

تسهيل الأحاديث

و

الأخلاق

Tasheelul Ahaadeeth
wal
Akhlaaq

Grades 1-7

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of teaching Hadith and Akhlaaq:

There are many objectives of teaching these subjects, some of which are:

1. To memorise the Ahaadeeth.
2. To (make amal) practice on the Hadith.
3. To earn the (thawaab) rewards for memorising the Ahaadeeth.

Rasulullah j has explained the virtues of memorising the Mubaarak Ahaadeeth. In one Hadith he is reported to have said:

نَصَّرَ اللَّهُ امْرَأً سَمِعَ مِنَّا شَيْئًا فَبَلَّغَهُ كَمَا سَمِعَهُ

May Allah ﷻ give splendour to that person who heard something from us (my words – Hadith) and passed it on in the same form that he heard it. In another Hadith, the following has been reported:

مَنْ حَفِظَ عَلَيَّ أُمَّتِي أَرْبَعِينَ حَدِيثًا مِنْ سُنَّتِي أَذْخُلْتُهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ فِي شَفَاعَتِي

That person who learns forty Ahaadeeth from my sayings, I will enter him in my intercession on the Day of Qiyaamah.

Through the blessings of these Ahaadeeth, the mu'allim/ah and the pupil will attain success in this world as well as the *Aakhirah*, *Insha Allah*.

GUIDELINES FOR THE TEACHER

The object of teaching Hadith is to:

1. Inculcate the teachings of Rasulullah ﷺ in the lives of our children.
2. Memorise the wordings of the Hadith. If the child has memorized the Ahaadeeth and understood its meaning, he/she will Insha Allah remember them on the appropriate occasions and practice upon them.

Keep in mind the following guidelines when teaching Hadith:

1. Time

The official Hadith period will be once a week, on a Friday. However, a quick revision of the Hadith should take place daily between subjects. A chart of the new Hadith should be pinned on the board. If the maktab is in a school classroom, the mu'allim/ah may stick the chart before the class time commences and removes it after madrassah is over. A quick revision can take place between subjects for 1-2 minutes daily. For instance the Qur'aan Sabak is over. It is now time for Fiqh. Before the children can open their Fiqh books, revise the Hadith quickly for 1-2 minutes get the entire class to repeat it together a few times.

2. New Hadith

When teaching a Hadith for the first time the following procedure must be followed:

Make the pupils recite **ج قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ** before each Hadith.

Read the Arabic text word for word at a slow pace so that the correct pronunciation of every letter and word is clearly heard by the children.

Read the translation.

Make at least 3 children, in turns, read the Hadith from the kitaab. Correct any mistakes. Emphasise the correct pronunciation of letters that are commonly mispronounced.

Make the entire class repeat the Hadith 3 times with the translation.

Very simply explain the meaning of the Hadith. If it is something that can be practically demonstrated immediately, do so. For example the Hadith "*Assalaamu Qablal Kalaami*" has just been taught. Ask Ahmed to go across the class, meet Yusuf and ask him how he is feeling. Ahmed who has understood the lesson goes to Yusuf and first makes salaam before speaking to him. Praise Ahmed. If he did not make salaam first, ask the class: "What did Ahmed do wrong?" Make a second child do the same. The same kind of demonstration can be done for various other Ahaadeeth, such as the Ahaadeeth relating to drinking in three sips, removing the left shoe first, wearing a garment from the right side, entering the toilet with the left foot and leaving with the right etc.

3. Commitment

After the above has been done, ask the class: "Who is going to always make salaam first before talking?" "After they have put their hands up, praise them and encourage them with a few words. For example, tell them: "Allah ﷻ and our beloved Rasulullah j will be very pleased with us if we practice on these sunnats."

