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KNOWLEDGE AND ITS EXCELLENCE



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KNOWLEDGE AND ITS EXCELLENCE

by

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Allah created the creation to worship Him alone, without any partners. He sent the Messengers for this great matter, to call the people to the worship of Allah, and to teach them the Shar'eeah of Allah. He revealed Books of which the greatest and most noble is the Qur'an, for the purpose of teaching, explaining and understanding the religion, so that the creation learns their religion, and recognises what Allah has obligated upon them, and refrains from that which Allah has made unlawful for them.

Allah says in the Qur'an,

***"And I have not created the Jinn and mankind except
for my worship"***

Surah Zaariyat 51:56

He says,

***"O people worship your Lord who has created you and
those before you so that you may become pious."***

Surah al-Baqarah 2:21

He says,

***"And verily we have sent among every ummah (nation)
a messenger proclaiming, "Worship Allah, and avoid
Taghut" (false dieties)***

Surah An-Nahl 16:36

He says,

***"And we did not send a messenger before you except we
revealed to him, that there is no God except Me, so
worship Me."***

Surah Anbiyaa 21:25

He says,

***"A book whereof the verses are explained in detail-a
Qur'an in arabic for people who know."***

Surah Fussilat 41:3

He says,

"A Book which we have sent down to you full of blessings, that they may ponder over its verses, and that men of understanding may remember."

Surah Saad 38:29

He says,

"A Book which we have revealed to you, so that you may take the people out of the darkness and bring them into the light by their Lords permission to the path of the Almighty, the Owner of all Praise."

Surah Ibraheem 14:1

He says,

"Follow what has been sent down to you from your Lord, and follow not any protectors or helpers beside Him (Allah). Little do you remember."

Surah Al-A'raf 7:3

Allah sent the Messengers and revealed Books for this great matter, to worship Him alone, without any partners. To fulfil His rights and to stay away from His prohibitions. Upon all of the creation is the obligation to learn and understand their religion. It is upon everyone, both men and women to understand their religion. Upon them is to learn that which will enable them to remove their ignorance of matters, this is obligatory upon everyone, because you are created to worship Allah.

There is no way to recognise this worship except by learning and understanding the religion. It is obligatory upon everyone to learn the religion and not be ignorant of how to pray, fast, give zakat, perform the Hajj, how to command with the good, refrain from the evil, how to teach their children, how to help their family and how to stay away from that which is unlawful.

The Prophet said, "Whenever Allah desires good for a person He gives him the understanding of the deen." (al-Bukharee)

The meaning of this hadeeth is that whoever doesn't make an effort to learn and understand his religion, then Allah has not desired good for such a person, and there is no power or movement except by Allah's will. Whoever is happy with remaining in ignorance, by turning away and not making an effort to understand the religion, Allah has not wished good for such a person. These are signs of being destroyed. It is obligatory to learn, understand and have clarity in the religion.

The Prophet said, *"Whoever treads a path seeking knowledge, Allah will make easy for him a path to paradise."*

Nobody who attends a gathering in the houses of Allah, whereby the Qur'an is recited and studied between them, except that tranquility and mercy will descend upon them. It is obligatory upon everyone to learn, understand and be upon clarity in the religion, this is achieved by contemplating the Qur'an and Sunnah, by being present at the circles of knowledge, asking the people of knowledge, listening to lessons and beneficial tapes, by every possible way. My advice to everyone is to benefit from the Qur'an, so that you know that which Allah has obligated upon you and to stay away from His prohibitions. This obligation is a great one. You are created and commanded to worship Allah, it is obligatory upon you, and there is no path to recognise this worship except with knowledge, by learning and understanding the religion, until you know your obligations, to act according to them, and to know that which Allah has made unlawful for you, so that you avoid it.

The greatest obligation, and most important, is to actualise the Oneness of Allah by worshipping Him alone and being sincere towards Him. The meaning of La ilaha illallah is that there is no god worthy of worship except Allah. Upon you is to recognise this meaning, believe in it and know with certainty, that worship is for Allah alone, as Allah says,

"That is because Allah is the truth, and what they invoke besides Him is baatil (falsehood). And verily Allah, He is the Most High, the Most Great."

Surah al-Hajj 22:62

"And your Lord is One so submit to Him."

Surah al-Hajj 22:34

"And your Lord is One, there is no God but Him, He is the Most Merciful, the Most Kind."

Surah al-Baqarah 2:163

"Know that none has the right to be worshipped except Allah and seek forgiveness for your sins, and for the believing men and believing women."

