

# **Tarbiyyah Lessons**

## **Lesson 5**

### **Levels of prayer:**

Ibn al-Qayyim (may Allah have mercy on him) said,  
"And mankind, with regard to their performance of prayer are in five levels."

#### The First:

The level of the one who is negligent and wrongs his soul. He is the one who falls short in performing ablution properly, performing the prayer upon its time and within its specified limits, and in fulfilling its essential pillars.

#### The Second:

The one who guards his prayers upon their proper times and within their specified limits, fulfils their essential pillars and performs his ablution with care. However, his striving is wasted due to whisperings in his prayer so he is taken away by thoughts and ideas.

#### The Third:

The one who guards his prayers within the specified limits, fulfils their essential pillars and strives with himself to repel the whisperings, thoughts and ideas. He is busy struggling against his enemy (Shaitan) so that he does not steal from the prayer. On account of this he is engaged in (both) prayer and jihad.

#### The Fourth:

The one who stands for the prayer, completes and perfects its due rights, its essential pillars, performs it within its specified limits and his heart becomes engrossed in safeguarding its rights and specified limits, so that nothing is wasted from it. His whole concern is directed towards its establishment, its completion and its perfection, as it should be. His heart is immersed in the prayer and in enslavement to his Lord, the Exalted.

#### The Fifth:

The one who stands for the prayer like the one mentioned above. However, on top of this, he has taken and placed his heart in front of his Lord, the Mighty and Majestic, looking towards Him with his heart with anticipation, (his heart) filled with His love and His might, as if he sees and witnesses Allah. The whisperings, thoughts and ideas have vanished and the coverings which are between him and his Lord are raised. What is between this person and others with respect to the prayer, is superior and greater than what is between the heavens and the earth. This person is busy with his Lord, the Mighty and Majestic, delighted with Him.

The first type will be punished, the second type will be held to account, the third will have his sins and shortcomings expiated, the fourth will be rewarded and the fifth will be close to his Lord, because he will receive the portion of the one who makes his prayer the delight and pleasure of his eye. Whoever makes his prayer the delight and pleasure of his eye, will have the nearness to his Lord, the Mighty and Majestic, made the delight and pleasure of his eye in the hereafter. He will also be made a pleasure to the eye in this world since whoever makes Allah the pleasure of his eye in this world, every other eye will become delighted and pleased with him.

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### Lesson 4

#### Surrender Yourself Totally:

Hadhrat Maulana Mufti Muhammad Taqi Usmani برکاتہم دامت said,  
"This idea has crept into and firmly settled on, our hearts that what the western nations are doing is worth emulation and the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم is – God forbid – an ordinary issue, unworthy of being followed. It is rather a hurdle and hindrance in the path of progress. Consider! What harm will fall on us if we take our food with the right hand?

Our malady is that the evil of slavery to the west has over-powered our minds. We have given up slavery to the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم and become slaves to the western powers, with the natural result that we are living and dying in slavery. We have become entangled in this slavery so badly that we now see no way out of it. The fact, however, remains that we cannot get out of this slavery, nor can we attain honour and superiority in this world unless we accept slavery to the Holy Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم in the true sense and follow in his footsteps."

[Islahi Khutbaat: Discourses on Islamic Way of Life, Vol: VII, pg. 184]

## Tarbiyyah Lessons

### Lesson 3

#### To Feel Superior:

Hadhrat Maulana Shah Abrarul Haq Hardoi Sahib نور اللہ مرقدہ said,

"When a doctor gives a Prince an injection, he doesn't consider himself superior to the Prince. In the same way the one speaking about Deen should not consider himself superior to the listeners. Regarding the expert of a field as perfect [Akmal] is permissible, but to regard as superior is Haram. Because the criteria of virtue/superiority is based on acceptance by Allah Ta'ala [Qubuliyat inda'Allah], which can not be found out about in the Dunya.

The dignity of every believer should be in the heart. It's not permissible for any 'Alim or Shaykh-e-Kamil even to consider a sinful Muslim despising. If a small child urinates on the father, the clothes of the father would be considered impure but there won't be any decrease in the dignity of the father. Hadhrat Thanvi نور اللہ مرقدہ used to say, 'Whenever I take care of someone['s affairs], I consider him superior to myself.'

Similarly, I consider my mother & sisters and you people superior to myself too, but am [at the same time] telling the commands of Allah Ta'ala."

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## Lesson 2

Hakim al-Ummah Shaykh Mawlana Ashraf Ali Thanawi (Allah have mercy on him) said,

*'Ilm* (knowledge) without *suhba* (company of the pious) is not beneficial.

The *islah* (reformation) of a person with *suhba* and *'ilm* is easier compared to the person with *'ilm* but without *suhba*.

All the Companions (may Allah be pleased with them) were not scholars. Whatever they achieved they achieved through *suhba*. The people of Allah (*Ahl Allah*) have always taken care with regard to *suhba*. They concentrated more on *suhba* than *'ilm*.

### Advices of Hakim al-Umma, part 6

# Tarbiyyah Lessons

## Lesson 1

### Six Points to Acquire the Nearness of Allah:

*Based on the teachings of  
Shaykhul Hadeeth Hadhrat Mawlana Muhammad Saleem Dhorat hafizahullah*

#### 1) Abstinence from Haraam

There should be no haraam elements in anything that one consumes or owns. Neither should one's possessions or foodstuffs be made from haraam constituents nor should they have been purchased by haraam money or through haraam channels.

#### 2) Adoption of the Company of the Pious

This necessitates that one simultaneously abstains from impious company. Adopt the company of those who:

- Remind you of Allah
- Make you worry about the hereafter
- Help you to increase your knowledge

Remember, a person will be with those whom he loves on the day of Qiyaamah. The love the pious have for us will influence us in such a manner that we will become pious too.

#### 3) Salaah with Jama'ah

To be able to pray five times Salaah with Jama'ah in the Masjid is indeed a great blessing granted only to those who are fortunate.

#### 4) Punctuality of Ma'moolaat

Don't leave your daily prescribed practices. If you miss them, make a firm resolve and start again. Make a 24 hour timetable to ensure sufficient time is allocated for the performance of ma'moolaat. Keep in mind that the recitation of the Qur'aan is extremely important.

### **5) Connection with the Shaykh**

This is achieved through attending the Shaykh's gatherings, listening to his lectures, and by seeking guidance from the Shaykh for one's spiritual issues. It is through this that the relationship from both sides strengthens.

### **6) Du'aa**

One should beseech Allah to make him like those pious predecessors who have passed before. Ask Allah to make you His lover and for Him to become your beloved.