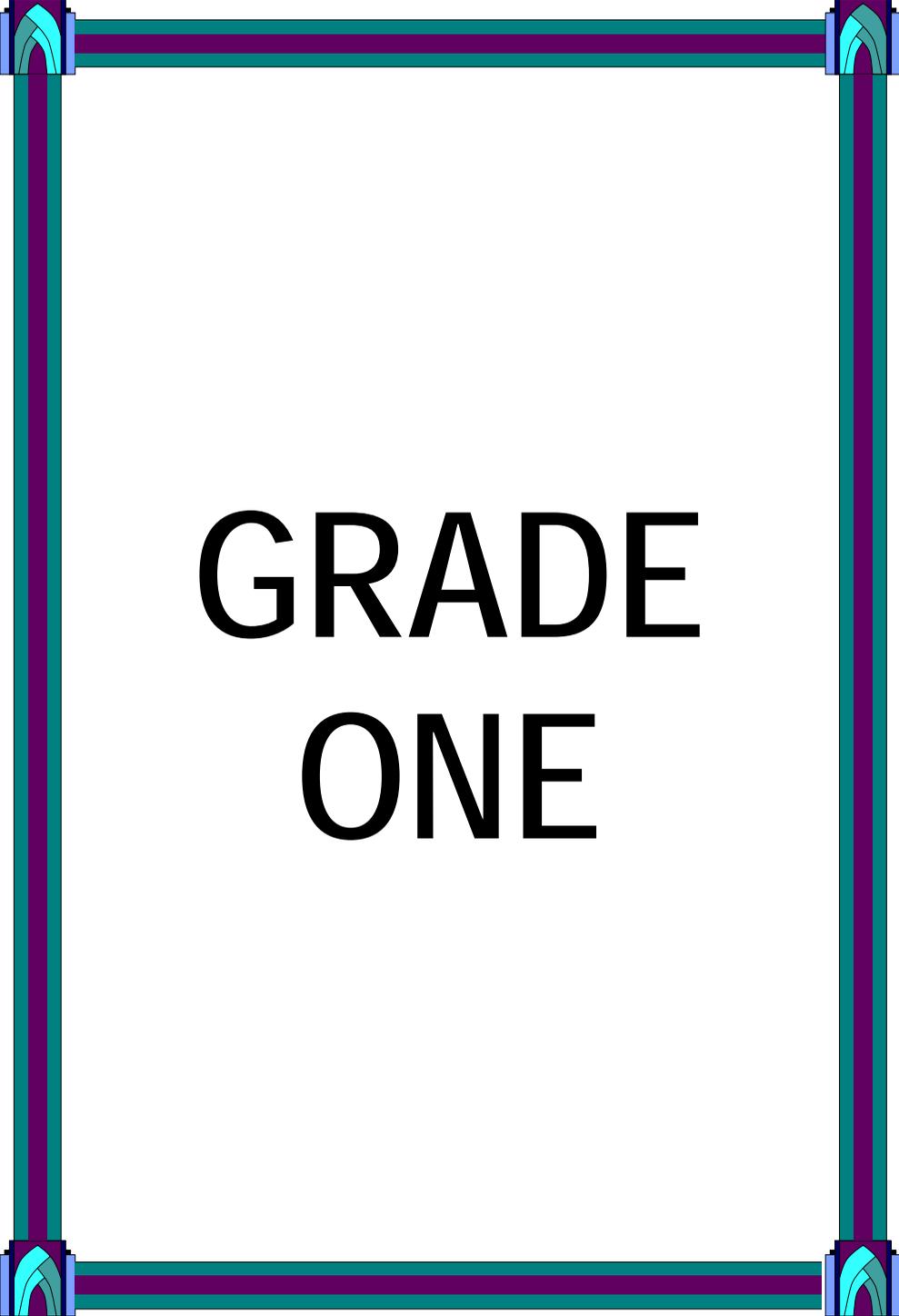
4. Follow up

Do a Follow up during the "quick revision" the next day. Enquire who practiced upon the Hadith that was taught the previous day. Praise those who have practiced upon it, and encourage those who have not.

.There is no pupil activity included in this kitaab. A

standard worksheet which includes the following questions should be used at the end of each lesson:

1. What is the wording of the Hadith?
2. What is the meaning of the Hadith?
3. What are the lessons learnt from the Hadith?
4. What is the story you learnt from this Hadith?
5. How does this Hadith affect yourself and your fellow Muslims?
6. To what extent are you able to practice on this Hadith?



GRADE ONE

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ

1. SINCERITY

إِنَّمَا الْأَعْمَالُ بِالنِّيَّاتِ

Verily, actions depend upon their intentions.

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. What intention we have made before doing any action will decide whether we will be rewarded for that action or not.
2. We should always do things to please Allah ﷻ alone, then only will Allah ﷻ reward us.
3. Before, after and whilst doing any action we should always check our intentions.
4. If shaytaan spoils our intentions we should ask forgiveness from Allah ﷻ and correct our intention.

Story 1

Hadhrat Ali **D** while fighting with a non-Muslim managed to overpower him and was sitting on top of him ready to kill him with his sword. The non-Muslim spat on Hadhrat Ali's **D** face. This angered Hadhrat Ali **D** . However he got off the non-Muslim and placed the sword back into its sheath.

