

Humility and Highest Manner of Ikhlaq

The Promised Messiah (as) states:

“A great number of weaknesses lie dormant in man, but the basest weakness is arrogance. No one would have been a non-believer if there had been no arrogance. Therefore, make yourself humble of heart and serve your fellow beings with love.”

(Tadhkiratush-Shahadatain, Ruhani Khazain, Vol. 20, p. 63)

1 Minute Task- Partner Discussion



1. What is the antonym (opposite) of being humble?
2. What is Humility?



Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:

“And remember thy Lord in thy mind with humility and fear, and without loudness of speech, in the mornings and evenings; and be not of the neglectful.”

(Chapter 7, verse 206)

The Promised Messiah (as) further states:

“Everyone who looks down upon a brother because he esteems himself more learned, or wiser, or more proficient than himself is arrogant, in as much he does not esteem God as the fountainhead of all intelligence and knowledge and deems himself as something”


(Nuzulul Masih, pp. 24-25)

3 Minute Task- Partner Discussion



1. List as many characteristics of someone who is **humble**
2. List as many characteristics of someone who is **arrogant**

Extension: How does one become more humble in their character?



From



ARROGANCE

is fault proof

doesn't listen

interrupts

wants to be right

pushes through

frustrated fast

no accountability

fear culture

doesn't see
differently

To



HUMILITY

admits faults

understands

gives space

has an open mind

let's ideas emerge

shows patience

owns up

learning culture

embraces
differences

When we remind ourselves of the status of Allah the Almighty who has all the power and knowledge of the universe. And in comparison, we are mere mortal human beings who rely upon him, this will increase our humility.

We need to remind ourselves that every blessing we have has been granted by Allah. What He has given us today (knowledge, ability, status, career etc) can easily be taken away tomorrow.

This will serve as a consistent reminder of our status—it is as small as a grain of sand.

In Huzoor's (aba) Friday Sermon...

The rays of light from the sun fall on the wall and as a result it becomes bright, however the wall itself cannot take pride over this **due its own inherent qualities**. The Promised Messiah (as) further states: 'Furthermore, the cleaner the wall, the more clearer the light.' If the wall is clean and shiny then the light reflected from it will be even brighter.

(Friday Sermon, June 16, 2017)



The Promised Messiah (as) further states: **'The Prophets never attribute any ability or strength to themselves. They receive it from God and only proclaim His name.'** Thus, if this is the state [of humility] of those who are very dear to God Almighty then what should be the level of humility displayed by an ordinary Ahmadi and how much should he lower himself out of humbleness while being grateful to Allah the Almighty for His blessings?

(Friday Sermon, June 16, 2017)

2 Minute Task- Partner Discussion



1. What prevents us from showing humility?

Extension: How can we remove these barriers to improve our moral state?





**'If I had not created you I would
not have created the world.'**

(Hadithe Qudsi)

Humility in the Character of Religious Role Models

Painful incidents of Taif, battles in which the Holy Prophet (sa) was wounded.

The incident of the lady in Mecca who used to throw trash on to the Prophet (sa) as he walked by.

All the examples of the noble prophets of Allah.

Beloved Huzoor (aba)-
Aseerane-Rahe
Maula

Humility in the Character of the Promised Messiah (as)

Prayers	Actions	Words
<p>‘O Most Merciful of those who show mercy, one of your servants – a humble, unskilled, sinful and incompetent [servant], dweller of Your land of India, Ghulam Ahmad – would like to say: O Most Merciful of those who show mercy, be pleased with me and forgive my shortcomings and mistakes...and place between myself and my ego the distance of the east and the west</p> <p>(Tarikh-e-Ahmadiyyat, Vol.1, pp. 264-265)</p>	<p>Deeply impressed by the humility and self-control of the Promised Messiah (as), he said, “We have heard of Christ’s humility. Now I have witnessed the like with my own eyes.”</p> <p>He added, “It is impossible for such a person not to succeed.”</p> <p>(Ibid.)</p>	<p>The Promised Messiah (as) writes:</p> <p>“Yeh sara sar fazlo ehsan hai ke mein aya pasand, warna darga mein teri kuch kum na the khidmat guzar”</p> <p><i>It is only a blessing of Allah that I have been chosen for this task (of being the Messiah) otherwise there would anyone who could have been chosen for this task.</i></p>

On March 18 1907, Allah revealed to the Promised Messiah (as):

(۳) تیری عاجزانہ راہیں اُس کو پسند آئیں۔

(3) [Urdu] He is pleased with your humble ways.

