is not advisable to always wait for the other person to take the initiative. Whosoever takes the first step will be superior and will be entitled to blessings.

## **The Worst Omen**

Dear people! People nowadays say that the evil eye has befallen them, they have come under the effect of a bad omen or that someone has cast black magic on them. The reality is that the greatest cause of bad luck is the discord and disharmony that exists within our households between the members. The greatest curse is that the bonds between family members are strained to a great extent. Surely there is no need for any external factors in these situations.

When different people live together under a roof, there is bound to be discord amongst them since Allah ﷻ has created everyone with a different temperament. People often have diverse opinions on a matter due





to the disparity in their dispositions and while both opinions might be correct, their personalities might be the reason for their differences. Two people having different tastes might have differing opinions about the quality of food and while both may be correct in their opinions, since the taste of food is a personal preference, they might still argue on the matter even though there is no need to argue. We often encounter many such scenarios in our daily lives where both opinions pertaining to them might be correct even though they might differ in essence. This difference of opinion is permissible in our shariah as well and therefore, it is wrong to criticize someone's opinion solely because it differs from our own. Instead, it is better to keep an open mind and accept the fact that Allah ﷻ has created every human being different and difference of opinion is inevitable.

## **The Difference Between Men and Women**

Building on the previous premise, we should also understand that if a difference of opinion exists between two men or two women, there will certainly be a difference of opinion when it comes to the ideas of opposite genders e.g. between a husband and wife. It is therefore imperative for both the husband and the wife to





accept the fact that both of them might find some traits of their significant other not exactly to their liking since they both may have different personalities. If they find some habits of their spouse which are similar to them, they should thank Allah ﷻ and if they find differences which seem irksome, they should bear them quietly until they become accustomed to them. That is the recipe to a healthy and successful marriage.

## **The Story of a Patient and Thankful Husband and Wife**

Hazrat Thaavi رحمته الله narrated an interesting story about a husband and his wife. They were once sitting in their house when the husband remarked, “You and I are both heavenly people”. The husband was quite ugly while his wife was very beautiful. His wife replied, “You’ve got a beautiful wife like me, so you’re obviously very lucky but my luck hasn’t favored me”. The husband said, “No but you and I will both go to heaven”. The wife asked, “How is that?” The husband replied, “I look at you and thank Allah ﷻ while you look at me and remain patient and Allah has said that people who thank Him for His blessings and those who are patient in the face of adversity will both go to heaven.” Our lives never remain the same, one day we might be happy but the next day we might be sad. Therefore, when we are elated, we should be thankful and





when something bad befalls us, we must be patient. Our faith grows stronger with this patience and thankfulness. Scholars have written that thankfulness and patience encompass the whole religion – half of it is in patience and the other half is in gratitude, and we encounter these two qualities in all wakes of life.

The first personification of a congregation is a home, then an office, factory, classroom, or brotherhood etc. If we do not have patience and thankfulness in our natures, we would be unhappy in our homes and in all the different aforementioned situations due to the immense difference in personalities of the people we will encounter in the outside world. Our Prophet ﷺ has told us that whenever someone harms us, we should focus on their good qualities and remain patient. We should remember that if we seek revenge from someone, we risk being the aggressors since we cannot accurately compare our deeds to the deeds of the original aggressor. We should, therefore, remain patient and hope that Allah ﷻ rewards us with countless blessings in the hereafter.

## **The Companionship of Angels due to Patience**

The Holy Prophet ﷺ was once sitting together with Hazrat Abu Bakr ؓ. When a man came and started talking to Hazrat Abu Bakr ؓ rudely. Hazrat Abu Bakr ؓ remained quiet at first and did not reply but





when things started escalating, he answered back. As soon as he replied, the color of the Prophet's ﷺ face changed, and he stood up. Hazrat Abu Bakr ؓ said, O Prophet ﷺ! When that man was speaking, you kept listening but when I answered him, you got angry and stood up. The Prophet ﷺ replied,

“O Abu Bakr ؓ When he was speaking and you were quiet, an angel was answering him from your side but as soon as you started speaking yourself, Satan came in-between you and a Prophet does not sit in an assembly where Satan is present that is why I left”.

## **The Rewards of Patience are Not Wasted**

Allah ﷻ is highly appreciative of patience and He will not let it go to waste. Therefore, it is essential to imbibe patience, sufferance, and acceptance within us. Nowadays, our tempers flare for no reason – we make mountains out of molehills. Often our hatred towards people is based upon trivial matters, but our relationships suffer drastically due to preconceived notions. Fathers and sons refuse to look at each other's faces due to inconsequential matters, married couples often reach the point of divorce, and brothers refuse to meet each other simply due to a lack of patience. If we put aside





our egos and think for a moment about our actions – often towards our blood relatives – we will learn to put aside our differences and Allah ﷻ will highly reward our patience with blessings in this life and in the Hereafter.

## Inner Thoughts

Is there anyone among us who can say, “O Lord, pass judgment on my life today”? Surely not. The truth is that not one of us can give a positive account of even a single day of our lives. If Allah ﷻ asks us how many of His countless blessings, from the hair on our heads to the nails on our toes, have we benefitted from in a single day, and how many of them did we use to please Him, how many of us can give Him a positive account of ourselves? If Allah ﷻ forgives us and elevates our ranks based on the minor challenges that we encounter in our lives, we are indeed in profit. If He forgives our crimes in return for small afflictions, we should keep an eye on the blessings in the hereafter, and be patient, and understand that if Allah ﷻ forgives our errors and overlooks the errors in our ways despite multiple transgressions, we too should overlook the transgressions of our fellow human beings and remain patient when we get hurt because of them.

## Measure of Success

Dear readers! All of us should try to ensure that no one gets harmed because of us and that we remain patient





when someone's actions harm us in any way, because this is the hallmark of a noble human being. Hazrat Abdul Qadir Rayepuri رحمۃ اللہ علیہ used to say that the measure of individual and collective success in life is by two things which are purity of heart and good behavior towards others. The Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم said "Whoever loves for the sake of Allah, hates for the sake of Allah, gives for the sake of Allah, and withholds for the sake of Allah has completed his faith".

This means that all our actions including love, hate, giving and withholding should all be for the sake of Allah . If our deeds, our love and hate, our charity and withholding money and everything that we do in our lives is solely for the sake of Allah ﷻ, our collective lives will be successful. Without molding our inner and outer selves according to the teachings of Allah ﷻ, we can neither be successful individually nor collectively.

The second thing that we need to learn is good behavior towards other. The lowest level of this is to ensure that our fellow beings are not harmed by our actions. Being good or showing humility for the sake of personal gains and being callous, rude, and haughty where we hope to achieve nothing is not a mark of good behavior. Having good morals means ensuring that Allah ﷻ beings do not come to physical, mental, apparent or obscure harm because of us. It means to not harm the poor or the rich,





the young or the old and those near to us or those whom we do not know. And if evil befalls us due to someone else, we should remind ourselves that this is the reality of life and therefore whenever we are faced with adversity, we must deal with it with patience and Allah ﷻ will bless me for this. All it takes is a little effort. Exercising patience is half the religion.

May Allah ﷻ give all of us the opportunity and ability to put our words into actions.







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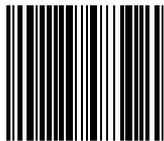
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