

Vision and Success

Compiled by Mahfuz

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Great vision, which was once our property, now it seems that it no longer exists in us. There was a time when a Muslim would wake up confident, fearless, thanking his Lord All Mighty¹. Now it seems everyone is in fear, even a child wakes up in fear. People fear of losing everything. So, they go and take so many insurances, thinking and

¹The sunnah is, when you wake up from bed in the morning, our prophet taught us to recite,

أَحْمَدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَحْيَانَا بَعْدَ مَا أَمَاتَنَا، وَإِلَيْهِ النُّشُورُ

“All praise is for Allaah who gave us life after having taken it from us and unto Him is the resurrection” [Al-Bukhari]

This dua indicates the dependence and thankfulness of a Muslim to his Rabb. When you know your Rabb, you can not but thank Him every single moment. This boosts an individual and he feels free from every burden of his life. Look at the wording of the dua, I thank you yaa Rabb, for keeping me alive and giving me another opportunity to live, to breathe. This feeling will push you to work hard on that day.

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hoping that these would save them.

If you go to the Western world, you will find there are PhD degrees in vision. It seems that once what was ours, now others are learning it and benefiting from it. I will try to give a glimpse of how our predecessors were, how they used to think, and things like that.

Allaah testifies that we(Muslims) are the best nation. But how can we be the best without true vision?

Chapter 2

The vision of our Beloved Messenger

One day our Messenger (peace and blessings be upon his soul) was praying in front of the kaaba¹. Abu Jahal (Abul Hakam Ibn Hisham) came up with a basket of dung and intestines of a dead camel, poured it on the blessed body of our beloved, and started swearing at our Prophet. He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) kept praying. Someone went and told His daughter Fatima may Allah be pleased with her, -they have poured dirt on your Father. She came crying (a young little girl at that stage), started cleaning the dirt, and crying and cursing them. But the Prophet peace and blessings be upon his soul

¹This was at the time of *Makkah*, when Muslims were vulnerable, being oppressed, and not even given freedom to worship their Maker Alone.

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said,

“Don’t worry O Fatima! What your Father has brought, will enter every home on the planet.”

See the vision! At what time? With which resources? With which military power? Nothing. At a time when He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) could not protect his Muslim brothers and even himself. But his vision was, “This Deen will prevail in every house of this globe.”

And when He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) was in *Makkah*, you know how the situation was in the early days of *Makkah*. This was then when Umar Ibnul Khattab and Hamza Ibnu Abdil Muttalib (may Allaah be pleased with them both) didn’t accept Islam yet². Then He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) used to say to His companions (may Allaah be pleased with them),

“Do not be disheartened by your lack of strength or small number, or by the power enjoyed by the Quraysh masters and their arrogance. By Allaah, other than Whom there is no deity, what Allaah has promised shall come true. This deen shall reach the furthest points in the east and west. And Allaah will give us the kingdom of Persia and

²Islam was strengthened by their acceptance of Islam.

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Byzantium³”.

I imagine it this way, if today a man from a rural area of Bangladesh would say to his people, “Follow me and pretty soon you will overcome the superpowers of today’s time.” How would the people of that village behave with that man?

He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) also told them,

“If you today suffer hardship on account of your faith, remember the future Allaah has promised. You will then find your present hardship easier to bear.”

Remember the *hijrah*. Keep in mind what the Rasul bore in *Makkah*, why He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) had to migrate to *Madina*. And even the *Quraysh* hatched a plot to kill the Prophet. You know the story. Then the permission from Allaah came to migrate. On that night when 100 warriors of *Makkah* came to kill the Rasul, He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) managed to go out from the city of *Makkah* miraculously with

³At the time of Prophet peace be upon Him, there were two main superpowers. On one side there was the Roman Empire and on the other side, there was the Persian Empire. These two empires reached the zenith of power. The Arab peninsula was somewhere sandwiched between these two empires. It’s beyond imagination how powerful they were against these Arabs.

his friend Abu Bakr as-Siddiq (may Allaah be pleased with him). They started the journey at night and when they climbed down from the cave (Ghar-e-Thawr)⁴ and finally started heading towards *Madina*. News has been spread far away amongst the arab tribes that whoever catches or kills Muhammad and His companion, will be rewarded with 100 camels for each. Amidst the Bedouins there was a man named Suraqa Ibn Maalik, this man Suraqa rushed towards that direction with his horse and

⁴Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) wanted to misguide the soldiers by going south of *Makkah* initially. So that the enemies would assume that Rasul is going somewhere south. He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) and Abu Bakr (may Allaah be pleased with him) went and hid themselves in Ghar-e-Thawr. The enemies followed them by their footsteps and unfortunately reached that mountain and climbed it. But Allaah miraculously saved His Messenger (peace and blessings be upon his soul). Allaah Almighty says about that incident,

إِلَّا تَنْصُرُوهُ فَقَدْ نَصَرَهُ اللَّهُ إِذْ أَخْرَجَهُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا ثَانِيَ اثْنَيْنِ إِذْ هُمَا فِي الْغَارِ
إِذْ يَقُولُ لِصَاحِبِهِ لَا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَنَا فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ سَكِينَتَهُ عَلَيْهِ وَأَيَّدَهُ بِجُنُودٍ
لَمْ تَرَوْهَا وَجَعَلَ كَلِمَةَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا السُّفْلَى وَكَلِمَةُ اللَّهِ هِيَ الْعُلْيَا وَلَهُ عَزِيزٌ
حَكِيمٌ

If you do not aid him [i.e., the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul)] - Allaah has already aided him when those who disbelieved had driven him out [of *Makkah*] as one of two, when they were in the cave and he [i.e., Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon his soul)] said to his companion, "Do not grieve; indeed Allaah is with us." And Allaah sent down His tranquility upon him and supported him with soldiers [i.e., angels] you did not see and made the word of those who disbelieved the lowest, while the word of Allaah - that is the highest. And Allaah is Exalted in Might and Wise.[9:40]

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weapon⁵. Unfortunately, Suraqa Ibn Maalik finds them and from a distance, he takes his weapon out and runs. And Abi Bakr sees him galloping towards them. He said, “Yaa Rasulallah! Look!.” He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) turns and makes dua, “Yaa Rabb! Suffice me from his evil, any way You choose.” So Allaah rabbul ‘izzah dug the lift legs of the horse into the ground, and Suraqa fell off the horse. And in one of the narrations, Suraqa got up and said, “Yaa Muhammad, I come with no harm, pray to your Lord to release me from this ”. Then a while later, Suraqa got up, and out of his greed, he came back again to attack them. Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) looks at him and prays again the same du’a. This time the horse went deeper and the same thing repeated. So this time Suraqa understood that “The man is out of bounds, I’m not supposed to touch Him.” Now a funny thing happens. The same man who came to kill our Beloved now comes to Him and says, “Please, give me a certificate that I am safe”. Like he says, promise me safety. So the Prophet ‘alaihi salatu wassalam tells, ‘Amr Ibn Fuhairah may Allaah be pleased with him, “‘Amr! Write for him —From Muhammad, the Messenger of Allaah, Suraqa Ibnu Maalik is guaranteed

⁵As Suraqa was a Bedouin, he knew the desert better. So somehow he managed to track our Beloved and Abu Bakr with.

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safety from Allaah and His Messenger ”. Now Suraqa says, “I came for the 200 camels. Now that has gone, please write some financial things as well ”. Then the Rasul (peace and blessings be upon his soul) said,

“I promise you the wristbands of Kisra ”.

Suraqa said, “The Empire!!?” He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) said, “Yes the empire”. Suraqa says, “Write it”. So ‘Amr wrote it and gave it to Suraqa. Suraqa went.