Surah Muhammed 47:19

"Allah bears witness that none has the right to be worshipped but Him, and the angels and those having knowledge (bear witness), He maintains His creation with Justice. There is no God but He, the All-Mighty, the All Wise".

Surah al-Imran 3:18

Upon you is to know the meaning of the kalimah (declaration of faith) La ilaha illallah, which is, there is no god worthy of worship except Allah. Whoever worships other than Allah, from idols, stones, trees, prophets, angels or jinn or other than them, then all of it is false, everything worshipped other than Allah is false, as Allah says,

"That is because Allah is the truth, and what they invoke besides Him is baatil (falsehood). And verily Allah, He is the Most High, the Most Great."

Surah al-Hajj 22:62

The mushrikoon (idol worshippers) worshipped along with Allah, pictures and idols, from stones, trees and stars, they worshipped the dead from amongst the pious and other than them. Allah sent messengers to oppose these acts of Shirk (worshiping others with Allah). He sent all the messengers with the purpose of warning against Shirk.

He says,

"And verily we have sent among every ummah (nation) a messenger proclaiming, "Worship Allah, and avoid Taghut" (false dieties)

Surah An-Nahl 16:36

The seal of the Prophets and the most noble, was the Prophet Muhammed, whom He sent to call people to the

Tawheed of Allah, and warn from Shirk, to command them with obedience to Allah, prevent them from sins, and he narrated to them the great narrations about the Prophets. Allah revealed to him the Qur'an in which are narrations about the Prophets and their nations. Allah helped his followers upon His obedience and destroyed those who opposed His commands.

The Prophet said, *"The example of guidance and knowledge with which Allah has sent me is like abundant rain falling on the earth, some of which was fertile soil that absorbed rain-water and brought forth vegetation and grass in abundance. (And) another portion of it was hard and held the rain water and Allah benefited the people with it and they utilised it for drinking, (making their animals drink from it), and to irrigate the land for cultivation. (And) a portion of it was barren which could neither hold the water nor bring forth the vegetation (then that land gave no benefits)). The first is the example of the person who comprehends Allahs religion and gets benefit which Allah has revealed through me and learns and then teaches it to others. The last is the example of a person who does not care for it and does not take Allahs guidance revealed through me (He is like that barren land). (al-Bukharee)*

The ones who understand, teach and learn the religion are like the fertile earth, which the rain water reaches and brings forth vegetation and grass. This is the example of those who understand the religion and teach the people, and they are the scholars and callers to guidance. From amongst them are those like the rain which falls on the fertile soil and brings forth vegetation, because they learn and teach the people. And a group of scholars is like the rain which falls on the

hard portion of earth which holds the water, they spread their knowledge by teaching the people and providing them with clarity by explaining to them the meanings of the Quran and Sunnah. The last group mentioned in the hadeeth, which is the majority of people, do not benefit from the what the Messengers came with, neither do they benefit from the words of Allah or His messenger, rather they are ignorant and heedless. They have neither knowledge nor guidance. Allah says about them in the Quran,

"And most of mankind will not believe even if you desire it eagerly."

Surah Yusuf 12:103

He says, "And indeed Iblis (Satan) did prove true his thought about them: and they followed him all except for a group of true believers."

Surah Saba 34:21

He says, "If you obey most of those on the earth they will mislead you from Allahs path."

Surah al-An'am 6:116

It is obligatory upon you O Abdullah and Amatullah to understand the religion and to know the worship you have been created for, as Allah says,

***"And I have not created the Jinn and mankind except
for my worship"***

Surah Zaariyat 51:56

This is the reason for your creation, this is righteousness, piety, guidance, Eamaan and islam.

Allah says,

"Indeed the religion with Allah is Islam."

Surah 3:19

***"O you who believe, believe in Allah and His messenger
and the Book which He has sent down to His
messenger."***

Surah an-Nisaa 4:136

The Prophet said, *"Eamaan is that you believe in Allah, His angels, His books, His messengers, the final day, and al-Qadar (divine destiny), its good and its bad."* (al-Bukharee and Muslim)

"Eamaan is made up of 73 parts, its highest part is testifying there is no God worthy of worship except Allah, and its lowest part is to remove anything harmful from the path, and modesty is a part of Eamaan." (al-Bukharee)

This Eamaan is the religion and guidance, it is the worship you have been created for. It is obligatory on creation to pay attention and take heed of the Qur'an and Sunnah, and to understand it until everyone knows the worship they have been created for, until they know what Allah has made obligatory upon them, until they recognise Shirk, which is the greatest of sins, to know its branches, so they can refrain from it.