As Hadhrat Ali **D** was leaving, the non-Muslim asked, "What is this? After spitting on your face you should have killed me immediately. What stopped you from killing me?" Hadhrat Ali **D** said, "I had the intention of killing you solely for the pleasure of Allah ﷻ. When you spat on my face, I became angry. If I had killed you then, it would not have been solely for Allah ﷻ. It would have been to vent my anger. Allah ﷻ only accepts those actions which are done solely for Him. Therefore I refrained from killing you."

Hearing this from Hadhrat Ali **D** , the non-Muslim was astonished and Imaan entered his heart. He said, "I consider it my good fortune to accept such a Deen which so greatly emphasises sincerity. This Deen is definitely the true Deen."

Story 2

There was a man from the Bani Israeel who used to be engaged in the Ibaadah of Allah ﷻ all the time. A group of people once came to him and told him that the people of a nearby tribe were worshipping a tree. This news upset him, thus he took an axe and set off to cut the tree. On the way, shaytaan met him in the form of an old man and asked him where he was going. The man told shaytaan that he was going to cut down the tree. Shaytaan said, "The tree has nothing to do with you. Do not leave your Ibaadah for something that does not concern you." "This is also Ibaadah." said the man and continued on his way.

Shaytaan tried to stop him by wrestling with him but the man overpowered shaytaan. Shaytaan begged him to get off him and when the man got off, shaytaan said, "Allah ﷻ has not made it Fardh to cut this tree. If you do not cut this tree, it will not harm you in anyway. If cutting the tree was Fardh, Allah ﷻ would have told one of His Prophets to cut it." The man still insisted on going to cut the tree and shaytaan tried to stop him again. For the second time, the man overpowered shaytaan. Shaytaan then said to the man, "You are a poor man. If you do not cut this tree, I will give you three gold coins everyday which you will find under your pillow. With this money you can fulfil your needs, help your relatives, help the poor and do many other good deeds. Cutting the tree is only one good deed but with the money you can do many good deeds." The man accepted this suggestion and went back home without cutting the tree.

For two days he found the money. However, on the third day he found nothing. He got angry, picked up his axe and set off to cut the tree. On the way, shaytaan met him and asked where he was going. The man replied that he was going to cut the tree. Shaytaan said, "I will not let you cut the tree." This time, when they had a fight, shaytaan overpowered the man. The man was surprised at this and asked shaytaan why he had won the fight this time. Shaytaan said, "The first time you were going to cut the tree only for the sake of Allah ﷻ. Thus, Allah ﷻ helped you to overpower me. This time you were going to cut the tree because you did not get the money. Thus, I overpowered you."

2. SALAAM

السَّلَامُ قَبْلَ الْكَلَامِ

Say *Assalaamu alykum* before you begin speaking.

[Tirmidhi]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Whenever we meet another Muslim we should greet him/her with the words *Assalaamu alykum warahmatullahi wabarakaatuhu*.
2. The word '*Assalaamu alykum*' means "May peace be upon you"
3. If we greet with SALAAM we will be making dua for one another.
4. We should not say "Hi!, Hello, Good day or Good morning" as these are not Islamic greetings.
5. We should always be the first to greet. The one who greets first receives more reward and it will protect one from having pride.

Story 3

Hadhrat Abdullah **D** was the son of Hadhrat Umar **D** . He had seen Rasulullah j greet everybody, old and young, rich and poor. Rasulullah j also greeted children.

Hadhrat Abdullah **D** loved Rasulullah j so he tried to imitate him in making salaam. He made it a habit to pass through the market only to greet people. He greeted everybody he met, the shopkeepers, the passers-by and the children.

One day someone asked him, "You come daily to the shops but you never buy or sell anything. You don't even stop to chat to anyone. Why then do you come to the market?"

Hadhrat Abdullah **D** replied, "I come to the market only to make salaam to the people."

3. TRUTHFULNESS

عَلَيْكُمْ بِالصِّدْقِ

Be truthful.

[Muslim]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. A Muslim must always speak the truth
2. Allah ﷻ loves those who speak the truth.
3. Allah ﷻ will save those people who always speak the truth.
4. One who is always truthful will enter Jannah.
5. A liar will be destroyed by Allah ﷻ.

Story 4

Hadhrat Abdul Qadir Jilani رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was a very great saint. When he was a young lad, he decided to go to Baghdad to acquire religious knowledge. Before leaving, his mother gave him 40 gold coins and sewed them in an inside pocket. She then advised him to never speak a lie. He promised his mother that he will obey her and not speak a lie.