Rasul (peace and blessings be upon his soul) reached *Madina*, Islam was established, and Rasul (peace and blessings be upon his soul) passed away. Then once Suraqa goes to the successor of our Prophet, Abu Bakr as-siddiq (may Allaah be pleased with him) with that parchment, “Your Prophet gave me this promissory note”. But Abu Bakr (may Allaah be pleased with him) couldn’t give him that then what our beloved promised Suraqa. Then Abu Bakr (may Allaah be pleased with him) passed away. At his death, he gave that parchment to ‘Umar (may Allaah be pleased with him) that Suraqa had been promised. And in the time of ‘Umar Ibnul Khattab (may Allaah be pleased with him) the land of Kisra (Persian Empire) was conquered. And all the treasures were sent to *Madina*. These treasures were opened. And the wristbands of the kings of Persians were also brought. When

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‘Umar said, “What is this?” They said, “These are the wristbands of Kisra ”. He said, “Go and call Suraqa Ibnu Maalik ”. So they called Suraqa, and Suraqa is an old man now. ‘Amirul Mu’minin ‘Umar (may Allaah be pleased with him) said,

“Here! Wear these. And testify that the Messenger of Allaah spoke the truth”.

So Suraqa picked it up crying and sobbing, “Sadaqa Rasulallah, Sadaqa Rasulallah, (The Messenger has spoken the truth, The Messenger has spoken the truth)”.

Remember the battle of the trench[khandaq]⁶, when the Sahaba(companions) were digging the long trench at the outskirts of *Madina*,

It was narrated from Abu Sukainah, a man from among the Muhajirin, that a man among the Companions of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon his soul) said: **"When the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) commanded them to dig the trench (Al-**

⁶After the migration of *Madina*, the first battle was Badr. In it, Muslims were victorious miraculously. Allaah helped them with a thousand Angels. Then Quraish wanted to take revenge for what happened at Badr and prepared for the battle of Uhud. At Uhud, some mistakes happened and Muslims learned some lessons. Then Quraish again hatched a plan with some Jews of *Madina* and attacked, and this time they attacked directly to the city of *Madina*. So to save the city, with the plan of Salman Al Farsi (may Allaah be pleased with him) Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) decided to dig a trench at the vulnerable sides of the city of *Madina*.

Khandaq), there was a rock in their way preventing them from digging. The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon his soul) stood, picked up a pickaxe, put his Rida' (upper garment) at the edge of the ditch, and said: 'And the Word of your Lord has been fulfilled in truth and in justice. None can change His Words. And He is the All-Hearer, the All-Knower.' One-third of the rock broke off while Salman Al-Farisi⁷ was standing there watching, and there was a flash of light when the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon his soul) struck (the rock). Then he struck it again and said: 'And the Word of your Lord has been fulfilled in truth and in justice. None can change His Words. And He is the All-Hearer, the All-Knower' And another third of the rock broke off and there was another flash of light, which Salman saw. Then he struck (the rock) a third time and said: 'And the Word of your Lord has been fulfilled in truth and in justice. None can change His Words. And He is the All-

⁷Salman al Farisi (may Allaah be pleased with him), he was from Isfahan, Persia. Miraculously, he was brought to *Madina* by Allaah rabbul 'izzah. He entered into the fold of Islam, served, and practiced the deen of Allaah. When the battle of the trench came, everyone was worried about how to protect the city and its people. Then Salman al Farisi (may Allaah be pleased with him) gave this idea, he said, "Yaa Rasulallah, in Persia, whenever an enemy came to attack us, we used to dig a trench about 16x10 feet around the city. The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings be upon his soul) accepted his idea, so Salman al Farsi became the hero of the battle of Khandaq (trench).

Hearer, the All-Knower.' The last third fell, and the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon his soul) came out, picked up his Rida' and sat down. Salman said: 'O Messenger of Allah, Each time you struck the rock there was a flash of light.' The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon his soul) said to him: 'O Salman, did you see that?' He said: 'Yes, by the One Who sent you with the truth, O Messenger of Allah.' He said: 'When I struck the first blow, the cities of Kisra and their environs were shown to me, and many other cities, and I saw them with my own eyes.' Those of his Companions who were present said: 'O Messenger of Allah, pray to Allah to grant us victory and to give us their land as spoils of war, and to destroy their lands at our hands.' So the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon his soul) prayed for that. (Then he said:) 'Then I struck the second blow and the cities of Caesar and their environs were shown to me, and I saw them with my own eyes.' They said: 'O Messenger of Allah, pray to Allah to grant us victory and to give us their lands as spoils of war, and to destroy their lands at our hands.' So the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon his soul) prayed for that. (Then he said:) 'Then I struck the third blow and the cities of Ethiopia were shown to me, and the villages around them, and I saw them with my own eyes.' But

the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon his soul) said at that point: 'Leave the Ethiopians alone so long as they leave you alone, and leave the Turks alone so long as they leave you alone.'"⁸

By this word of the Messenger peace be upon Him, the companions understood that if they truly believe and sincerely obey Allaah's Messenger, what they're facing today won't trouble them much. Since they now know certainly what Allaah will give them in the future. If they (Muslims) are going to parish now by these mushriks of Quraish who, then how this deen would prevail on the globe! No one at that spot didn't even think that, let us first tackle the Quraish in this battle, then we would discuss about Romans and Persians. Because their vision was solid, that this calamity won't be able to harm them much (although the army of the Quraish was stronger than them at that time), they would conquer the world for sure.

⁸Hadith Hasan,
Sunan an-Nasa'i, Book 25, Hadith 92

Chapter 3

Islam Changed the Visions of the Bedouins

Can you imagine what life was like before Islam in Arabia? If you read the chronicles, no historian ever called them a civilization. They were very simple people, nothing was organized in their society. All they used to do was, first they tried to earn, then they used to spend that money on drinking, singing, and women. Mainly they spent on all entertainment-based things. No high ambition in life. Passing the days waiting to die someday, hoping it won't happen.

Allaah rabbul 'izaah sent Islam, and through this, Allaah gave them purpose. So every moment of their life became about achieving the purpose, which is the ridaa

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(please) of the Lord and His Jannah. You would find them waking in the middle of the night and standing in long sessions of salat [prayer]. Very productive. Why? "Because I'm trying to earn the pleasure of Allaah". And don't think that they used to sleep all day the next day.

A beautiful case with Abu Bakr As-Siddiq (may Allaah be pleased with him). Abu Hurairah (may Allaah be pleased with him) Narrates that the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) came to the sahaba one day and asked, "Who amidst you woke up today fasting?" So Abu Bakr (may Allaah be pleased with him) said, "I'm fasting, O Prophet of Allaah." He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) said, "Who has gone to a funeral procession today?" [i.e. who has helped a funeral procession with the digging, carrying, burying, etc?] He (Abu Bakr) said, "I have, O Prophet of Allaah." He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) asked, "Which one amidst you have gone, found a poor person and given him food?" Abu Bakr said, "I have, O Prophet." And then Rasool said, "Who has visited a sick person today?" Abu Bakr said, "I have." And the scholars said that this was by the time of duha [Morning]. Can you imagine! It was still morning and he had already done all these things. Can you tell yourself, why is he (Abu Bakr) doing these? To please Allaah, and through that, gain Jannah.

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In the pre-ignorant days before Islam, One man came to young ‘Umar Ibnul Khattab and asked him, “O ‘Umar! What is the purpose/mission of your life?” ‘Umar Replied¹, “I want to have a herd of sheep so that it can produce enough milk and provision for my family”. After ‘Umar (may Allaah be pleased with him) became the ‘Amirul Mu‘minin(the leader of the believers) the same man came to him and asked the same question, “O ‘Umar! What is your purpose in life now?”² ‘Umar (may Allaah be pleased with him) replied,

“I want the Deen of Allaah to prevail all over the globe”.

Beautiful story with ‘Uthman Ibn ‘Affan (may Allaah be pleased with him) —A man came to meet him, but he found him in salat [prayer], he completed the whole Qur’an and finished the night in prayer, the man waited the whole night; when his two units of salat would complete and he would talk? And even in his seventies, he used to buy slaves and at night he used to pray and the slave would hold the parchment of the Qur’an in front

¹‘Umar (may Allaah be pleased with him) was not a Muslim yet, at that time.

²He meant, oh ‘Umar (may Allaah be pleased with him), Islam came and changed you, we see all your changes after Islam, but that’s all external, what’s your inside now? Do you still possess the same dreams of the days of ignorance, or has Islam changed your vision too?