1 Minute Task- Partner Discussion



Why should one strive to become more humble in their character?



The Holy Prophet of Islam (sa) says,

“Verily, Allah has revealed to me that you must be humble towards one another, so that no one oppresses another or boasts to another.”

(Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim 2865)

The Promised Messiah (as) Says:

When exercised on appropriate occasions, humility becomes a powerful tool for bridging gaps, enabling peaceful exchange of views, and fostering mutual respect. However, while striving for justice, addressing a wrongdoing, voicing the truth, etc., one should always balance between humility and assertiveness, as the Promised Messiah (as) says, "The Quran does not advise that one should remain meek in every circumstance, nor to refrain from confronting evil. Rather, it teaches that forbearance, humility, meekness and passivity are all meritorious, but not when exercised inappropriately. All good deeds ought to be performed with an appreciation of appropriate time and circumstance." (Noah's Ark, p. 71)

The Promised Messiah (as) has said:

“Do not forget that your graves are calling you, and death approaches with every passing moment”

(Malfoozat, Volume 1, Pg 201)

Question:

Why do you think the Promised Messiah (as) would ask this of his followers?



The Great Reward for Humility

The Promised Messiah (as) says:

“Consider yourselves as worse than all; Maybe this will help you enter the court of the Lord God.”

(Ruhani Khazain vol 21, p18)



A diagram illustrating a cyclical relationship between two concepts. At the top is a light red oval containing the word "Humility". At the bottom is a purple oval containing the text "Highest Manners of Ikhlaq". A white curved arrow points from the right side of the "Humility" oval down to the right side of the "Highest Manners of Ikhlaq" oval. A grey curved arrow points from the left side of the "Highest Manners of Ikhlaq" oval up to the left side of the "Humility" oval, completing the cycle.

Humility

Highest Manners of Ikhlaq

Join at menti.com | use code 6749 9319

What does the Word “Ikhlaq” Mean?

<https://www.mentimeter.com/app/presentation/al74upm6jyfa7qne5o3ikxj4bne1isqf/edit?question=qgooras24or29>

What are Some Examples of Ikhlaq?

Where Should We Show Our Highest Manner of Ikhlaq?

In the Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam

Moral Qualities for Discarding Evil

- Chastity
- Honesty, Integrity (intolerance of the causing of harm to a fellow being)
- Refrain from inflicting physical pain on anyone. Behaving Peacefully
- Courtesy or a good word (Root of courtesy is cheerfulness)

Moral Qualities of related to doing of good

- forbearance/forgiveness
- Equity
- Benevolence
- Graciousness
- Courage
- Truthfulness
- Steadfastness
- Sympathy for Mankind

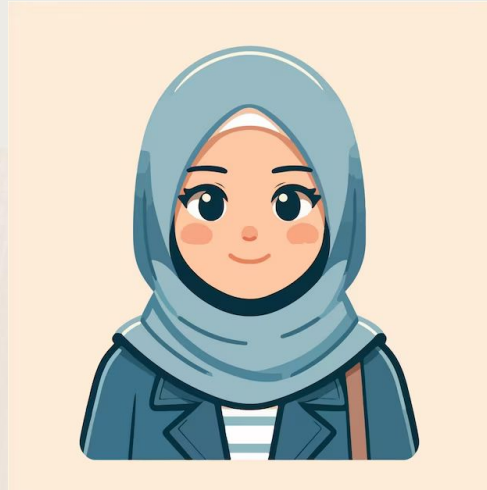
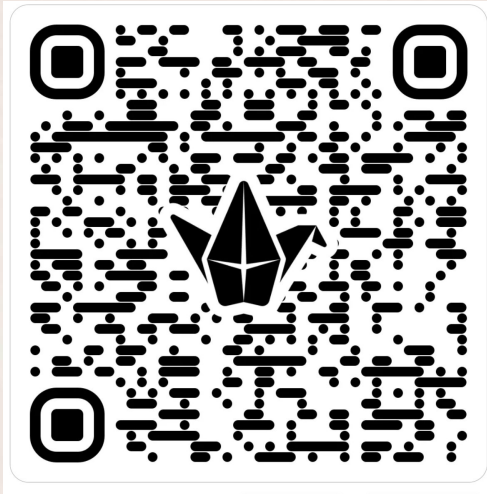
Sometimes it can be challenging to show these high manners of ikhlaq all the time and everywhere

