

Lajna Ima'illah UK Ta'lim Lesson Plan

Month: JUNE 2022 (Term 3 – June 2022 to September 2022)

Learning Objectives:

- ☞ To understand the Hadith number 40 “Seeking Knowledge is a Duty of Every Muslim Man and Muslim Woman”
- ☞ To understand the portions of Malfoozat, Volume I pg 36-50

ACTIVITY Hadith number 40: Every Word of Wisdom is the Lost Property of a Muslim

RESOURCE: Lajna Ima'illah UK Ta'lim Syllabus - Feb 2022 to Jan 2024, Page 74-77

Narrated by Ḥaḍrat Abū Hurairah, Allāh be pleased with him: I heard the Prophet of Allāh (peace and blessings of Allāh be on him) say: “The word of wisdom is the lost property of a Muslim, so that wherever he finds it, he should take it, as he is the most entitled to it.” (Tirmidhī)

Explanatory Note:

... For the true seeker after knowledge, the earth and the heaven, the sun, the moon, the stars and the planets, the forests and the mountains, the rivers and the seas, the dwellings and desolations, the wise and the stupid, mankind and beasts, men and women, the children and the aged, the learned and the ignorant, the friend and the foe, all are an open book of learning whereby he can enrich the treasure-house of his own knowledge to the best of his capacity and effort. It is therefore that our Lord (peace and blessings of Allāh be on him) has observed that the word of wisdom is the lost property of a Muslim and that he should claim it whenever he finds it and that he should keep open the windows of his mind and heart so that no point of learning that comes to his notice misses its way to the repository of his mind and heart. ... with an open mind and keen eye, a man of knowledge can learn at times even from a child. ...

... the use of the word ... (Ḍāllah) in its text carries the subtle hint that whatever word of wisdom a Muslim happens to know of, whether he had learnt it before or not, has, in fact, its seed in Islām; ... it was originally the property of the faithful but because of being hidden from his view, it had been out of his grip. It is therefore the right of the Faithful to annex it as and when he finds it. ... For the same reason, the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allāh be on him) has suffixed the word Ḍāllah (i.e., lost property) with the observation “and he is most entitled to it.” ...

The truth is that whatever the Holy Prophet (peace of Allāh be on him and His blessings) has said is but detailed version of the Qur'ānic teaching. But it is evident that what he discovered in it, none else could and none would. With divine support and heaven's help, he has displayed on the open pages of Ḥadīth what lay embedded in the hidden depths of the Holy Qur'ān. And as the material universe has been satisfying the physical needs of man of every age from the days of Adam, similarly the treasure-house of the Holy Qur'ān is unlimited in its bounties of spiritual wealth, which are in no danger of being exhausted. It is precisely for this reason that Allāh the Excellent says in respect of it: [15[Al-Ḥijr]:22] That, there are with Him (in the Qur'ān) treasures of spiritual wisdom and knowledge of every kind and that He reveals them, in a determined measure, in answer to requirements. There is little gainsaying the fact that every truth and point of wisdom is but the lost property of the faithful, for its seed is already there in the Holy Qur'ān, which is the exclusive preserve of the Muslim, irrespective of the fact whether he is alive to the worth of its treasure or not.

Would that the world appreciated the value of the Qur'ān and would that it knew the value of the jewels embedded in the Aḥādīth which our Master (peace and blessings of Allāh be on him) has extracted from the Holy Book for our guidance and benefit. ...

ACTIVITY**MALFOOZAT:** Volume I, Page 36-50

RESOURCE: Lajna Ima'illah UK Ta'lim Syllabus - Feb 2022 to Jan 2024, Page 78-92

Please note that to fully understand & achieve full benefit, you must read the complete text. Here, the key points are reproduced in the words of the Promised Messiah^{AS}.

Distinction Amongst Castes

- * ...Allah the Exalted has decreed that castes are no means of preference in His estimation. True honour and greatness comes from righteousness alone.

Who are the Righteous?

