

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## LESSONS FROM AHÂDEETH SHAREEF

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COMMENTARY ON

40 AHÂDEETH | ARBA'EEN | OF IMAAM NAWAWI رحمه الله عليه

WITH EMPHASIS ON PERFECTING ONE'S CHARACTER

| LESSON THIRTY-SIX |

...

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ وَنُؤْمِنُ بِهِ وَنَتَوَكَّلُ عَلَيْهِ ،  
وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا، مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ ،  
وَنَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ ، وَنَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

*Verily all praise is for Allah, we praise Him and seek His aid and ask for His forgiveness and we believe in Him and we place our trust upon Him, and we seek refuge with Allah from the evils of ourselves and our evil actions. Whomsoever Allah guides there is none who can misguide him, and whomsoever Allah misguides there is none who can guide him, and we bear witness that none has the right to be worshiped except Allah alone, having no partner, and we bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and His Messenger*

...

اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ ، وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ

*Allahumma Salli 'ala Sayyidina Muhammad Wa'ala Aali Sayyidina Muhammadin Wa Baarik Wa Sallim | Oh Allah shower blessings and peace upon our Master Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam and upon the family of Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam*

## BROTHERHOOD IN ISLAM

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " لَا تَحَاسَدُوا، وَلَا تَنَاجَشُوا، وَلَا تَبَاغُضُوا، وَلَا تَدَابَرُوا، وَلَا يَبْغُ بَعْضُكُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ، وَكُونُوا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ إِخْوَانًا، الْمُسْلِمُ أَخُو الْمُسْلِمِ، لَا يَظْلِمُهُ، وَلَا يَخْذُلُهُ، وَلَا يَكْذِبُهُ، وَلَا يَحْقِرُهُ، التَّقْوَى هَاهُنَا، وَيُشِيرُ إِلَى صَدْرِهِ ثَلَاثَ مَرَّاتٍ، يَحْسِبُ أَمْرِي مِنَ الشَّرِّ أَنْ يَحْقِرَ أَخَاهُ الْمُسْلِمَ، كُلُّ الْمُسْلِمِ عَلَى الْمُسْلِمِ حَرَامٌ: دَمُهُ وَمَالُهُ وَعِرْضُهُ

On the authority of Abu Hurairah *Radiallahu Anhu* who said : Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam* said :  
 “Do not have envy of one another. Do not inflate prices on one another. Do not hate one another. Do not turn your backs on one another. Do not undersell one another; but rather, be worshipers of Allah and brothers. The Muslim is the brother of his fellow Muslim. He does not oppress him, nor does he abandon him, nor does he lie to him, nor does he belittle him. “Taqwa is here” and he pointed to his chest three times. “It is a sufficient act of evil that a person belittles his Muslim brother. Every Muslim to another Muslim is sacred, his blood, his wealth, and his honor.” [Muslim] [رَوَاهُ مُسْلِمٌ]



### | BRIEF EXPLANTION |

In this Hadith we have been severely prohibited in harming our Muslim brethren. And we have been commanded to protect the blood, honour and integrity of every Believer. Brotherhood in Islam is a relationship of fundamental importance. The whole community of Believers is conceived of as a great brotherhood. When there is brotherhood there is unity and this strengthens Islam. If there is no brotherhood and there is disunity, then this causes the destruction of Islam. Hence, in this Hadith we have been prohibited from various types of traits that will lead to disunity.

### | HADITH EXPLANTION |

#### *Do not envy one another,*

• (1) **Hasad/Jealousy** : Jealousy and envy is blameworthy and forbidden. It is the same jealousy that caused Iblees [Shaytaan] to be expelled from Paradise. Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'ala* describes the Jews of having the attribute of jealousy in numerous Ayaah of the Noble Qur'aan.

Rasulullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam* has mentioned in a Hadeeth :

إِيَّاكُمْ وَالْحَسَدَ فَإِنَّ الْحَسَدَ يَأْكُلُ الْحَسَنَاتِ كَمَا تَأْكُلُ النَّارُ الْخَطْبَ أَوْ قَالَ الْعُشْبَ

“Beware of jealousy, for indeed jealousy consumes one’s good deeds like fire consumes wood.” (Sunan Abi Dawud)

In another Hadeeth Rasulullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam* has mentioned :

دَبَّ إِلَيْكُمْ دَاءُ الْأُمَمِ قَبْلَكُمْ الْحَسَدُ وَالْبَغْضَاءُ هِيَ الْحَالِقَةُ لَا أَقُولُ تَخْلِقُ الشَّعْرَ وَلَكِنْ تَخْلِقُ الدِّينَ

“The illness of the nations before you is creeping towards you [ie: jealousy and hatred].

