

# Lajna Ima'illah UK Ta'lim Lesson Plan

Month: MAY 2021 (Term 3: JUNE 2021 to SEPTEMBER 2021)

## Learning Objectives:

- To understand the Hadith number 39 “Seeking Knowledge is a Duty of Every Muslim Man and Muslim Woman.”
- To understand the portions of Malfoozat.

## ACTIVITY HADITH NUMBER 39: Seeking Knowledge is a Duty of Every Muslim Man and Muslim Woman-

RESOURCE: Lajna Ima'illah UK Ta'lim Syllabus - February 2020 to January 2022,  
Page number 222-224

Narrated by Ḥaḍrat Anas bin Mālik<sup>ra</sup>: Said the Prophet of Allāh<sup>sa</sup>: “It is the duty of every Muslim man and woman to seek knowledge.” (Ibni Mājah)

## Explanatory Note:

... the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> has enjoined on Muslims, both men and women, to acquire knowledge. He was so particular about it according to another Ḥaḍīth, he is reported to have commanded, “Seek knowledge even if you have to go to China for this purpose.” ... The Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> has, by singling China out, by way of example, in fact, underlined the value of knowledge, to impress on the faithful, the necessity of acquiring learning even in face of extreme hardships and prohibitive distances. ... When a man after having traversed hundreds of miles, came to Damascus from Medina to hear from Ḥaḍrat Abū Dardā<sup>ra</sup> a tradition of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup>, Abū Dardā related to him that particular Ḥaḍīth and also told him that he had heard the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> say that whoso undertook a journey for the purpose of acquiring knowledge, Allāh would open up for him the way to it and at the same time open his way to Paradise.

In another Ḥaḍīth, the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> has observed that a learned man, in comparison with a worshipping man who lacks knowledge, is like unto the full moon in comparison with a star. Again in another Ḥaḍīth, the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> says that a learned man far outweighs a thousand worshippers against the Satan. Another Ḥaḍīth of the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> carries the statement: “The learned who are also pious constitute the greatest good of my people.” In yet another Ḥaḍīth the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> has observed that the learned Ulema are the heirs of the Prophets. As, the Holy Qur’ān says, true learning must be accompanied by righteousness, piety and proper deeds, otherwise it is nothing better than a load on the back of a donkey.

In short, Islām has laid extreme emphasis on pursuit of knowledge and true learning has been accorded the next place to faith. ... Even the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> ... has been taught by Allāh the Excellent the following prayer in the Holy Qur’ān: “Say: Lord grant me increase in knowledge.” [20[Tāhā]:115]

... the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> has not restricted the pursuit of knowledge to men only. He has similarly commanded womenfolk to seek knowledge. ...

## ACTIVITY MALFOOZAT

RESOURCE: Lajna Ima'illah UK Ta'lim Syllabus - February 2020 to January 2022, Page number 226-229

### A Righteous One Beholds the Hereafter in the Present Life

- So, one bounty that the saints are blessed with is that they see the angels of God. The life of the hereafter is based completely on faith. However, a righteous person beholds the hereafter in the present life. It is in this very life that they find and witness God, and He speaks with them.
- There are many other blessings that are also conferred upon a righteous person. For example, at the beginning of the Quran, in Surah Fatihah, Allah Almighty instructs the believers to supplicate:

(Al-Fatihah:6-7)

إِهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ ۝ صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ ۝ غَيْرِ الْمَغْضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ ۝

- Meaning, show us the straight path of those upon whom thou hast bestowed thy favour and bounty. This prayer has been taught so that human beings develop a high resolve and understand the will of their Creator.

### Three Stages of Knowledge

- There are three stages of knowledge: knowledge by inference, certainty by sight and true certainty.
- According to the following verse, a person who is deprived of Allah's grace is entangled in the practice of blindly following others. Allah the Exalted states:

(Al-Ankabut, 29:70)

وَالَّذِينَ جَاهَدُوا فِينَا لَنَهْدِيَنَّهُمْ سُبُلَنَا

- Meaning, a person who strives in our cause shall be shown the ways that lead to Us. Along with this promise, we have also been taught the prayer:

(Al-Fatihah:6) Guide us in the right path.

إِهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ ۝

- Therefore, man ought to keep this in mind and supplicate fervently in their formal Prayer, lest he departs from this world blind and bereft of insight. Allah Almighty states:

(Bani Isra'il:73)

وَمَنْ كَانَ فِي هَذِهِ أَعْمَىٰ فَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ أَكْمَىٰ

- Meaning, whoso is blind in this world shall be blind in the hereafter. This demonstrates that we must take our ability to see from this very world, so that we may be able to witness the hereafter.

### Who is Blind?

- A blind person is one who is bereft of spiritual insight and pleasure.

### A Righteous Person

- After this prayer, Allah the Exalted states the following towards the beginning of Surah Baqarah:  
(Al-Baqarah:3) It is a guidance for the righteous.

هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ۝

- In other words, God Almighty has furnished the means by which He bestows His blessings. That is to say, this Book (i.e. the Holy Quran) promises to elevate a righteous person to the pinnacle of excellence. These words imply that this Book is beneficial to those who abstain from evil and give heed to exhortation. A righteous person (muttaqi) of this degree is one who rids themselves of preconceived bias and is willing to hear the truth.

### A Virtuous Servant

- When this state passes, a seeker of God becomes a virtuous servant. The element of difficulty vanishes, and a salih (i.e. a virtuous person) begins to naturally and inherently perform virtue.
- They enter an abode of security, which is safe from all danger and all their battles against their selfish desires come to an end. Such a person finds refuge from all forms of peril. Our Perfect Guide, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, alludes to this very fact when he states: 'Satan dwells within all, but my Satan has become a Muslim.' Thus, a muttaqi remains forever at war with Satan but when he becomes a salih, all battles come to an end.