- Satanic temptations
- Ego
- Frustration



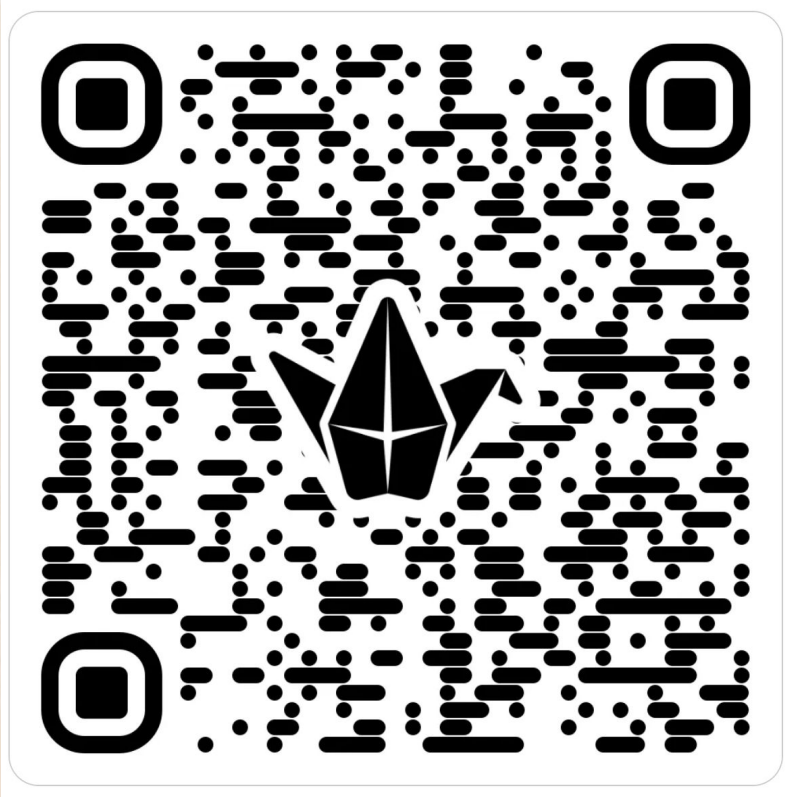
- Anger
- Impatience
- Selfishness

How do we strengthen our mindset when faced with these
challenging circumstances?



https://padlet.com/farhanamian/retreat_2

Time for Some Scenarios!



<https://padlet.com/farhanamian/scenarios>

Scenario 1

You are a Jalsa Volunteer, and someone has spoken to you in a tone that maybe doesn't feel very good. What should you do?

List which morals can be applied to this situation, and how they are applicable.

Scenario 2

You are in a situation where your close friend has confided in you about a mistake they have accidentally made. They ask you to keep it a secret, but their mistake involves something that may end up causing harm to others.

You are torn between keeping your friend's secret and being honest when a trusted person asks you about it. What should you do?

Keeping the Peace!

“Someone was once abusive to Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) in the presence of the Holy Prophet (sa). Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) did not say anything and the Holy Prophet (sa) kept smiling. When the person exceeded his abuse, Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) responded to him harshly. Displeased, the Holy Prophet (sa) stood up and left. At a later time Hazrat Abu Bakr (ra) submitted to him that while the man was being abusive the Prophet stayed but as soon as he responded angrily the Prophet left.

To this the Holy Prophet (sa) responded: **'as long as you were silent in the face of the man's abuse God's angel was responding on your behalf. But when you responded Satan came.'** Indeed, after this the Holy Prophet (sa) could not have stayed there."

(Musnad Ahmad)

Keeping the Peace!

Become humble, tolerant, well-intentioned and compassionate towards God's creation so that you may be accepted by God.

Be humble like the guilty, though truth be on your side, so that you may be forgiven. Do not feed your vanity, for those who are bloated cannot enter the gate to which you have been called.

Prayer is the cure for all future tribulations. You know not what divine decree the new day will usher in for you. So before the new day dawns, humble yourselves before your Lord, so that the new day brings for you goodness and blessing.

DEBATE: Loudness is Strength.

What is your opinion?



<https://padlet.com/farhanamian/loudness>

“The person who is strong is not strong because he can knock people down. The person who is strong is the one who controls himself when he is angry.”