Envy and hatred is the ‘shaver’ [Haliqah] ; I do not say that it shaves hair, but that it shaves\*\* (destroys) faith.

[Tirmidhi] \*\*Hatred takes away faith like a razor takes away hair

#### *and do not inflate prices for one another*

• (2) **Najash / Do not deceive one another** : Some scholars have referred to ‘Najash’ as referring to a transaction in sales ie: when someone who does not want to buy any goods, increases the price offered for the goods, either intending to benefit the seller by increasing his price, or by intending to cause harm to the purchaser. Others have interpreted this to be bidding (*in a general sense*) against each other ie: not to try to deceive each other. Rasulallah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam has mentioned in a Hadeeth : مَنْ غَشَّائَ فَلَيْسَ مِنَّا “Whoever deceives (cheats) us is not one of us.” [Sunan Ibn Majah/Sahih Muslim]. Believers are exhorted not to treat each other with conspiracy and using devices of deception.

***and do not hate one another***

• (3) **Hatred** : Rasulallah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam then mentioned not to hate one another, because we are brothers. Brothers love each other, and do not hate each other. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’ala forbids the Believer from those things which cause enmity and hatred amongst them. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’ala has mentioned in the Noble Qur’aan :

فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأَصْلِحُوا ذَاتَ بَيْنِكُمْ<sup>ط</sup> So fear Allah, and keep straight the relations between yourselves [Surah Al-‘Anfaal 8:1]

***and do not turn your backs on one another,***

• (4) **Breaking relations and forsaking each other** : Rasulallah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam has mentioned :

لَا يَحِلُّ لِمُسْلِمٍ أَنْ يَهْجُرَ أَخَاهُ فَوْقَ ثَلَاثِ لَيَالٍ يَلْتَقِيَانِ، فَيُعْرِضُ هَذَا، وَيُعْرِضُ هَذَا، وَخَيْرُهُمَا الَّذِي يَبْدَأُ بِالسَّلَامِ

“It is not permissible for a Muslim to shun his brother for more than three nights. When they meet, this one turns away (from that one) and that one turns away (from this one) and the best of them is the one who greets his brother first.”

[Abu Dawood]

***Do not undersell one another; but rather, be worshipers of Allah and brothers.***

• (5) **Underselling** : What is meant by this is ‘a sale over and above the sale of another’ ie: when a salesman sells something at a lower price than (a competitor) ... with him knowing fully of the initial transaction with the primary seller. This conduct is against the etiquette of Believers and causes disputes and hatred amongst one another. Hence, Rasulallah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam has prohibited this practice, which would in turn engender brotherhood in Islam.

***The Muslim is the brother of his fellow Muslim. He does not oppress him, nor does he abandon him, nor does he lie to him, nor does he belittle him.***

• (6) **Brotherhood** : A Muslims gives preference to his Muslim brother over himself.

***“Taqwa is here” and he pointed to his chest three times.***

• (7) **Taqwa / Piety** : Taqwa encompasses all the good qualities mentioned in this Hadith. Rasulallah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam has mentioned : إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَنْظُرُ إِلَى صَوْرَتِكُمْ وَأَمْوَالِكُمْ وَلَكِنْ يَنْظُرُ إِلَى أَعْمَالِكُمْ وَقُلُوبِكُمْ: “Allah does not look at your forms or your wealth, rather He looks at your deeds and your hearts.” [Sunan Ibn Majah]. Many of those who have excellent outer appearances, properties, status, leading roles in the world... have hearts which are void of Taqwa.

***“It is a sufficient act of evil that a person belittles his Muslim brother. Every Muslim to another Muslim is sacred, his blood, his wealth, and his honor.”***

• (8) **Brotherhood** : Rasulallah Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam further re-iterates the importance of honouring a Muslim brother.