

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*

The Fire did not Burn the Sunni

Everyone is aware that when Islam arrived in the Indian continent, the vast majority of Muslims were people who were sincere followers of Islam and had the correct beliefs of the Ahle Sunnah wa Jamaah. The message of Islam in this part of the world was mostly spread by the 'Ulama and the Awliyah.

At the same time, the Muslim rulers had a very limited role to play in this. In fact, the greatest effort into spreading Islam in this part of the world was completed by the Awliyah or the Sufis. They also made sure that people understood Islam and also understood the respect which should be accorded to Allah and His beloved Habeeb - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. In fact, love for the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - was part of their religious upbringing. Some of eminent Awliyah who played a major role in this included among others, Hadrat Data Ganjh Bakhsh, Hadrat Khawaja Gareeb Nawaab, Hadrat Baba Fareedudeen, Hadrat Khawaja Baaqi billah, Hadrat Mujaddid Alif Thani, Shah Abdul Haq

Muhaddith Dehlwi, Shah Abdul Latief Bitahi, Noshah Ghanj Baksh Qaderi, Shah Waleullah Muhaddith Dehlwi, Shah Abdul Aziz Muhaddith Dehlwi, A'la Hadrat Shah Imam Ahmed Raza Khan, Peer Syed Mehr Ali Shah Golrawi, Mia Sher Mohammed Sharaquri, Peer Syed Jamaat Ali Shah Muhaddith Alipuri - *may Allah be pleased with them* - etc. Many of them spoke to the masses and impressed the true message of Islam in the hearts of people.

The famous Ghair Muqallid, Thana ullah Amritsari, in his book "Sham'a Tauheed" mentions that, "Nearly eighty years prior, all the Muslims were of the same belief which is currently considered as the Bareilly Hanafi school of thought."

However, in this environment, the English arrived with the purpose of doing business but decided that it would be far better to capture the whole of the Indian continent. At the same time, they realised that the only force in this country are the Muslims because they had ruled this continent for nearly a thousand years. As for the Hindus, they are people who do not really have any belief hence it is very easy to manipulate them. The Muslims are people they really feared.

They started a mission to create all types of agents within the Muslims populace and also created so many sects that this was not found anywhere else in the world. Some of these Kaafirs began to refute the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - as the last and final Prophet. Some appeared to claim that a Kaafir by the name of Ghulam Ahmed of Qadian was the new Prophet. Some of them began to refute and belittle the knowledge of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - and others began to dispute his actual knowledge.

Some of them began to say that their spiritual master, the Satan, had more knowledge than the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. In fact, such was the planning of the English, that these people, who claimed to be Muslims, were actually refuting the status of their own Prophet. In this manner, father went against son, sons went against brothers, etc. In fact, the complete family unit of the Muslims was being slowly destroyed. In fact, no other religion can present an example of where the leader of that group had been insulted.

But the English understood that this was a personality (the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*) whom the Muslims loved more than their own lives and souls, and they decided to make him their target using devious methods and using paid agents in their midst to do their dirty work and also making sure that these people were well paid. It is not surprising, the people they targeted were the financially well off and added more finance to these people so that they will not renegade against their own elders.

In regard to the love that a Muslim has for his beloved Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - an interesting story is recorded which happened not too long ago. This happened a few miles away from a place called "Larkana" in the Sindh province of Pakistan.

The person in question was a young man of about 26 years who was involved in this incident. The name of the young man is Mohammed Paana Tutaani and his clan name is "Chaandiyah" and its one branch is called "Tutaani". He was a normal young man who must have read the Qur'an sometimes in his life and since life was hard, he also joined his father in normal manual labour. He was actually a tractor driver and used to transport soda ash from a nearby area. When he came to town, he used to sell this to the people in that town.

A few years earlier, he was unknown but suddenly his story hit the headlines. You must be thinking what this person did to achieve such a famous position. One can say that in his lifetime, a moment arrived which can be considered as a moment of acceptance. It was a time when in the name of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - he had jumped in a large fire to protect the dignity of his Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*.

Sayyidi A'la Hadrat Imam Ahmed Raza - *may Allah be pleased with him* - stated, "Even the Munkar and Nakeer display respect for me, however, I have received this respect by sacrificing myself for the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*."

The incident in question again proves beyond a shadow of doubt that without proper Aqeedah nothing will be of benefit to you. In fact, even proper Aqeedah without knowledge will also certainly help and assist you. This young man had become a staunch

Sunni after becoming the Mureed of Moulana Syed Ghulam Husain Shah Bukhari Nakhshabandi in Larkana. One of the methods used by this Peer Saheb is that he presses his Shahaaat finger on the chest of the Mureed to deliver spiritual power and certainty to the heart of the Mureed.

