

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ أَدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصَلَّى عَلَيْهِ

In The Name Of Allah The Most Compassionate Very Merciful  
All Praise Due To Allah And Peace And Blessings Be Upon His Beloved Messenger

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## The Importance of Maintaining Dignity in Islam

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This occurred about a hundred years ago. Shaikh Saeed Halbi was once sitting and teaching his students in one of the Masjids in Damascus, and it so happened that he had a problem with his legs on that day. As the result of which he had his legs outstretched in front of him so that he could get some relief. It is also the Islamic custom that a teacher sits with his back to the Qiblah and the students sit facing the Qiblah. Therefore, the teacher was facing the door, his back was towards the Qiblah and his feet were across the door's opening.

At that time, the son of Mohammed Pasha who was considered as a very strict and severe governor. His name was Ebrahim Pasha. He also felt that this was the day he wanted to meet the eminent Shaikh and decided to travel to this masjid. He also wanted to listen to some words of this lesson himself. However, when he arrived at the door's entrance, the students present felt that no matter how much of pain or trouble the Shaikh had in his feet, surely he would decide to fold them because this well known strict governor was standing at the entrance. However, the Shaikh did not move an inch and he did not even stop teaching. He continued to sit in this position of his legs outstretched. The

governor continued to stand at the entrance while the Shaikh blocked the entrance with his outstretched feet.

His students report that they were terrified at what was happening and they all felt that today their great Shaikh would be killed or he will be publicly humiliated. However, the son of the king stood a while listening to the lecture and the Shaikh continued to deliver his lecture.

However, such was the effect of this, that the governor did not say a word, never uttered a single complaint and quietly left the Masjid. However, after he had left, he ordered one of his servants to go and deliver a bag of Ashrafi (silver coins) to the Shaikh. He also informed his servant, "Go and deliver my Salaam to the Shaikh and inform him that this servant has sent this as a humble gesture!"

At this juncture, the reaction of Shaikh is something which should be written in gold. He replied, "Go and deliver my Salaams to the king and inform him that I had outstretched my legs and not my hands."

The historian has narrated it in these words.

(Pa ja Suraaghe Zindagi)