- * ... Those who walk with humility and modesty, and do not speak arrogantly. ...
- * One who adopts righteousness shall attain a lofty status. ...
- * Just reflect upon the sincerity and devotion of our Chief and Master, Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him. The Holy Prophet^{saw} stood firm against all forms of evil. He bore diverse trials and tribulations, but did not care in the least. ...
- * The soul of the Holy Prophet^{saw} was imbibed with such sincerity and purity... that Allah the Almighty decreed for all times to come that all future generations would send blessings upon the Holy Prophet as an expression of gratitude. ...

The Holy Quran Is a Perfect Guide

- * ...[it] possesses within itself every necessary teaching. Its tenets are more than sufficient to uproot every false doctrine or ill teaching that could possibly exist in the world... Since this perfect book was destined to bring about perfect reformation, it was necessary for spiritual disease to be at its peak at the time and place of its revelation as well... so that a perfect remedy could be provided for each and every malady.

A Magnificent Miracle of the Noble Prophet^{saw}

- * ...If one reflects upon the prevailing circumstances at the time of his advent and the state that he left behind, one must accept that this influence in itself is a miracle.
- * ... it was through the teaching of the Holy Prophet^{saw} that we came to know of the following: [*Surah-Al-Ikhlās*].
- * If such a perfectly clear teaching of God's Unity had existed in the Torah, and the Quran had only come to elaborate it further, there would be no Christians in the world today (who believe in the Trinity).

The Holy Quran Possesses Every Truth ...**The Messiah and the Mahdi**

- * ...The Messiah and Mahdi are not two separate individuals, rather, both titles refer to the same person. The term Mahdi means 'The Guided One' and it cannot be said that the Messiah is not divinely guided. ...
- * Allah the Exalted has used these two words to defend against the slander and reproach of the people, and to establish that the person in question is not a disbeliever, misguided or one who leads others astray, rather, he is divinely guided. For Allah knew that the Messiah and Mahdi who was destined to come would be branded an Anti-Christ and one gone astray...

The Similarity Between the Dispensations of Moses^{as} and Muhammad^{saw}

- * ...*We sent a Messenger just as Moses^{as} who was sent to Pharaoh. Our Messenger is the likeness of Moses^{as}. (73:18-19)... Allah has promised to those among you who believe and do good works that He will surely make them Successors in the earth, as He made Successors from among those who were before them. (An-Nur, 24:56)*
- * In the beginning, just as Moses^{as} manifested signs of glory and released his people from Pharaoh, the Prophet who was to appear after would also be like Moses^{as} ... the disbelievers of Arabia were full of traits that resembled Pharaoh.
- * ...although the Children of Israel were saved from Pharaoh, they were not delivered from sin. They fought and developed crooked hearts, and even attacked Moses^{as} himself. But our Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, granted true and complete salvation... one form of deliverance granted by Allah Almighty was that an independent Islamic sovereignty was established and another was that Muslims were blessed with deliverance from sin.

The Rank of the Holy Prophet^{sa} and His Companions

- * The sincerity and purity demonstrated by the Holy Prophet^{saw} and his noble companions is unparalleled ... They were exiled, persecuted, made to bear all sorts of misfortune and gave their lives. However, they continued to advance with sincerity and devotion.
- * ...no matter which Prophet one compares him to, the Holy Prophet^{saw} cannot be matched, whether it be with respect of his teaching, his purification of souls, turning the hearts of his followers cold to the world, or valiantly sacrificing blood for the sake of truth. ...
- * The companions were a pious community for whom the Quran is full of praise. Are you like them? God says that the people who will accompany the Promised Messiah^{as} would stand shoulder to shoulder with the companions. The companions were those who sacrificed their wealth and homeland in the way of truth. They abandoned everything. ...

The Reality of Jihad:

- * ...there was no pain that the Holy Prophet^{saw} was not compelled to bear. Ultimately, when he left his homeland and took refuge in another land, even then he was pursued and not left alone...
- * war was wrongly made against a people and they were unjustly driven out of their homes, only because they said, 'Our Lord is Allah' and therefore, it was necessary to take up the sword. Indeed, in this era the pen has been taken up against us. It is by the pen that we have been abused and severely pained and so in return, the pen is our weapon.

An Exhortation for the Community

- * Rise up during the nights and pray that God may guide you to His path... You ought to wholeheartedly seek repentance, wake up for Tahajjud, pray, purify your heart, forsake your weaknesses, and mould your words and actions according to the will of God Almighty.
- * Do not lose hope in God... If one treads the right path... Even if a person moves slowly in His direction, God Almighty shall move towards him with far greater swiftness in response.