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of him the whole night. He used to complete the whole Qur'an by night and in the morning he would free that slave.

Chapter 4

The Miraculous Rise of Islam

If you look into history, whenever a nation arrived above others, certain things are prerequisites. For example, water; water is a primary requirement for a civilization to grow. Yet Makkah had no water. Even today one-third of the Arabia is considered as vacant land. Also requires an educated and united mass, trained and disciplined huge military, political stability, etc. But that didn't exist in Makkah or Arabia. Before Islam, only a few people could read and write. Compared to contemporary civilizations they didn't have military capability and political stability. They didn't have any treasures like gold or silver. Even they didn't have enough food for themselves, be-

cause the land was unvegetated. And there is a Hadeeth about the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul), He was in an orchard, picking dates from the floor and ate. So, food was rare and limited.

Yet, out of nowhere the civilization not only survives, but within a short few decades, it catches up to the other civilizations. And not only catches up to them, it overtakes them. And not only overtakes them, it flourishes and excels.

I will just mention some points here.

Allaah rabbul 'izzah sent to them His Messenger

Allaah rabbul 'izzah intervened in their lives by a Prophet. Allaah rabbul 'izzah didn't intervene with gold, and He could have intervened with gold. As for the Prophet Ayyub (peace and blessings be upon his soul), he was ill for many years, and then Allaah cured him. And then one day he was bathing and gold nuggets started to fall from the sky for him and he collected them¹. So, had

¹Ibn Abi Hatim recorded from Abu Hurayrah that the Prophet said:

لَمَّا غَافَى اللَّهُ أَيُّوبَ أَمْطَرَ عَلَيْهِ جَرَادًا مِنْ ذَهَبٍ فَجَعَلَ يَأْخُذُ مِنْهُ بِيَدِهِ وَيَجْعَلُهُ

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Allaah rabbul 'izzah wanted to equip them with gold, it would have rained from the sky. It's easy for Allaah rabbul 'izzah, but Allaah didn't.

For the children of Israel Allaah rabbul 'izzah opened water². Allaah could have done that, but Allaah rabbul 'izzah didn't.

Allaah rabbul 'izzah could have brought food from heaven for them, that listen people! you need nourishment, here is your food and go do My duty. Allah didn't.

فِي ثَوْبِهِ قَالَ فَقِيلَ لَهُ يَا أَيُّوبُ أَمَا تَشْبَعُ قَالَ يَا رَبِّ وَمَنْ يَشْبَعُ مِنْ رَحْمَتِكَ

When Allah healed Ayub, He sent upon him a shower of golden locusts, and he started to pick them up and gather them in his garment. It was said to him, "O Ayub, have you not had enough!"

²Allaah says in the Qur'an,

وَإِذِ اسْتَسْقَىٰ مُوسَىٰ لِقَوْمِهِ فَقُلْنَا اضْرِبْ بِعَصَاكَ الْحَجَرَ فَفَجَّرَتْ مِنْهُ اثْنَا عَشْرَةَ عَيْنًا قَدْ عَلِمَ كُلُّ أُنَاسٍ مَّشْرَبَهُمْ كُلُوا وَرَبُّوْا مِنْ رَزَقِ اللَّهِ وَلَا تَعْتُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ مُفْسِدِينَ

And [recall] when Moses prayed for water for his people, so We said, "Strike with your staff the stone." And there gushed forth from it twelve springs, and every people [i.e., tribe] knew its watering place. "Eat and drink from the provision of Allah, and do not commit abuse on the earth, spreading corruption." [2:60]

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Yet Allaah did it for Banu Israel³, manna and salwa came down from the heavens for them.

The only thing Allaah rabbul 'izzah gave them, the intervention, was a prophet, a messenger. By definition, carrying a message. The message is the *deen* of Islam. So Allaah rabbul 'izzah, through the *deen* did the following-

- i. Allaah rabbul 'izzah changed their hearts.
- ii. Allaah rabbul 'izzah changed their minds.
- iii. Allaah rabbul 'izzah changed their conduct.

And the rest was organic. And once someone embodies the above changes that Allaah sent, he can't help but become successful, in this life and the next.

³Allaah says in the Qur'an

وَقَطَّعْنَهُمْ اثْنَتَى عَشْرَةَ أَسْبَاطًا أُمَمًا وَأَوْحَيْنَا إِلَى مُوسَى إِذِ اسْتَسْقَاهُ قَوْمُهُ أَنْ
أَضْرِبَ بِعَصَاكَ الْحَجَرَ فَبَجَسَتْ مِنْهُ اثْنَتَا عَشْرَةَ عَيْنًا قَدْ عَلِمَ كُلُّ أُنَاسٍ مَّشْرِبَهُمْ
وَوَضَّلْنَا عَلَيْهِمُ الْغَمَمَ وَأَنْزَلْنَا عَلَيْهِمُ الْمَنَّانَ وَسَلَّوْا كُلُّوا مِنْ طَيِّبَاتِ مَا رَزَقْنَاكُمْ وَمَا
ظَلَمُونَا وَلَكِنْ كَانُوا أَنْفُسَهُمْ يَظْلِمُونَ

And We divided them into twelve descendant tribes [as distinct] nations. And We inspired to Moses when his people implored him for water, "Strike with your staff the stone," and there gushed forth from it twelve springs. Every people [i.e., tribe] knew its watering place. And We shaded them with clouds and sent down upon them manna and quails, [saying], "Eat from the good things with which We have provided you." And they wronged Us not, but they were [only] wronging themselves. [7:160]

Allaah rabbul 'izzah changed their hearts

When the Rasul (peace and blessings be upon his soul) was summoned to the office of prophethood, he came to the people with this message,

يا أيها الناس، قل لا إله إلا الله، تفلح

O people! Make the proclamation that there's none worthy of worship save one mighty Allaah and success will be yours ⁴.

This is a matter of the heart. In your heart of hearts, there should be nothing that you rely on, except the one Mighty Allaah.

So the Rasul came at a time when there were 360 idols around the Ka'baa. To an Arab population, who were like—easily offended, sensitive creatures, and deeply devout to these idols. As Khalid Ibnul Walid (may Allah be pleased with him) remembers- “My father sacrificed 100 camels for a single idol.” Proof that they had a lot of devotion to those idols. Yet, wrong belief. Can anyone imagine! Man bowing down to a stone, asking help from it.

⁴Allaah says,

قَدْ أَفْلَحَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ

Successful indeed are the believers[23:01]

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Allaah rabbul 'izzah sent the messenger to correct the belief first. So the rasul came and declared- there is none worthy of worship except Allaah. It was a pretty courageous statement to make⁵. And in a time where there's no police protection, it's a difficult time.

So, harassment started, abuse started, imprisonment started, torture started, assassination started. They (those that kind of accepted Islam) bore the brunt of it.

Within a few years those few that accepted the *deen*, the superstitious hocus pocus of idols disappeared and a true belief of the one mighty God entered the hearts. And that did a few things.

The first one, it gave access to the normal human being to the majesty of the Creator. For years, they were turning to rocks that couldn't do anything. Now they have access to Allaah, the Creator of the heavens and the earth. And that is a game changer. You know, at the time of 'Umar Ibnul Khattab (may Allah be pleased with him) Muslims fought the Persians. One of the mighty

⁵When the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) called people for tawhid in a situation where there were 360 Idols around the Ka'ba, the people found it very strange. That's why Allaah says,

أَجْعَلْ آلِهَةً إِلَهًا وَحْدًا إِنَّ هَذَا لَشَيْءٌ عَجَابٌ

Has he reduced [all] the gods to One God? Indeed, this is something totally astonishing. [38:5]

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generals of the Persians was caught and brought to the court of 'Umar, tied up. 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) looked at him- Yesterday you were on a throne, you had a crown, entourage, pomp and ceremony. . . . And now you're tied up! What happened! You were all that. Then what the Persian general replied which every Muslim should have known. He said,

"When the fight was against us and you, it was easy. But now how can I fight with the One in the heavens".

