

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُ الْصَّلَاةِ وَالسَّلَامِ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْعَبْدِ وَرَبِّ الْأَدَمِ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيُرْضِي إِنَّمَا يُصْلِلُ عَلَيْهِ

Allah *azza wajal*, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah *azza wajal*, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon

His Beloved Messenger *Sallal Laahu 'Alayhi Wasallam*

The Shari'ah does not favour anyone

It is said that there was once a person who came from Arabia. He was also extremely wealthy. His name was Saifudeen. He was so respected by the King that a few months later, Saifudeen married the King's sister. There was a very posh and regal marriage ceremony. As gift, the Sultan handed to Saifudeen a part of Gujrat and some other areas as well.

However, by nature he was still a villager or in Urdu, a "buddu." He did not understand the respect and decorum of visiting the Royal Court. One day, twenty days later, he decided to visit the Royal Court. He thought that since he was the brother-in-law of the King, he did not need permission to enter the Royal Court. However, when he came near the door, the guards informed him that he could not enter without official

permission. In spite of this warning, he continued to try and barge into the Royal Court. The guards grabbed him by the hair and threw him outside. He grabbed a stick and beat one of the guards until blood flowed from his head.

The guard then approached the King and informed him about what had happened. The King remained silent for a few moments. The King admitted that this was such a severe crime that only the official Qadi could make a decision. He instructed all of them to appear in front of the Qadi.

At that time, the official Qadi was Qadi Kamaaludeen. The case was presented to him. When he heard the entire story and also the fact that Saifudeen admitted to his crime, he had no option but to lock him up for one night. It is said that even his wife, Firozah, did not even bring a blanket or some food to his jail cell out of fear for her brother. The next day, he was freed. (Tarikh-e-Dehli, pg. 172)

The point in this story is that early Muslims made sure that no matter what the position and status of a person was, if he committed any crime, he was instantly punished. It is not like in the present day in which Judges are bought and sold like they are items which are found in shops. No record is mentioned of this person objecting to his punishment, which also proves that people accepted their mistakes and were prepared to face the consequences.

At the same time, when we see the history of early Muslims, it did not matter whether the person was a pauper or a King. When it came to Shari'ah law, all were treated equally. The stories appearing from the era of Sultan Mahmud Ghaznawi also highlights this important fact. This story is just another example of how Muslims, through their behaviour, was able to change the world.