In those days there were no cars, trains or planes. People used to travel in groups forming a caravan. Shaikh Abdul Qadir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ also joined a caravan going to Baghdad.

On the way, a gang of robbers attacked the caravan and started stealing the peoples' money. A robber came to Shaikh Abdul Qadir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ and asked if he had any money. He replied that he had 40 gold coins. The robber thought that he was joking so he left him alone.

After a while another robber came and asked Shaikh Abdul Qadir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ if he had any money. Again he replied that he had 40 gold coins. The robber didn't believe him because he looked like he was poor. The second robber also left him alone. The news of this young boy reached the leader of the robbers. The leader told them to bring the young boy to him.

When Shaikh Abdul Qadir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was brought, the leader of the robbers asked him if he had any money. Shaikh Abdul Qadir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ replied that he had 40 gold coins with him. The leader of the robbers asked, "Where is it?" "Sewn

in an inside pocket." he replied. The leader told one of the robbers to search the young boy. When the robber searched him, he found 40 gold coins which were hidden in an inside pocket. On seeing this, all the robbers were astonished. The leader said, "You know that we are robbers and that we steal money from people. Your money was safely hidden. If you lied to us that you don't have any money, we would have believed you and your money would have been safe. What made you speak the truth and show us your money?"

Shaikh Abdul Qadir رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ replied, "Before I left home, my mother told me never to speak a lie. Therefore I will not disobey my mother, not even for the sake of 40 gold coins." The words of this young lad greatly affected the leader of the robbers who said, "This lad has obeyed his mother whereas I have disobeyed Allah ﷻ my entire life. I make *taubah* for my sins and promise not to trouble anyone for the rest of my life." The other robbers also made *taubah* and returned all the money to the people. They then lived their lives obeying Allah ﷻ and became His close friends.

4. DISPLEASING ONE'S FATHER

سَخَطُ الرَّبِّ فِي سَخَطِ الْوَالِدِ

Allah ﷻ is displeased with the one whose father is displeased with him.

[Mustadrak Haakim]

5. JANNAH LIES BENEATH THE FEET OF THE MOTHER

الْجَنَّةُ تَحْتَ أَقْدَامِ الْأُمَّهَاتِ

Jannah lies beneath the feet of the mother.

[Kanzul Ummaal]

Lessons learnt from these two Ahaadeeth:

1. Always obey your parents.
2. Never offend them in anyway.
3. Speak to them with kindness and love.
4. Do not even say “Aakh! or Oof! to them.
5. When they are old and weak and they need you then serve them well.
6. Make the following dua for them, رَبِّ ارْحَمُهُمَا كَمَا رَيْبَانِي صَغِيرًا “O Allah, Show mercy to my parents like how they showed mercy to me when I was small.”

Story 5

Hadhrat Alqamah **D** was a young Sahaabi who was very generous and used to strive hard for Deen. Suddenly he became very sick. Rasulallah j came to know of his condition and sent Hadhrat Bilaal **D** to check on him. When Hadhrat Bilaal **D** came to Hadhrat Alqamah's **D** house, he saw that Hadhrat Alqamah **D** was about to pass away. He tried to make him read the kalimah, but Hadhrat Alqamah **D** was unable to read it. Rasulallah j was informed of this.

Rasulallah j asked if Hadhrat Alqamah's **D** parents were alive. The Sahabah replied that only his mother was alive who was very old. Rasulallah j sent Hadhrat Bilaal **D** to ask her if she could come to Rasulallah j or should he come to her. She replied, "May my life be sacrificed for Rasulallah j ! I will go to him." She took support on a stick