This means that now Allaah is in the equation, we have no power against Him.

So these simple people now have access to their Creator and with that came all the treasures of the Creator. For example-

a. The first campaign, Badr

Muslims were only 313 against a thousand strong. And there are narrations which mention, that there were only 8 sowards amidst the Muslims. They hadn't come for a battle. They came to raid a caravan. So Allaah gives the cause of their success, because we know they were victorious, and uprooted the enemy out. Allah said,

إِذْ تَسْتَغِيثُونَ رَبَّكُمْ فَتَجَابَ لَكُمْ أَنِّي مُمِدُّكُمْ بِأَلْفٍ مِّنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ
مُرْدِفِينَ^s

(Remember) when you were asking help from your Lord, and He answered you, "Indeed, I will reinforce you with a thousand from the angels, following row after row."[8:9]

Allah sent them. And Rasul is on the battlefield, He (peace and blessings be upon his soul) says, **Here's Gibril, dressed for the war**". And you would think that the Prophet is encouraging his companions. There were two people, standing on a mountain nearby (nonmuslims, bedouins), waiting for the battle to finish so that they could come down and collect what had fallen from the army and stuff like that. And suddenly one of them died. So after the war, they asked the other one, "Why did your friend die?" He said, "His heart burst". They asked, "Why did his heart burst?" He said, "Out of fear." They said, "What fear?" He said,

"We heard the neighing of the horses from the clouds above and saw the sparks of their hooves. So his heart burst and died."

Also inside the campaign of Badr, a Muslim chasing a kaafir, and before he reaches him the man is slain. And

there are also other instances where a sahabi called a kaaafir by name whom he knew from Makkah on the battlefield, "O so and so! Come, fight with me." And the kaaafir replied, "I'm not him." My point is Angels were on the battlefield. What it (Imaan) did? It gave first and foremost, access to the One above the heavens. And if Allaah rabbul 'izzah is on your side everything else will be taken care of.

b. Imaan removed all types of fears from their hearts:

All the success you want is on the other side of fear. And all the bad situations under which an individual is, because of fear. Fear is what holds people back. When there is no fear of Allaah in the heart, Allaah fills it with the fear of everything else.

The belief of the people of Makkah was based on superstitions, idols, and false deities. It was a life filled with fear. Imaan came and released them from it all. And they became what I call, superhumans. Because if you look at the *sahaba*, the challenges they faced, the obstacles they conquered, a normal human can't do. Should I mention some examples?

Battle of Mu'ta

Confrontation is something that all fear. War is a scary concept. When two equals are fighting, it is scary. The odds that the companions faced, we can't even imagine. The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) sent around three thousand to Mu'ta. Although the scholars differed, one narration says, a hundred and fifty thousand came against them. And the Muslims were expecting the arab tribes to come to the battle but there came instead of the actual Roman soldiers. The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) sent them with the instructions that,

Zayed Ibn Haarithah (may Allaah be pleased with him) is in charge. If Zaid falls, Ja'far Ibn Abi Talib (may Allaah be pleased with him) will be your leader, if Ja'far falls, then Abdullah Ibn Rawaha (may Allaah be pleased with him) will take the reins and if he falls then choose a leader from yourselves.

Can you imagine yourself in that situation! but they were facing unimaginable odds. And you would think that they would panic, shake, anxious, worried! you won't find it in them. It is as though they didn't know fear existed.

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This is the second commander, Ja'far Ibn Abi Talib, so the first one Zayed fell already. Ja'far holds the standard and gallops into the enemy. And then he thinks, "In difficulty, the horse might run back", so jumps off the horse and this is heard on the battlefield him saying,

يا حبذا الجنة واقتربها طيبة وباردة شرابها والروم روم قد دنا
عذابها كافرة بعيدة أنسابها.

*O the beauty and delight of Jannah and how close
you are! How pleasant and cool is its drink! The*

*Romans are a Roman whose torment is
approaching, as an infidel whose lineage is distant!*

On the battlefield, he should be scared against the Romans, but it seems that just beyond this he is in Jannah. Do you see what Imaan does? It made the obstacles of this life nothing. And he is not the isolated one. Abdullah Ibn Umar (may Allaah be pleased with him) said: **"I was present amongst them in that battle and we searched for Ja'far bin Abi Talib and found his body amongst the bodies of the martyred ones, and found over ninety wounds over his body, caused by stabs or shots (of arrows)."** They struck him, his right hand got cut, so he held the flag with his left hand. They cut off his left hand, he held the flag with his chest, then they stabbed him.

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Then when the standard came to the third commander 'Abdullah Ibn Rawaha (may Allaah be pleased with him), his cousin gave him a piece of meat to eat. For a second he tarried and said this to himself,

O soul! Why are you afraid of death?

This is what you were seeking.

You know what your desire is, just in front of you.

Difficulties like that, where we would think that they would break, but it did not affect them. Why? because of the power of Imaan. Imaan gave them the strength to overcome all types of odds. This is just fear,

Accute Hunger came

The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) is in the battle of Khandaq(trench). They were digging the trench, working. Hunger reached a level that they started tying rocks on their bellies (today we call it gastric bypass). So that, their stomach gets shrunk and they don't feel hungry. They were still working. If anyone working with a rock on his stomach, the morale gets pretty low. But these people started to compare the size of the rocks, "Who's got the biggest rock!!" And when they reached to Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul), they found three rocks on his blessed stomach, because he is

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that hungry. Yet they were still working, and not only that, it is heard then in the Muslim ranks, they were reciting,

اللَّهُمَّ لَوْلَا أَنْتَ مَا اهْتَدَيْنَا
وَلَا تَصَدَّقْنَا وَلَا صَلَّيْنَا
فَأَنْزِلْ سَكِينَةً عَلَيْنَا
وَتَبِّتِ الْأَقْدَامَ إِنْ لَاقَيْنَا
إِنَّ الْأُلَى قَدْ بَغَوْا عَلَيْنَا

*O Allah! if it wasn't for you, we wouldn't have
been guided.*

*We wouldn't know salah and we wouldn't know
zakah.*

So, bestow tranquility upon us.

And make our feet firm, when we meet our enemy.

Indeed, they have transgressed against us.

So, their morale is pretty high. What's their secret? because it's not food, not the equipment, not their situation, nor is it their men. At that stage, they were only 1400 fighting men, and 10,000 plus coming against them. They are on the verge of annihilation, but their belief, confidence, and fearlessness are on such a level that it makes them free from the shackles that everyone else is shackled by.

c. Their Imaan gave them a higher authority to listen to and obey

Generally, when anyone is judged by a man-made law, there is a feeling of dissatisfaction in the heart. Also, the appropriate submission is not found in it. For example, let's look at divorce, when a divorce takes place by a man-made law, the man on one side says —The law is like that, it supports women. On the other side, women think —Men always wrong women. Neither side is happy with the law. Because they don't have a higher power to whom they have internally submitted.