(Sahih al-Bukhari 6114)



The Perfect Balance

“Huzoor’s humility – as is all true humility – is silent. He is silent when he wipes something off the floor that nobody has seen or bothered to clean. He is silent when he washes the fruit that arrives at the door, before anyone has realised to help. He is silent when he picks vegetables from the garden, or lifts heavy bags, or clears out the Hoover. I have come to memorise his footsteps, to listen for the silence – where there is not one word or reproach, only patience.

But Huzoor speaks out at injustice. He speaks out when someone has said an unkind word. He speaks out at the cruelty countries dole out to their citizens. He speaks out at the suffering of Ahmadis around the world. Not only in Friday Sermons, but he frequently mentions this at the dinner table. It is a constant thought. Yet, he never complains of any personal suffering, major or minor. I ask Huzoor how he is, and he smiles and says, “Alhamdulillah.””



Be strong, but not rude.

Be kind, but not weak.

Be bold, but don't bully.

Be humble, but not shy.

Be Confident, but
not arrogant.



THERE'S A THIN LINE
BETWEEN CONFIDENCE
AND ARROGANCE... ITS
CALLED HUMILITY.
CONFIDENCE SMILES.
ARROGANCE SMIRKS.

- Unknown

The Support of Allah in Our Speech

My Lord, open up for me my heart. And ease for me my task.
And untie the knot of my tongue, That they may understand
my speech.

(20:26-29, The Holy Qur'an)

How do we get to the point where angels do respond for us?

- Prayers!
- Building a strong connection with Allah.
- Ask Allah for strength, His guidance and His help!
- Durud Sharif
- "Oh Allah, help me with Your Angels"

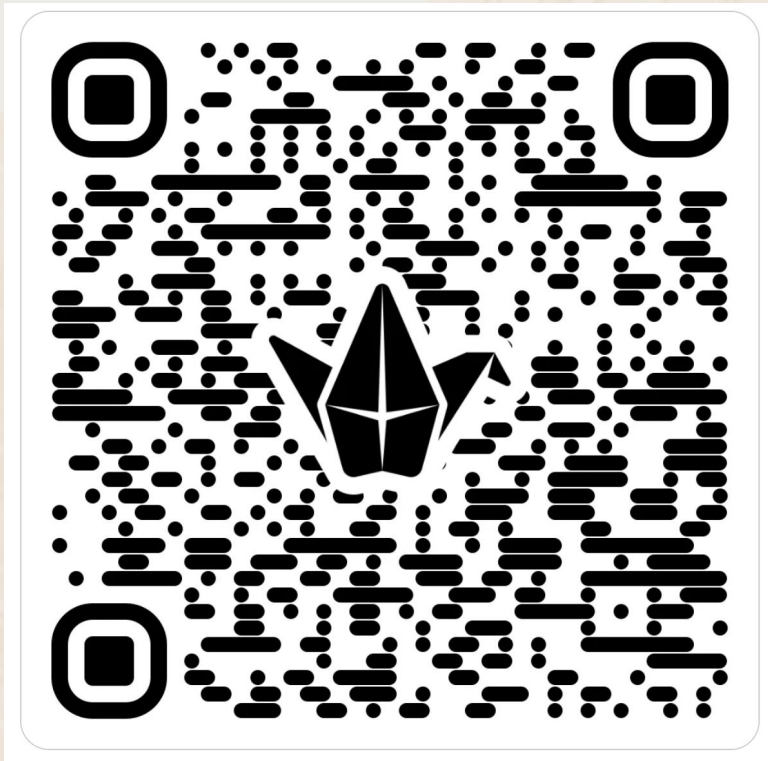


Prayer for Achieving Humility

Hadhrat Abu Hurairah (ra) has related this prayer of the Holy Prophet (sa):

“O Allah, make me live as a humble person, cause me to die as a humble person and resurrect me from amongst the poor people. Surely, he is the most unfortunate on whom the poverty of this world and the punishment of the life Hereafter are combined.”

(Tirmadhi, Kitabuz-Zuhd, Babo Innal-Fuqara'il-Muhajirina yadkhulunaJannah Qabla Aghniya'ihim.)



Reflection

<https://padlet.com/farhanamian/reflection>

May Allah enable us to become humble in our manner and adopt the highest manners of Ikhlaq so we can fulfil the true purpose of our lives.

Ameen!

Further Reading and Inspiration:
The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam
Noah's Ark
Tadhkira