Mohammed Paana narrates:

“In the month of February 1965, I was returning with the tractor and a few workers on board when I saw a person standing on the side of the road. He then stopped us and mentioned that he was going somewhere and needed a lift. I then told him to sit in the trailer. Later on, I heard that his name was Harun. While he was sitting in the trailer, he began to say some disturbing things to the workers. When his stop arrived, he jumped off and started to walk away when my staff informed me that this person had completely refuted the Ilme Ghaib of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - and had completely refuted the idea of Haazir and Naazir.

In the Sindhi language, when you address someone with respect, you call him “Saa’i”. My staff informed me that this person had refuted the Ilme Ghaib of “Saa’i”. I said that they should ignore this person and stepped into the tractor to start it, but it refused to start. I tried to start it on a few occasions, but for the first time, it refused to start. I then started to think to myself that if someone had insulted my father, would I also walk away in this manner.

There is a no doubt that Madina Waaleh Saa’i is certainly our spiritual master, how can we walk away when someone insults him. I then left the tractor and called out to his person who was still nearby. I then said to him, “It has been brought to my attention by my staff that you had insulted Madina Waaleh Saa’i.” The idiot replied that he did not refute this. He started to read one verse of the Qur’an after the next. I mentioned that I am not able to read so much of the Qur’an as he was able to read and whatever little Qur’an I knew, one could say that I learnt this in my dream. I then mentioned to him that as far as I was concerned, from the beginning of the Qur’an till the end, it praises Madina Waaleh Saa’i.

He said to me that I was a Mushrik and that I worshipped the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. He mentioned that I should stop worshipping

Madina Waaleh Saa'i and that he did not have any Knowledge of the Unseen. I said to him that indeed Madina Waaleh Saa'i could even reveal what food he had eaten a few days ago. He then called me a Bid'ati and Mushrik.

I said to him that there is a very easy solution to this. We should light a huge fire and then jump into this fire and see who is right and who is wrong. By that time, another tractor had arrived with other people and even some of the family of this person had also arrived. They noticed that there was an argument going on.

I started to shout out the name of Hadrat Sayyiduna Ali - *may Allah be pleased with him* - and again this person Harun approached me and said that I was a Mushrik. He said that he was prepared to jump in the fire with me. He then placed his shawl on the ground and started to read two rak'ah of Salaah. I had no idea what should be done before jumping into a fire.

I also recited two rak'ah of Salaah and also said to myself that since Allah Almighty and His Angels send Durood and Salaam upon Madina waaleh Saa'i I should also send the same on him. I then made Du'a to Allah by saying that I do not have the strength to do something like this but I was doing something like this out of respect for Madina waaleh Saa'i. I then started to read the Durood and Salaam.

I began to call out to my Peer and suddenly I saw him standing in front of me, behind me and at my side. They then started a fire from the hay which was left over after cultivation and it was such a huge fire that one could not see the end of the flames.

I grabbed the hand of Harun and said to him, "Come let us enter his fire". However, he stopped and said that I should first enter the fire. I also heard the words of my Murshid saying to me not to be afraid and that I should step into the fire.

I then stepped into the fire and nothing happened to me. I called out to this person, but he was standing on one side in a state of shock. I grabbed his hand and took him into the fire with me and I was shocked to see that the fire also did not harm him.

However, at the same time, I heard my Peer saying to me, "Leave his hand". The moment I released his hand, he began to scream and shout and ran out of the fire. Part

of his clothes, his beard and his feet were badly burnt. In fact, his entire appearance had changed and he looked extremely ugly. In fact, when I saw his appearance, I felt more fear than being in the fire itself. I then reentered the fire two or three times and even the diesel which was on my clothing also dried up because of the intense heat in the fire.”

Later on, people asked him how long he had remained in the fire, he replied that he had spent nearly six minutes in the fire. When he was asked about the colour of the fire, he said he did not know but the people who were looking at the large flames mentioned to him that the flames on his side appeared to be green and the flames of the side of this person Harun appeared as normal flames.

On further questioning, he also said that while in the fire, he continued to recite the Durood and Salaam. He also mentioned that while being in the fire, he had felt a cool breeze.

For further clarification on this story, one can refer to an article prepared by Mufti Abu Daud Mohammed Saadiq - *may Allah be pleased with him* - who was the head of Jamaat-e-Raza Pakistan. It is also recorded in the daily Jang newspaper, dated September 1965. He had also included articles from “Rooz Nama Nawaa’e Waqt,” etc. There are also written and signed testimony from people who were witness to this amazing incident. As a matter of fact the audio recording of Mohammed Panaa and his subsequent interview is also found at Maktabah Raza-e-Mustafa Gujranwala.

My personal opinion is that we should collect a large amount of money and prepare a massive fire and then invite all the Sunni ‘Ulama and the non-Sunni “Ulama” to jump into this huge fire. One of the greatest benefits to this is that when the Sunni ‘Ulama come out of this fire, at least they will have no more people to debate with. There is no doubt that the greatest wealth we have is our Sunni Aqeedah and we should always make sure that we strive to protect it.