

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 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 World is a Musaafir Khana

Hadrat Sayyiduna Salman Farsi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates, "I once married a female from the Bani Kandah tribe and when I reached her front door, I called out her name but she did not answer. I then asked, "Tell me, are you deaf or are you dumb because it seems like you are unable to hear." She replied, "O blessed companion of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*, I am neither deaf nor dumb but have a sense of bashfulness."

When I entered her room, I noticed that there were materials hanging all over and very expensive gifts laying around the room. There were also silk coverings everywhere. I asked her, "Tell me, is your room suffering from fever because you seemed to have covered it with material or has the Ka'ba come to the tribe of Bani Kandah?"

She replied that this was not the case and that a bride is expected to beautify her room. When I raised my head, I noticed that there were servants standing in front of her who

had brought some food. I mentioned to her that I heard Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - saying, "That person who sleeps on a warm and soft bed, and wears clothing (which makes him) famous, and he travels in (a mode of transport) which is very outstanding and elaborate, and consumes food of his own personal choice, he will never smell the fragrance of Jannah."

When she heard these words, she declared, "O blessed companion of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*, I make you a witness that whatever is in the house, I have given all of it in the Path of Allah. I have given all my servants in the Path of Allah. For a few morsels of food, I will continue to serve you as a wife."

When the blessed companion heard these words, he declared, "May Allah shower His Divine Mercy on you and also aid and assist you." (Al Hulyah Abu Naeem)

Hadrat Sayyiduna Jabir - *may Allah be pleased with him* – narrates: "Once Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - passed by the corpse of a dead baby goat. He then asked, 'Is there any among you who will be prepared to purchase this for one Dinaar?' The blessed companions replied, 'None of us will be prepared to purchase this even if it is only one Dinaar.' Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - then declared, 'I swear by Allah that with Allah, this world is even more insignificant than the dead body of this goat's infant.'" (Sahih Muslim Shareef)

Hadrat Sayyiduna Sahl bin Sa'ad narrates that Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - has stated that, "Even if the entire world was equal to one wing of a mosquito with Allah then He would have not even given a gulp of water to a disbeliever." (In other words, such is the insignificance of this world that the only reason that even a Kaafir is being given water to drink is because the value of the world is absolutely zero). (Jamia Tirmidi Shareef)

In other words, such is the stupidity of people that they continue to run after something which is not even equal to one wing of a mosquito. People will only understand the folly of their action on the Day of Judgement, but for many people it will be too late to cry and weep. Therefore, now, we need to think about these things.

The examples of Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him*.

It is reported that in the era of Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him*, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was the Governor of Syria. (Bear in mind that in that period Syria was not what it is today. In those days, it encompassed countries like Syria, Jordan, Palestine and Lebanon). Hence, it was a very huge area. Imagine the ruler of such an area and the immense wealth and riches he had under his control. In fact, daily, huge amounts of riches used to be brought to Madina Shareef.

The central figure of this immense Islamic nation was also Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him*. One day, he decided to visit some of these lands to carry out an inspection. During his visit to the headquarters of this area, he said, "O Abu Ubaidah, I also wish to inspect the place where you stay as well." Others were under the impression that he wanted to inspect this house for obvious reasons. After all, he was going to visit the residence of the most powerful person in this region and perhaps his house was also the most massive mansion in the whole area. He also wanted to see what wealth had been kept in this house.

The house of the Governor

When he expressed his wish, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - said to him, "O Ameerul Mo'mineen! What is the value of visiting my house? My house is such which will only bring tears to your eyes."

However, Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - insisted that he wanted to see his house. They then travelled through the city until they reached a dry and desolate area. Even Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - himself was surprised and asked him where he was leading him to. Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - assured him that the house was very near.

Finally, they arrived at an old and simple looking house which was made from mere date leaves and branches. He mentioned that this was his house. When Hadrat

Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - entered the house, he found nothing but a mere musallah or piece of mat. He then asked, "O Abu Ubaidah! Is this where you live? There is nothing in this house, there are no dishes, there is no food or drink, nothing whatsoever. How do you live in this place?"

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - replied, "O Ameerul Mo'mineen! This is all I need to survive. The mat is something on which I read my Salaah and during the night, I also use it to sleep on." He then raised his hand towards the ceiling and retrieved a small bowl and mentioned that this was the bowl he used for eating. When Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - looked at this bowl, he noticed that it was filled with water and there were a few pieces of bread that were soaking inside it.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then continued, "O Ameerul Mo'mineen! Day and night I am busy in government issues and therefore do not have the time to prepare any food for myself. However, there is a lady who prepares bread for me for the next two to three days. I keep this bread and when it becomes hard, I soak it in water and before going to sleep, I eat some of this." When Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - heard this account, his eyes filled with tears.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then stold him, "I did inform you beforehand that when you see my house, you will start to weep."

Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then declared, "O Abu Ubaidah! the affairs of this world has certainly affected all of us but I swear in the Divine Name of Allah, you are exactly the same as you were in the time of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. This world has caused no affect on you." (Sayr 'Alaamul Nublah)

These were the true dervishes. These were the real royalty who sat on the thrones of kings and lived as true dervishes and not name sake dervishes.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Aanis - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that once Hadrat Sayyiduna Salman Farsi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - became very ill and Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'ad bin Abi Waqqas - *may Allah be pleased with him* - went to visit him.

He noticed that the eminent companion was weeping. Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'ad bin Abi Waqqas - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then asked, "Why are you weeping. Have you not enjoyed the blessed company of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*?"

Hadrat Sayyiduna Salman Farsi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - replied, "I am not weeping for this and I am not weeping because I am leaving the world or I am also not weeping because I dislike the Hereafter. I am weeping because Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - had taken a pact with us and I am afraid that we have not kept this pact."

Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'ad - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then asked him about the pact he was remembering and he said, "The same amount of possession is sufficient for you as is sufficient for a traveller. However, O Sa'ad! Whenever you begin to govern then fear Allah and when you distribute also fear Allah, and when you intend to undertake any work, also fear Allah."

It is mentioned that when Hadrat Sayyiduna Salmah Farsi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - passed away and they added what he had left behind, it was only 24 Dirhams. (Ibn Maja, Al Huliyah)

What is this building?

Hadrat Sayyiduna Aanis - *may Allah be pleased with him* - narrates that once Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - was going somewhere with his blessed companions when he noticed a building with an arch. He then asked who had built this. The blessed Ashaab informed him that a certain person had built this who was an Ansari. When Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - heard this, he did not say anything (but from his reaction, one could see that he was angry).

When the person who had built this place once appeared in front of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - and greeted him in front of everyone, Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - turned away his blessed face. (In other words, although he returned the greeting silently, he turned away his face from the person).

Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - acted in this manner a few times. This person then approached some of the eminent Ashaab and mentioned to them what had happened. These companions then stated the entire incident to him and also mentioned the reason that Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - could be angry. When the person heard this, he went back to his house and demolished it until it was equal to the ground level.

A few days later, when Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - was walking past this same area, he inquired about the house which once stood there. The blessed companions then narrated the entire even which took place after this.

Later on, Sayyiduna Rasoolullah - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - declared, "Beware! This construction on the Day of Judgement will become a curse for the one who built it. (In other words, it will become a source of punishment for the person except for those things which are absolutely necessary and without which a person cannot survive). (Abu Daud)