The Advent of the Messiah in the Israelite and Ishmaelite Dispensations

- * The first succession began with Moses^{as} and ended with the Messiah^{as}. This spanned an era of 1400 years. Similarly, there are indications of the advent of a Messiah in this day and age, who would appear 1400 years after the Noble Messenger, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him.
- * Moses^{as} was informed that the Messiah would appear when the Jews would become divided into many sects and their beliefs would differ with one another to the extreme... In short, when irreligious ways would run rampant...
- * ...our Perfect Guide, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, informed us that when, in the likeness of the Jews, countless sects would develop amongst you; various false beliefs and ill-practices would begin to take root; and like the Jewish scholars, when some would declare others to be non-believers; at that time, a Messiah would appear as the Arbiter from among the Muslims in this blessed community.

The Death of Jesus^{as}

- * *O Jesus, I will cause thee to die a natural death and will exalt thee to Myself. (3:56)*
- * *But since Thou didst cause me to die, Thou hast been the Watcher over them. (5:118)*
- * The argument that tawaffi means something else is completely false. Ibni Abbas and even our Perfect Guide, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, have already defined this word to mean 'death.' Even those who oppose us, define the word to mean death or to take one's soul... Hence, when it stands proven that the Messiah of Nazareth^{as} has died, it necessarily follows that the one who is to appear as Jesus^{as}, should be from this ummah.

What Special Relation Does the Messiah Possess with this Age?

- * The last successor of the Israelite dispensation who appeared in the fourteenth century after Moses, on whom be peace, was the Messiah of Nazareth^{as}. In parallel to this, it was necessary for the Messiah of this ummah to also appear at the head of the fourteenth century.
- * All of the signs have been fulfilled. The major sign or hallmark of the one who is to appear can be found in Bukhari as follows: *He will break the cross and kill the swine.* In other words, the era in which the Messiah shall descend is marked by the dominance of Christianity and prevalent worship of the cross.
- * Vicious attacks like those of ravenous beasts have been made against Islam... If now is not the time for the advent of the awaited one, the earliest that he can appear now is after a hundred years.

For a divinely appointed Reformer (Mujaddid) must always appear at the head of the century. Now does Islam possess enough strength to combat the ever-increasing dominance of the Christian priests for another century?

A Universal Sign in Support of the Promised Messiah^{as}

- * ...during the month of Ramadan, the solar and lunar eclipses will occur... Before this, no such solar or lunar eclipse has taken place. This was a sign by which Allah the Exalted was to proclaim the arrival of the awaited one throughout the entire world... This was not a matter that could have been predetermined, because it was stated that the sign would be manifested after a person who claimed to be the Mahdi had appeared.
- * Another sign of the era was that the star Dhus-Sinin would emerge, i.e. the star of years gone by. In other words, the star which emerged in the time (or years) of the Messiah of Nazareth^{as}.
- * [Referring to chapter 81 verses 5-11 of the Holy Qur'an] in that era, she-camels, which previously were the best means of transport and conveyance, shall become useless... This alluded to the age of locomotives... Then, these verses state that streams shall be made to flow forth in all directions and books shall be published abundantly. Hence, all of these signs relate to the era under discussion.

The Promised Messiah's^{as} Place of Advent:

- * ...it ought to be remembered that the emergence of the Anti-Christ has been foretold to take place from the East and this refers to our country. The author of Hujaj-ul-Kiramah writes that the disorder of the Anti-Christ is manifesting itself in India. And it is obvious that the Messiah must also appear in the same place that the Anti-Christ emerges... The numerical value of the letters in 'Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani' equal 1300 exactly. In other words, the Imam whose name this is, was to come at the start of the fourteenth century. Hence, it is to this fact that the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, alluded.

Heavenly and Earthly Calamities:

- * Calamities were also to serve as a sign. Heavenly calamities took on the form of famine, plague and cholera... As for earthly calamities, there are wars and earthquakes, which have destroyed the land. It is necessary for a person commissioned by Allah to manifest heavenly signs in support of their truth as well.