So, when a situation like this comes, man doesn't know, what to do, or how to judge. Allaah sent them guidance. Then to the law that Allaah rabbul 'izzah sent down, there was full submission from their hearts. So, not only did they follow the law, they self-regulated with the law. For example- In our times, if anyone has a speeding issue, and when over-speeds on a road, will that individual go to the police station and submit his guilt by himself? But when they've reached the law of Allaah, they would go to the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) —O Prophet (peace and blessings be upon his soul) of Allaah! I've committed this sin, how do

I make amends?⁶ And sometimes the consequence would have been capital punishment. A law that they not only followed, but they loved to follow. So they became a soci-

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عن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه قال: أتى رجل من المسلمين رسولَ صلى الله عليه وسلم وهو في المسجد فنَادَاهُ: يا رسول الله، إِنِّي زَنَيْتُ، فَأَعْرَضَ عَنْهُ، فَتَنَحَّى تَلَفَّاءَ وَجْهِهِ فَقَالَ: يا رسول الله، إِنِّي زَنَيْتُ، فَأَعْرَضَ عَنْهُ، حَتَّى ثَنَى ذَلِكَ عَلَيْهِ أَرْبَعَ مَرَّاتٍ. فَلَمَّا شَهِدَ عَلَى نَفْسِهِ أَرْبَعَ شَهَادَاتٍ: دَعَاهُ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، فَقَالَ: أَبُكَ جُنُونٌ؟ قَالَ: لَا، قَالَ: فَهَلْ أُخْصِنْتَ؟ قَالَ: نَعَمْ، فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ: اذْهَبُوا بِهِ فَارْجُمُوهُ. قَالَ ابْنُ شِهَابٍ: فَأَخْبَرَنِي أَبُو سَلَمَةَ بْنُ عَبْدِ الرَّحْمَنِ. سَمِعَ جَابِرَ بْنَ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ يَقُولُ: كُنْتُ فِيمَنْ رَجَمَهُ، فَرَجَمْنَاهُ بِالْمُصَلَّى، فَلَمَّا أَذْلَقْنَاهُ الْحِجَارَةَ هَرَبَ، فَأَذْرَكْنَاهُ بِالْحَرَّةِ، فَرَجَمْنَاهُ. [صحيح] - [متفق عليه]

Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: A Muslim man went to the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) while he was in the mosque and called him, saying: "O Messenger of Allah, I have committed adultery." The Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) turned his face away from him. So, the man came round (from the other side) towards his face and said: "O Messenger of Allah, I have committed adultery." The Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) again turned his face away from him, until the man did this four times. When he testified four times that he had done so, the Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) called him, saying: "Do you suffer any form of insanity?" The man replied: 'No.' The Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) then asked him: "Are you married?" The man answered: 'Yes.' The Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said (to his Companions): "Take him away and stone him (to death)." Ibn Shihāb said: "Abu Salamah ibn 'Abdur-Rahmān informed me that he heard Jābir ibn 'Abdullāh say: 'I was one of those who stoned him. We stoned him at the place of prayer. When the stones hurt him, he ran away. We caught him in Al-Harrah and stoned him (to death).'"

ety of rules, whereas everyone else is a society of running away from rules. And that is what creates a successful society.

Allaah rabbul 'izzah changed their minds

Imaan affected how they used to think. Yesterday they were purposeless, Allaah rabbul 'izaah gave them purpose. Read the chapter 3, how Allaah changed the visions of the Bedouins.

You can see that, Allaah rabbul 'izzah didn't change their situations, nor did He change their surroundings. He just changed themselves, their insides. Through that, their productivity reached a level that if we compare it with a normal human being, then they will be called superhumans. With that, they conquered East and West. As a result, against all the odds, within a few decades, Islam reached from Granada of Spain to the New Delhi of India.

Chapter 5

The Ultimate Success

We live in an amazing time. Everyone wants success. So we get life courses, we get career courses, we get peer courses, we go to universities and do MBAs, even when our parents sent us to school, they sent us to succeed. Everyone is chasing success but no one seems to know what does success looks like. To a lot of people, success is money and to others it is fame. So, trying to find this elusive success we go back to what our Creator said, and there is no definition better than the one Allaah rabbul 'izzah gave. Listen to what Allaah says,

فَمَنْ زُحْزِحَ عَنِ النَّارِ وَأُدْخِلَ الْجَنَّةَ فَقَدْ فَازَ

**Whoever traverses over Jahannam and enters Jannah
that person is indeed successful. [3:185]**

So success is to live a life that will lead you to Jannah.

The Ultimate Success

Allaah rabbul 'izaah has honored us with a religion, the entire focus of which is success. You can't deny that. Five times a day you hear the screamer calls at the top of his lungs,

حَيِّ عَلَى الْفَلَاحِ

Come towards success.

There's no other system on the face of this earth, where a man calls five times a day —come to success. And if you study in-depth every aspect of the *deen*, it is designed to make you successful not only in the hereafter but in this life as well.

The psychologists say that— the most productive emotion is the emotion of gratitude. In your heart, if you feel grateful, you will be very productive. You will be at the top of your game, you'll be at your best.

The successful people, as in people who are the heads of industries, CEOs, enterpreneours —successful by the definitions of men, they are people who remembers the favours in their life as soon as they wake up early in the morning keeping their eyes closed for a couple of minutes. They have discovered this now in the 2000s, to be grateful.

Let's look at our *deen*, the *deen* of Muhammad the best of blessings be upon his soul. We know that the

Messenger of Allah and His companions had a very tough life most of the time with a very limited provisions. Yet when they used to wake up they used to say,

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَحْيَانَا بَعْدَ مَا أَمَاتَنَا، وَإِلَيْهِ النُّشُورُ

“All praise is for Allaah who gave us life after having taken it from us and unto Him is the resurrection”

[Al-Bukhari]

And if we focus the daily routine of our Beloved, we would notice that every single act somehow or the other He thanked *Rabbul 'izzati wal jalaal*. His whole life was full of gratitude.

If we research those man defined successful men's life we would also find certain traits. They are all early raisers, almost between 4:00-6:00 AM. Although work starts at 9:00 AM usually. They wake up and meditate, or they read motivational texts, to inspire them for the rest of the day.

What did the *deen* of Allaah prescribed to do in the early morning? We stand in *salah*, and we know that *Fazr* is of long recitations, of the most motivational text man is ever to know, the divine word of Almighty Himself. Then we supposed to sit and do our morning *adhkar*. It takes normally 20 to 30 minutes to complete the whole morning *adhkar*. I can swear by Allaah —if

anyone starts his day as your Rabb wants to start, by the time he goes to his work his heart would be dancing. Why? Because the *deen* was made to give you the best of this life and the next.

The Story of 'Aamir Ibnu Fuhairah

I want to conclude this chapter by the following story of a man who lived his life in the obedience of Allaah and the obedience of the Rasul peace be upon him. His name is 'Aamir Ibnu Fuhairah may Allaah be pleased with him. He was the freed slave of Abi Bakr as-Siddique may Allaah be pleased with him. Though he was freed, but as he was loyal, he stayed with Abi Bakr may Allaah be pleased with him and served the *deen*.

At the time of *hijrah* of the Prophet peace and blessings be upon him, 'Aamir Ibn Fuhairah stood firm. He was one of the very few who knew that the Prophet is migrating. He was the one who went and got the camels, he was the one that took food to the mountain when the Prophet peace be upon him and Abi Bakr was in *Ghar-e-thaur*, he was the one that brought 'Abdullah Ibn 'Uraiqit to them. In short, he was the person standing in this difficulty with them. Allaah blessed them to migrate with the Messenger of Allaah.

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Years passed, 'Aamir is in *Madina*, safety and security has been established in *Madina*. Through his closeness to the Messenger of Allaah, closeness to the companions and his obedience to Allaah and His Prophet, he has now become one of the most learned of Muslims. Then one day a leader of a tribe came from outside of *Madina* to the Prophet of Allaah and asked, "O Prophet of Allaah! can you send us some teachers to teach my people the *deen* of Allaah?" So the Prophet of Allaah sent teachers (*ashaab*) to go and teach the new Muslims. Amidst the group is 'Amr Ibn Fuhairah may Allaah be pleased with him. As they were travelling, on the way they camped at night/afternoon. As they camped, they get ambushed. The enemy killed all of them at the camp mercilessly. Two or three of the companions went out of the camp to graze the animal. When they returned, they saw massacre. They reacted, screamed run to their brother's deadbodies but the enemy caught them and tied them up. One of them screamed, "Let me go and I'll show you what I'll do". They said, "What will you do?" He said, "I'll fight again". They released him, he fights again, they tied him up again. They've already killed everyone else. But now no one wants to kill these two. They are just tying them up. It's a strange situation. Then the enemy showed them all the deadbodies and

then asked them, "Is there anyone missing?" They said, "Yes, there's one person missing". They asked, "Who is he?" They replied, "'Amr Ibnu Fuhairah". They asked, "Who was he amidst you?" They replied, "The best of us [Early Muslim, migrant, helper of the Prophet peace be upon him]". Then the enemy took them to a man who was dazed, just looking out blank. His name was Jabbaar. They said, "This is Jabbar. Jabbar! Tell them what happened". Jabbar said, "I came from behind him ('Amr Ibn Fuhairah), I got my spear. Then I dug it in his back and the blade came out from his chest". The normal reaction that Jabbaar anticipated that, scream, agony. But when 'Amr Ibnu Fuhairah looked that blade has come out from his chest, he smiled and said,

فرتو ورب الكعبة

I succeeded by the Lord of the Ka'aba

Jabbaar said, "I pulled the blade out, and thought that maybe I've missed him. Then when I wanted to stab him again he started to went up until he disappeared in the clouds". Listening to Jabbaar the companions said, "The angels took him up".

