

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

Allah Almighty, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,
The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah Almighty, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon
His Beloved Messenger – *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* – his family & his
companions – *may Allah be pleased with them all*

Mother of Imam Abu Hanifah

One of the ways we observe today is that the family of the scholars are the last people to accept his advice or direction. This is seen all over the world today. Sadly, people only realise the status and greatness of a person and his knowledge when he leaves the world. This is something which has become very common in the world today.

In fact, even the great Awliya were not spared this test as well. In spite of her son being the greatest scholar in the world, the blessed mother of Hadrat Sayyiduna Imam A'zam Abu Hanifah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - according to Hadrat Sayyiduna Imam Abu Yusuf - *may Allah be pleased with him* - used to make a habit of listening to the lectures of someone named Umar bin Zarr. The great Imam used to take his mother to these lectures while she rode on a donkey. She was very impressed by the lectures and knowledge of Umar bin Zarr. As we have said, she did not think the same of the knowledge possessed by the great Imam.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Imam A'zam Abu Hanifah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - mentions, "At times, she used to instruct me to take her to the lectures of Umar bin Zarr and at times, when she needed to know something, she used to ask me to go and ask Umar bin Zarr. I used to then go to him and mention that I had been sent by my mother pertaining to a certain issue. But he used to be very surprised when I asked him these questions. In embarrassment, he used to say to me, 'Hadrat, you are asking me these questions although you are my teacher and mentor?'

"I used to inform him that I am helpless because this was the instruction of my mother. He used to then ask me the question and wait for me to give him the answer. After hearing my answer, he used to repeat this to me in a loud voice so that my mother could listen. In fact, my mother never waited for my answer but an answer which came from Umar bin Zarr."

At times, even Hadrat Sayyiduna Imam A'zam Abu Hanifah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - had given his mother an answer to a certain question, she used to insist that he takes her to a certain lecturer so that she could hear it with her own ears. Whenever Hadrat Sayyiduna Imam A'zam Abu Hanifah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - went at this person's residence of Madressah, the person used to ask the great Imam the answer and repeat it loudly so that his mother could it herself. In fact, he had so much of respect for his mother, that never once did she ever come to know that the answer been given to her was actually the Fatwah of her own son. (Al Khay raa Al Hasaan)

This teaches us a lesson that if a person has knowledge or acquires knowledge for the Divine Pleasure of Allah Almighty, then it does not mean that he should only deliver it to those who understand the value of it. There are many eminent 'Ulama whose knowledge has been kept hidden by Allah Almighty. Although, in the Divine Court of Allah Almighty, they indeed have a very high status and position. In fact, most people do not even recognize them. (Shaikh Farfur)

Look at the immense respect that the great Imam used to give to his mother in spite of the fact that her son was the greatest scholar of his era. Her son is the Imam of all Imams, the greatest Mujtahid of his era, but she seeks knowledge from someone else who is actually the student of her own son. How many times have we seen that in the world and continue to see in even in the present time?