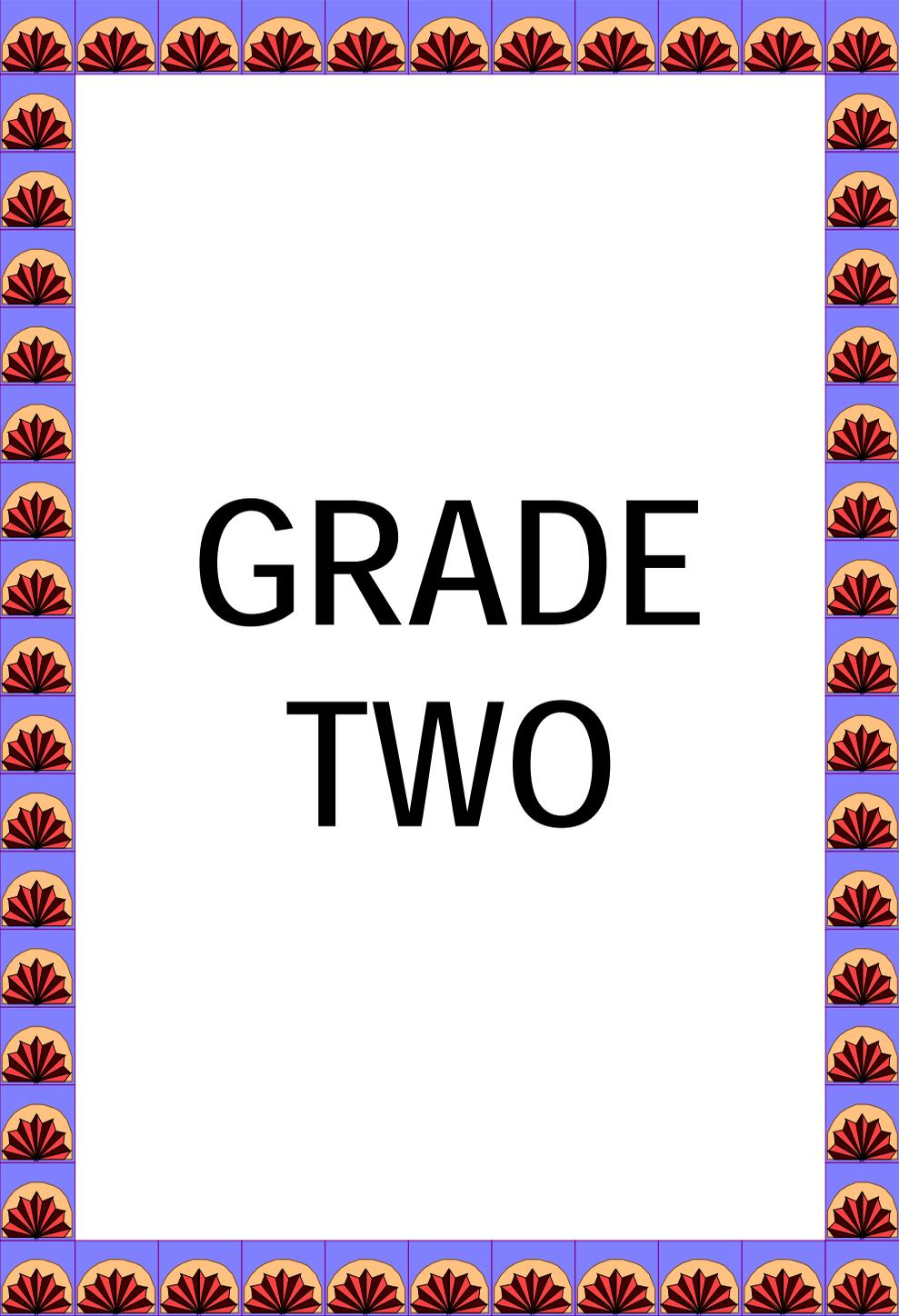
and went to Rasulullah j . She made salaam and sat down. Rasulullah j replied to her salaam and said, "I am now going to ask you some questions. Please answer them truthfully otherwise I will be informed through *wahi* if you lie."

Rasulullah j then asked, "What kind of a person is Alqamah D ?" She replied, "He performs lots of salaah, keeps lots of fasts and is very generous." Rasulullah j asked, "How is his relation with you?" She replied that she was displeased with him. When Rasulullah j asked her why, she said, "He prefers his wife over me." Rasulullah j told her that the displeasure of his mother is not allowing him to read the kalimah.

Thereafter Rasulullah j told Hadhrat Bilaal D to get some wood and start a fire in which Hadhrat Alqamah D would be thrown. His mother asked in shock, "Will you burn my son in front of me? I cannot allow this." Rasulullah j said, "The fire of Allah ﷻ is more severe than this and lasts forever. If you want Allah ﷻ to forgive him then be pleased with him. I take an oath in the name of Allah ﷻ that without pleasing you, his salaah and other good deeds will not benefit him." She immediately said, "O Prophet of Allah ﷻ! I make you witness that I am pleased with Alqamah D ."

Rasulullah j then told Hadhrat Bilaal D to go and see Alqamah's D condition. When Hadhrat Bilaal entered the

house, he heard Hadhrrat Alqamah **D** reading the kalimah loudly and soon thereafter he passed away.