The Prophet said, *"Whoever guides to good, for him is the reward of the one who performs that good."*

The Prophet said, *"Whoever calls towards guidance, for him is the reward of the one who performs that good, without any loss (in reward), and whoever calls towards misguidance for him is the sin of the one who follows him (in misguidance)."* (al-Muslim).

So you, O slave of Allah guide towards the good, with knowledge and understanding of the religion with your fellow Muslims, by way of books and tapes. Do not fall short but rather strive in this great matter.

Allah says,

"And help one another upon Birr (righteousness) and Taqwaa (piety)."

Surah al-Ma'ida 5:2

He says,

"Except those who believe and do righteous deeds and help one another in truth and patience."

Surah al-Asr 103:3

"The believers, men and women are auwliyaa (friends) to one another, they command with what is good and forbid the evil."

Surah Tawbah 9:71

It is obligatory upon everyone to help each other on birr (righteousness) and taqwaa (fear of Allah), advising one another so that you can understand the religion upon clarity, until they know what Allah has made obligatory upon them, and that which Allah has made unlawful for them, until they worship Allah upon clearness and insight.

Also, the Muslim teaches his family, his children, wife and parents, relatives and those in his house, he should guide them towards good and warn them from evil.

Allah says, "O you who believe save yourselves and your families from a fire whose fuel is men and stones."

Surah Tahrim 66:6

"Command your family with prayer and be patient upon it."

Surah Ta Ha 20:132

"By time Man is in loss, except those who believe and do righteous deeds and help one another on truth and patience."

Surah al-Asr

Call towards good, guide and teach them. It is obligatory upon everyone to help one another in this great matter, upon righteousness and piety. Everyone should give naseeha (sincere advice) to his family, friends, those whom he sits with, by teaching them, calling them to Allah, commanding them with good and prohibiting them from evil.

The Prophet said, *"The deen is naseehah (sincerity), the deen is naseeha, the deen is naseehah, it was said, to whom O messenger of Allah? he responded, to Allah, to His book, to His messenger and the leaders of the Muslims and the general Muslims."* (al-Bukharee)

It is upon you to offer naseehah (sincere advice) wherever you may be. The most important thing is to pay close attention to the great Qur'an, for you to ponder and understand it. In it is guidance and light. It is Allah's speech, revealed, not created. It is obligatory to contemplate and ponder it.

Allah says,

"We have revealed the Book (Qur'an) as an explanation for everything, and a guidance and mercy and glad tidings for those who have submitted themselves to Allah."

Surah an-Nahl 16:89

"Do they not contemplate the Qur'an, had it been from anyone other than Allah, they would have found in it many contradictions."

Surah an-Nisaa 4:82

It is obligatory to contemplate the Qur'an so that you know what Allah has obligated upon you and that which He has made unlawful, and for you to know the narrations of the Prophets and Messengers. So that you know the one who disobeys Allah's commands and exceeds His boundaries is upon great danger, and so that you recognise the nations that Allah punished in this world and that are in the fire. From amongst them, the people of Nuh, Hud, Salih, Shuayb, Loot and Musa. The people of Hud were destroyed by a fierce wind, the people of Nuh were drowned, Thamud were destroyed by the Shout, the people of Loot were pelted with stones of baked clay and swallowed up by the earth. You have to be weary and in fear of the punishment of Allah, to know about your obligations and to stay away from your prohibitions. And to ponder the Qur'an,

As Allah says

"This Qur'an guides to the right."

Surah Israa 17:9

In the Qur'an is guidance and light, read it by looking at the book itself or by memory, ponder it until you know the legislations of Allah and what Allah intends by it. It is by pondering, understanding and contemplating the ayat and hadeeth that the believer benefits by it, and becomes upon clarity and insight in his religion. He should ask the people of knowledge about matters which he is unsure about,

As Allah says,

"Ask the people of knowledge if you do not know."

Surah an-Nahl 16:43

This is the way to saviour. It is upon the scholars to explain and teach the people the religion, this is obligatory upon them. The concealment of knowledge is a grave matter.

Allah says about such people,

"Those who conceal what Allah has revealed in the Book, and purchase a small gain therewith, they eat into their bellies nothing but fire."

Surah al-Baqarah 2:174

It is the duty of the scholars to explain matters to the people and upon the general people to ask about matters unsure to them.

We ask Allah to grant us and you beneficial knowledge and righteous actions, and give us understanding of the deen, and save us from the evil within ourselves and the evil of our actions. He glory be to Him, is the most Bountiful. May His peace and blessings be upon His slave and Prophet, our prophet Muhammed, upon his family, companions and those who follow them in goodness.