

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْوَلَدِ 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*

‘Ulama who spoke the Truth

It is reported that Ahmed bin Tulun, the ruler of Egypt, was considered as a very cruel and oppressive ruler. However, at the same time, he had the habit of making sure that there was justice between the oppressed and the oppressor. In other words, he was also considered as someone that used to display justice.

It is mentioned that one day his son was walking with a female who was a singer and his slave was also carrying a musical instrument. When a certain scholar saw this, he immediately came forward and started to explain the evils of this behaviour. He also rushed towards the slave and taking the musical instrument from his hand, he smashed it on the ground.

When he saw the behaviour of this scholar, the son of Ahmed bin Tulun, Abbas, registered a case against this scholar in the court of Ahmed bin Tulun. When this scholar appeared in court, the ruler asked him whether he had in fact broken the musical

instrument which belonged to his son. The scholar admitted that he had indeed done so. Ahmed bin Tulun then appeared like he was extremely angry and asked this scholar whether he was aware of who this musical instrument belonged to. The scholar replied, “Yes, I am fully aware that this instrument belonged to your son, Abbas.”

Ahmed bin Tulun asked him, “That means, you have no regard whatsoever for me?”

The Islamic scholar then declared, “How is it possible that I should have any concern as to whom this instrument belonged to when the Qur’an clearly tells us to forbid evil and propagate what is good. The Holy Prophet - *may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him* - has also stated that, ‘It is not permissible to obey any creation while disobeying the Allah Almighty.’”

When Ahmed bin Tulun heard these statement, it had a great impact on him. He told the scholar, “I also give you complete permission that you may walk around the city and if you see anything which contradicts Islam, you have the complete authority to destroy it. I will also be your helper in this action.”

We realise from this incident that when a person is firmly established in delivering the truth, then Allah Almighty certainly creates a great impact in his words and actions. It is also said that when a person speaks the truth and is not afraid, the Angels also appear to help and assist the person and he is certainly assured of great victory.

Another title for truth.

It is reported that Hadrat Moulana Shaikh Shahaabudeen bin Moulana Fakhrudeen Zaahidi was someone whom people used to call “Haq Ghohi” - someone who always spoke the truth. The background to him getting this title is as follows.

One day the Sultan of Dehli, namely Mohamed bin Tughlaq, who was also a very cruel ruler, decided that from that day everyone should call him Mohammed Aadil. In another words, he began to self-proclaim himself as someone who was very just. He then called Moulana Shaikh Shahaabudeen to his court and ordered him that from that day he should address him as Mohammed Aadil.

When Moulana Shaikh Shahaabudeen heard this, he angrily replied, “I will never call an oppressive person like you an Aakil (or a person with justice).”

When the Sultan heard this, he became extremely angry and ordered that this scholar be thrown over the wall of the palace. In this way, for standing up for the truth, he was martyred. As a matter of fact, after he had passed away, people started to call this Islamic scholar, Shahaabudeen Haq Ghohi, in other words, the person who spoke the truth. (Al Akhbaarul Akhyaar)

Do not swallow dirt.

The tyrant ruler, Mohammed Tughlaq, was someone who did not think twice of changing the laws of Islam to suit himself. One day, he began to say to his subjects in a fit of pride and arrogance, the following words. He said, “Since the Divine Grace of Allah Almighty has not ceased, how can the Prophetic grace cease? Therefore, if there is someone who displays miracles, shall we not believe that person (as being a Prophet)?”

When he mentioned these words, there was also another Islamic scholar in this gathering who bravely spoke out, “What type of filth seems to appear from your mouth.”

The name of this Moulana was Moulana Amaadudeen. When the Sultan heard this reply, he also ordered that this scholar be killed. In fact, the tongue of this scholar was pulled out and he was then killed.

There are hundreds of ‘Ulama of this nature who gained martyrdom merely for speaking the truth. There is no doubt that these people will always be remembered in the pages of Islam as people who stood for the truth and never allowed truth to be hidden. It is through them that the religion of Islam continued to be displayed as a religion of justice and truth. In this manner, there will always be ‘Ulama who continue to speak the truth no matter what the consequences are. Someone has said, “This religion of light is alive through the breath of those who gave their lives for it. May there be a hundred Durud and Salaam upon their souls.”