'Amir Ibnu Fuhairah may Allaah be pleased with him lived a life in the obedience of Allaah and the obedience of the Rasul, then when death came and however it came,

he was successful. Allaah *Rabbul 'izaah* says,

وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا

**And whoever obeys Allāh and His Messenger has
certainly attained a great attainment. [33:71]**

He also says,

مَنْ يُصْرِفْ عَنْهُ يَوْمَئِذٍ فَقَدْ رَحِمَهُ وَذَلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْمُبِينُ

**He from whom it is averted that Day - [Allāh] has
granted him mercy. And that is the clear attainment.**

[6:16]

The Ultimate Success

Chapter 6

The *Sahāba* (companions) Knew

We previously discussed that success is to live a life that will lead us to *Jannah*. No one understood this better than the companions of the Prophet peace and blessings be upon him.

When the Prophet peace and blessings of Allāh be upon his soul came to *Madina*, the inhabitants of the blessed city of *Madina* (the *ansār*) opened their hearts, doors, houses and lives for the immigrants that came from *Makkah*. They put an example of sacrifice that is still not found in the history of our 1400 years. Let me give an example of what hospitality that they extended to these immigrants.

The Sahaba (companions) Knew

A companion named Abdurrahman Ibn 'Awuf may Allāh be pleased with him came from *Makkah*, and the disbelievers of *Makkah* took everything from him. They took his wife, children, wealth, mount and he walked through the 450 kilometers of desert in an accute heat alone. When he arrived in *Madina*, the *Rasul* peace be upon his soul had just come out of the masjid and saw the man Abdurrahman Ibn 'Awuf whom he knew from *Makkah* from his own tribe *Quraish*. Normally when anyone travels, he brings luggage, mount and other stuffs, but the Prophet peace be upon his soul saw that Abdurrahman is alone and his lipes were cracked and feets were blistered. So the *Rasul* said, "What did you bring?". He said, "Nothing! O Prophet of Allāh. I lost everything." The Prophet peace be upon his soul said, "No, you gained *Jannah*." Then the Prophet of Allāh peace be upon him called an *ansari* named Sa'ad Ibn 'Ubādah may Allāh be pleased with him and said, "From today you are brother with this *muhajir* (immigrant)". Sa'ad Ibn 'Ubādah may Allāh be pleased with him took him and said, "Come my brother, I've two houses. Look, which one you like, I will vacate it for you. I've two businesses. Look at which one you like, I will hand the keys of that over to you. (and to the extend, *Subhanallah!*) Come, I've two wives, look at which one you like, I'll di-

The Sahaba (companions) Knew

voice her. Wait for her *'iddah* to finish. Then marry her".

They showed an example of hospitality not to be surpassed in history. These were the *ansār*. *Islam* was indebted to them, the *muhajirin* were indebted to them. And not only this, when it came time for campaigns and battles that had to be fought in the defense of the *deen*, it was the *ansār*, it was their men and their arms. And the Prophet peace be upon him watched those *ansār* doing all these. There were battles in the Islamic history in which there was not a single *muhajir* in it, the *ansari* went by himself, finished the job and came back.

The Prophet peace and blessings of Allāh be upon his soul was longing for an opportunity that, somehow he could repay their favour. But the *ansār* never asked. They never said that, O Prophet, give us this and that. Eventually one day these blessed individuals (the *ansār*) faced a problem. There was a well which was at the outside of the city of *Madina* for the irrigation and feeding of the livestock. And they had to go out and get the water for their use, and it was tedious for them. A young man had a dazzling idea. He tells the others that, "Listen, there's an easy solution to this. We go the Rasul peace and blessings be upon his soul and say, O Messenger of Allāh, make dua that Allāh *rabbul 'izzah* open for

The Sahaba (companions) Knew

us water in the middle of the city like He did for *Zamzam* in the middle of *Makkah*". So they said, brilliant idea! All the problems will be solved and there will be ease. Now they entered the masjid in their group and on their face you could see that a twinkle of request is going to come. So the Rasul peace be upon him knew from their face and said, "Glad tidings to *ansār*! Today whatever they ask me I will give". They heard the Prophet peace be upon him saying this as they were walking to him. And all of a sudden the well became too small. Like everything else wasn't guaranteed, khalas we would ask for the well, but now anything in the heavens and earth is guaranteed. By the Lord of the *Ka'aba*! If the Rasul were to ask for *Uhud* to turn to gold, Allāh would have made *Uhud* into gold. So they realized that it's a blank check, anything we ask it will be given. So the young man said, "O Prophet of Allāh! give us a moment, so that we can discuss". They discussed with one another. They all said to themselves, "Listen, forget about the well. Let's ask the Prophet to ask Allah to forgive us". So they came to Prophet of Allāh and said, "O Messenger of Allāh! Ask Allāh to forgive us". So the Rasul peace and blessings be upon him raised his hand and asked,

O Allāh! Forgive the ansār.

And the children of the ansār.

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And the children of the children of ansār

They shouted out, "And our servants O Prophet of Allah!
And our servants O Prophet of Allah!" So the Rasul of
Allah added,

And their servants.

Do you see! that they understood, the greatest suc-
cess is the success of the hereafter. As Allah stated in
His book,

قَالَ اللَّهُ هَذَا يَوْمُ يَنْفَعُ الصَّادِقِينَ صِدْقُهُمْ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتٌ تَجْرَى مِنْ
تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا أَبَدًا رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوا عَنْهُ ذَلِكَ
الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ

**Allāh will say, "This is the Day when the truthful will
benefit from their truthfulness." For them are gardens [in
Paradise] beneath which rivers flow, wherein they will
abide forever, Allāh being pleased with them, and they
with Him. That is the great success. [5:119]**

They could have asked for anything. Look at another
companion, so that you don't think it's an abstract inci-
dent.

There was a companion, he used to watch that, peo-
ple were always around the Rasul peace be upon him
during the day at His service. At night, it wasn't like

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our time, it used be dark all around and no one used to come out of home most often. When at night everyone went home, this companion of the Prophet peace be upon him thought that, now who would serve the Messenger of Allāh if He asks for something, or if he need anything. Without making a fuss, he came and sat by the door of the Prophet, all night. And he did this one day, two days. Then eventually the Prophet peace be upon him came out of home at one night and He saw him sitting. So He asked him, "What are you doing here at this hour?". The man explained, "O Messenger of Allāh! during the day you have everyone at your service. At night there's no one, I thought if the Prophet needs something, there should be someone. So I came and sit here." He was unspoken quiteily sitting, he didn't came and knocked on the door, "O Prophet of Allah, I'm sitting here, ask me if you need anything." No, he didn't do that. So it touched the heart of the Prophet peace be upon his soul. He said,

سل، طعنا

Ask, It will be granted.

The man asked some time to the Prophet of Allāh to think about this. Then after a while he asked, "O Messenger of Allāh! I want your companionship in *Jannah*." The Prophet peace be upon him asked, "Who told

(taught) you this?" He said, "Allāh put it in my heart". Then the *Rasul* said, "Increase in your prostration so that it makes the process of my du'a easy". As if the Prophet peace be upon him is asking him to increase his obedience of Allāh, as Allāh said,

وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا

**And whoever obeys Allāh and His Messenger has
certainly attained a great attainment. [33:71]**

The Sahaba (companions) Knew

Chapter 7

The divine help of Allāh

There are many reasons for which the divine help of Allāh comes down to His servants. But here I'll mention the most important five reasons (according to my understanding) for getting Allāh's divine help at the time of calamity. They are all from the *Kitāb* and the *Sunnah*.

The First Requirement: True Belief

Allāh *rabbul 'izzah* says,

وَكَانَ حَقًّا عَلَيْنَا نَصْرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

**And (it is a duty) incumbent upon Us was to support
(help) the believers. [30:47]**

Hence the first requirement to attain the help of Allāh *rabbul 'izzah* is to be (true) believers. Then what is

believe (*īmān*)? The Hadīth of *Jibril* peace be upon him we know the definition or the articles of belief (*īmān*),

عَنْ عُمَرَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ أَيْضًا قَالَ:

بَيْنَمَا نَحْنُ جُلُوسٌ عِنْدَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ ذَاتَ يَوْمٍ، إِذْ طَلَعَ عَلَيْنَا رَجُلٌ شَدِيدُ بَيَاضِ الثِّيَابِ، شَدِيدُ سَوَادِ الشَّعْرِ، لَا يُرَى عَلَيْهِ أَثَرُ السَّفَرِ، وَلَا يَعْرِفُهُ مِنَّا أَحَدٌ. حَتَّى جَلَسَ إِلَى النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ. فَأَسْنَدَ رُكْبَتَيْهِ إِلَى رُكْبَتَيْهِ، وَوَضَعَ كَفَيْهِ عَلَى فَخْذَيْهِ،

وَقَالَ: يَا مُحَمَّدُ أَخْبِرْنِي عَنِ الْإِسْلَامِ.

...

وَقَالَ: يَا مُحَمَّدُ أَخْبِرْنِي عَنِ الْإِسْلَامِ.

قَالَ: أَنْ تُؤْمِنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ، وَتُؤْمِنَ بِالْقَدَرِ حَيْرِهِ وَشَرِّهِ.

...

[رَوَاهُ مُسْلِمٌ]

It was narrated on the authority of Umar (may Allah be pleased with him), who said: **While we were one day sitting with the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him), there appeared before us a man dressed in extremely white clothes and with very black hair. No traces of journeying were visible on him, and none of us knew him. He sat down close by the Prophet (peace be upon him), rested his knee against his thighs, and said, "O Muhammad! Inform me**

about Islām."

. . .

but he went on to say, "Inform me about Imān."

He (the Messenger of Allah) answered, "It is that you believe in Allah and His angels and His Books and His Messengers and in the Last Day, and in Qadar (fate), both in its good and in its evil aspects."

. . .

[Muslim]

Sheikhul Islām Muhammad Bin Saleh Al Uthaimin (may Allāh have mercy on him) has compiled the belief of the *Ahlus-sunnah wal jama'ah* ¹. He says—

Belief in Allāh

Tawhīd is of three — *Ar-rububiyyah*, *Al-uluhiyyah* and *Al-asma' was-sifāt*. If any of these three is neglected his belief is invalid.

Tawhīd Ar-rububiyyah

We believe in the *rububiyyah* of Allāh. It means He

¹Here I have mentioned the summary of the compilation of Sheikhul Islām Muhammad Bin Saleh Al Uthaimin from the book named,

عقيدة أهل السنة والجماعة

'The belief of *Ahlus-sunnah wal jama'ah*'.

is the *Rabb* (Owner), Creator, Provider, Protector, Sustainer, He who has control over all things. The idolators of *Makkah* believed in the *rububiyyah* of Allāh. Allāh tells about them,

قُلْ لِّمَنِ الْأَرْضُ وَمَنْ فِيهَا إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

Say, (O Muhammad), "To whom belongs the earth and whoever is in it, if you should know?" [23:84]

سَيَقُولُونَ لِلَّهِ قُلْ أَفَلَا تَذَكَّرُونَ

They will say, "To Allāh." Say, "Then will you not remember?" [23:85]

قُلْ مَنْ رَبُّ السَّمَوَاتِ السَّبْعِ وَرَبُّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ

Say, "Who is Lord of the seven heavens and Lord of the Great Throne?" [23:86]

سَيَقُولُونَ لِلَّهِ قُلْ أَفَلَا تَتَّقُونَ

They will say, "[They belong] to Allāh." Say, "Then will you not fear Him?" [23:87]

قُلْ مَنْ بِيَدِهِ مَلَكُوتُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُوَ يُحْيِي وَلَا يُجَارِ عَلَيْهِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

Say, "In whose hand is the realm of all things - and He protects while none can protect against Him - if you should know?" [23:88]

سَيَقُولُونَ لِلَّهِ قُلْ فَأَنَّى تُشْحَرُونَ

They will say, "[All belongs] to Allāh." Say, "Then how are you deluded?" [23:89]

The divine help of Allah

They believed in all these about Allāh, yet they are the people of hell/disbelieve.

Tawhid Al-uluhiyyah

We believe in the *uluhiyyah* of Allāh. It means He is the only true deity, who has the right over all types of worship. All other deities are false except Him.

Tawhid Asma' Was-sifāt

We believe in all the names and attributes of Allāh that are mentioned in the Qurān and *Sunnah*.

Oneness of Allāh

We believe in the oneness of Allāh. It means Allāh has no partners in His *rububiyyah*, *uluhiyyah* and *asma' was-sifāt*. Allāh says in the Qurān,

رَّبُّ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالأَرْضِ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا فَبُذْهُ وَطِرٌ لِعِبَادَتِهِ هَلْ تَعْلَمُ لَهُ
سَمِيًّا

Lord of the heavens and the earth and whatever is between them - so worship Him and have patience for His worship. Do you know of any similarity to Him?

[19:65]

The Knowledge, Kingdom and Power of Allāh

We believe that—

اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْحَيُّ الْقَيُّومُ لَا تَأْخُذُهُ سِنَّةٌ وَلَا نَوْمٌ لَهُ مَا فِي
السَّمَوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَشْفَعُ عِنْدَهُ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِهِ يَعْلَمُ
مَا بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَمَا خَلْفَهُمْ وَلَا يُحِيطُونَ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنْ عِلْمِهِ إِلَّا بِمَا
شَاءَ وَسِعَ كُرْسِيُّهُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَلَا يَئُودُهُ حِفْظُهُمَا وَهُوَ الْعَلِيُّ
الْعَظِيمُ

Allāh - there is no deity except Him, the Ever-Living, the Self-Sustaining. Neither drowsiness overtakes Him nor sleep. To Him belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on the earth. Who is it that can intercede with Him except by His permission? He knows what is [presently] before them and what will be after them, and they encompass not a thing of His knowledge except for what He wills. His Kursī extends over the heavens and the earth, and their preservation tires Him not. And He is the Most High, the Most Great. [2:255]

We believe that—

هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ عِلْمُ الْغَيْبِ وَشَهَادَةُ هُوَ الرَّحْمَنُ الرَّحِيمُ
هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْمَلِكُ الْقُدُّوسُ السَّلَامُ الْمُؤْمِنُ الْمُهَيْمِنُ
الْعَزِيزُ الْجَبَّارُ الْمُتَكَبِّرُ سُبْحَنَ اللَّهِ عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ
هُوَ اللَّهُ الْخَلْقُ الْبَارِئُ الْمُصَوِّرُ لَهُ الْأَسْمَاءُ الْحُسْنَى يُسَبِّحُ لَهُ مَا فِي

السَّمَوَاتِ وَأَرْضِ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ

He is Allāh, other than whom there is no deity, Knower of the unseen and the witnessed. He is the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful. He is Allāh, other than whom there is no deity, the Sovereign, the Pure, the Perfection, the Grantor of Security, the Overseer, the Exalted in Might, the Compeller, the Superior. Exalted is Allāh above whatever they associate with Him. He is Allāh, the Creator, the Producer, the Fashioner; to Him belong the best names. Whatever is in the heavens and earth is exalting Him. And He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise. [59:22-24]

We believe that—

لِلَّهِ مُلْكُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَأَرْضِ يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ يَهَبُ لِمَن يَشَاءُ إِنثًا وَيَهَبُ
لِمَن يَشَاءُ الذَّكَوْرَ
أَوْ يُزَوِّجُهُمْ ذُكْرَانًا وَإِنثًا وَيَجْعَلُ مَن يَشَاءُ عَقِيمًا إِنَّهُ عَلِيمٌ قَدِيرٌ

To Allāh belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth; He creates what He wills. He gives to whom He wills female [children], and He gives to whom He wills males. Or He makes them [both] males and females, and He renders whom He wills barren. Indeed, He is Knowing and Competent. [42:49-50]

We believe that—

لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

**There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the Hearing,
the Seeing. [42:11]**

Allāh is the Knower of the unseen

We believe that—

إِنَّ اللَّهَ عِنْدَهُ عِلْمُ السَّاعَةِ وَيُنَزِّلُ الْغَيْثَ وَيَعْلَمُ مَا فِي الْأَرْحَامِ وَمَا
تَدْرِي نَفْسٌ مَّاذَا تَكْسِبُ غَدًا وَمَا تَدْرِي نَفْسٌ بِأَيِّ أَرْضٍ تَمُوتُ
إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ

**Indeed, Allāh [alone] has knowledge of the Hour and
sends down the rain and knows what is in the wombs.
And no soul perceives what it will earn tomorrow, and
no soul perceives in what land it will die. Indeed, Allāh
is Knowing and Aware. [31:34]**

Allāh Speaks

We believe that— Allāh speaks what He wants, when He
wants and how He wants.

وَكَلَّمَ اللَّهُ مُوسَى تَكْلِيمًا

And Allāh spoke to Moses with [direct] speech. [4:164]

وَلَوْ أَنَّمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ مِنْ شَجَرَةٍ أَقْلَمٌ وَبَحْرُ يَمُدُّهُ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ سَبْعَةُ
أُبْحُرٍ مَا نَفَذْتَ كَلِمَتَ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ

And if whatever trees upon the earth were pens and the sea [was ink], replenished thereafter by seven [more] seas, the words of Allāh would not be exhausted. Indeed, Allāh is Exalted in Might and Wise. [31:27]

We believe that— the words of Allāh are complete and true from the view of information, just from the view of rules & regulations and completely beautiful from the view of eloquence. Allāh says,

وَتَمَّتْ كَلِمَتُ رَبِّكَ صِدْقًا وَعَدْلًا

**And the word of your Lord has been fulfilled in truth
and in justice. [6:115]**

Qur'ān is the Word of Allāh

We believe that— Qur'ān is the Word of Allāh. It is not created. Nobody should become weak to say that, it is not created. Indeed the word of Allāh is not apart from Him, and none of His part is created.² Allāh says,

وَإِنَّهُ لَتَنْزِيلُ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ
نَزَلَ بِهِ الرُّوحُ الْأَمِينُ
عَلَى قَلْبِكَ لِتَكُونَ مِنَ الْمُنذِرِينَ
بِلِسَانٍ عَرَبِيٍّ مُبِينٍ

²Imām of ahlu sunnah, Abu Abdullah Ahmed Ibn Muhammad Ibn Hamble (may Allāh have mercy upon him) said in his 'Usūl-us-Sunnah'—

And indeed, it [i.e., the Qur'ān] is the revelation of the Lord of the worlds. The Trustworthy Spirit [i.e., Gabriel] has brought it down. Upon your heart, [O Muhammad] - that you may be of the warners. In a clear Arabic language. [26:192-195]

Allāh is Over Everything

We believe that— Allāh is above all the creation by His own self and attributes. Like Allāh says,

وَهُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ

And He is the Most High, the Most Great. [2:255]

Allāh Rose over His Throne

We believe that—

إِنَّ رَبَّكُمُ اللَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ فِي سِتَّةِ أَيَّامٍ ثُمَّ اسْتَوَى عَلَى الْعَرْشِ

Indeed, your Lord is Allāh, who created the heavens and the earth in six days [Every day is like a thousand years of what we reckon.] and then rose over (Istawa) the Throne. [The Throne is the greatest of the creatures and is like a ceiling for them.] [10:3]

We believe it without questioning how and why.

Allāh is with His Creation

We believe that Allāh is with His Creation. But it doesn't mean He is with them by Himself, indeed He is on His throne. From His throne, He knows all about His creation. He listens and watches everything. Gives kingdom to whom he wants and takes away kingdom from whom He wants. He is able and capable over all things from His throne. We don't say like the '*Hululiyyah (Jahmiyyah)*' that, Allāh is with his creation on the same earth/place.

لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

**There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the Hearing,
the Seeing. [42:11]**

Allāh Descends down to Our Sky

The Messenger of Allāh informed that— In the last third of every night, Allāh descends to our sky and says,

من يدعوني فأستجيب له من يسألني فأعطيه من يستغفرني
فأغفر له

**Who will call me? I will answer his call. Who will ask
me? I will give. Who will ask forgiveness to me? I will
forgive.³**

³Muatta' 1/214, Bukhāri 9/25,26, Muslim 1/521

Allāh Does What He Wills

We believe that—

فَعَالٌ لِّمَا يُرِيدُ

[Allāh surely] Effector of what He intends. [85:16]

Allāh's Will is of Two Types

We believe that— Allāh's will is of two types: 1. *Kauniyyah* 2. *Shar'iiyyah*

1. *Kauniyyah*: By this type of will of Allāh, the task is completed. But is not necessary that Allāh would like that. Like Allāh says,

وَلَوْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ مَا أَقْتَلْتُمَا وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ يَفْعَلُ مَا يُرِيدُ

And if Allāh had willed, they would not have fought each other, but Allāh does what He intends.

[2:253]

2. *Shar'iiyyah*: By this type of will, the task doesn't need to be fulfilled which Allāh wills. But in this case, the matter has to be liked by Allāh.

وَلَهُ يُرِيدُ أَنْ يَتُوبَ عَلَيْكُمْ

Allāh wants to accept your repentance. [4:27]

The divine help of Allāh

We believe that— both wills of Allāh are within His 'Hikmah (wisdom). In this matter, we may or may not understand some of His wisdom. It doesn't matter, whether our intellect realizes it or not. In all conditions, Allāh is the greatest 'Hākīm.

أَلَيْسَ اللَّهُ بِأَحْكَمَ الْحَكَمِينَ

Is not Allāh the most just of judges? [95:8]

Love of Allāh

We believe that— Allāh loves His friends and they too love Allāh.

قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ

Say, [O Mu'hammad], "If you should love Allāh, then follow me, [so] Allāh will love you". [3:31]

We believe that— things that Allāh ordered, He likes them and things that He prohibited, He hates them.

إِنْ تَكْفُرُوا فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ غَنِيٌّ عَنْكُمْ وَلَا يَرْضَىٰ لِعِبَادِهِ الْكُفْرَ وَإِنْ تَشْكُرُوا يَرْضَهُ لَكُمْ

If you disbelieve - indeed, Allāh is Free from need of you. And He does not approve for His servants disbelief. And if you are grateful, He approves [i.e., likes] it for you [39:7]

Allāh's Please

We believe that— those who believe and do righteous deeds, Allāh is pleased with them.

رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوا عَنْهُ ذَلِكَ لِمَنْ خَشِيَ رَبَّهُ

Allāh being pleased with them and they with Him. That is for whoever has feared his Lord. [98:8]

Wrath of Allāh

We believe that— Allāh descends His wrath to those who are worthy of His wrath.

الظَّالِّينَ لِلَّهِ ظَنَّ السَّوْءَ عَلَيْهِمْ دَائِرَةُ السَّوْءِ وَغَضِبَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ

Those who assume about Allāh an assumption of evil nature. Upon them is a misfortune of evil nature; and Allāh has become angry with them. [48:6]

Allāh's Face

We believe that— Allāh has face which is '*jalāl* and '*ikrām*'.

وَيَبْقَى وَجْهُ رَبِّكَ ذُو الْجَلَلِ وَإِكْرَامِ

And there will remain the Face of your Lord, Owner of Majesty and Honor. [55:27]

Allāh's Hand