GRADE TWO

6. TAKING CARE OF THE QUR'AAN

تَعَاهَدُوا الْقُرْآنَ

Take good care of the Qur'aan.

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Since the Qur'aan is the book of Allah ﷻ, we must always show respect to it.
2. Always make wudhu before touching the Qur'aan.
3. Place the Qur'aan on a clean and high place.
4. Always hold it in your right hand close to your heart.
5. Do not face your back or stretch your feet towards the Qur'aan.

Story 6

There was a man who was not a good Muslim, but he had great respect for the Qur'aan, and its pages. While walking, he found a page of the Qur'aan on the floor. He picked it up, kissed it, dusted the sand off and placed it on a high shelf with respect. Allah ﷻ loved this action and forgave him.

Story 7

A pious person used to stay in Madinah Munawwarah. He passed away and was buried in Jannatul Baqi'. The practice in Makkah Mukarramah and Madinah Munawwarah is that a few months after they bury anybody, they dig up the same grave and bury someone else in it because the bodies decay very quickly. A few months later, they dug up the grave of this pious person and found that his body was still intact.

A few months later, they dug up the grave of this pious person and again found his body intact. They closed up the grave and put a mark on it indicating that this grave should not be dug up in the future.

They went to the son of the pious man and asked, "What deed of your father was so liked by Allah ﷻ that Allah ﷻ did not allow the earth to eat his body?" The son replied, "Allah ﷻ knows best. I feel that it was the respect that he had for the Qur'aan Shareef. He would not even stretch his legs in the direction of a Hafiz. He would say, 'He (the hafiz) has the Qur'aan in his chest.' "

7. CLEANLINESS

الطُّهُورُ شَطْرُ الْإِيمَانِ

Cleanliness is half of Imaan. (faith)

[Muslim]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Cleanliness is a very important part of Islam.
2. We should be clean and pure at all times.
3. Make istinja, wudhu and ghusal thoroughly.
4. Our bodies, clothes, books, classrooms, homes, yards, etc. must be kept clean, neat and tidy at all times.
5. Angels remain with a person who is clean and paak at all times.

Story 8

Once Rasulullah j was walking with a group of Sahabah when they passed by two graves. Rasulullah j said, "The two people buried in these graves are being punished. One is being punished for spying and the other is being punished for not being careful about the splashes of urine."

Story 9

A Muslim student once went to London to study. He found accommodation at a boarding house where other students were also staying. This boarding house was owned by an English woman.

One day this woman asked the Muslim student, "Do you think that I do not know how to wash clothes?" "What makes you think that I have such an opinion about you?" asked the student. "I am quite sure that you know how to wash clothes." The woman said, "Then why do you wash your clothes before giving it to me?" The student replied, "I do not wash my clothes before giving it to you. If I did wash my clothes, I wouldn't have given it to you." "Then how is it that I do not find marks, stains and bad smells on your pants whereas I find them on the pants of the other boarders?" asked the woman.

The student explained, "Madam, I am a Muslim. My religion teaches me to be clean. If a drop of urine comes onto my pants, I am commanded to immediately wash it off. I am not allowed to perform Salaah until I do so." The woman asked, "Does your religion teach you such things as well?" The student replied, "Yes, our Prophet j has taught us such things. He taught us to remember Allah ﷻ at all times. He taught us duas for all occasions."

The woman found this fascinating. Thereafter she began to carefully observe the behaviour, manners and habits of the

Muslim student and she began to take an interest in I slaam. Every now and again she would ask him questions about I slaam until eventually the truth of I slaam settled in her heart and she became a Muslim. Not only did she accept I slaam but she also converted many members of her family.

8. JEALOUSY

إِيَّاكُمْ وَالْحَسَدَ

Save yourself from jealousy.

[Abu Dawood]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Jealousy means to desire that the wealth, beauty or intelligence that Allah ﷻ has given to someone should be snatched away from him and be given to you.
2. Jealousy destroys a person's life and good deeds.
3. It causes grief and pain to the jealous person.
4. Allah ﷻ is displeased with a jealous person.
5. Shaytaan was destroyed because of his jealousy over Aadam ﷺ.

Story 10

Habil and Qabil were the sons of Hadhrat Aadam ﷺ. Habil was instructed to marry a certain girl and Qabil was instructed to marry another. The girl who Habil was supposed to marry was prettier than the one that Qabil was supposed to marry. Qabil was jealous and wanted to marry the prettier of the two. This matter was brought to Hadhrat Aadam ﷺ. Hadhrat Aadam ﷺ, in order to sort out the problem, said, "Both of you offer something to Allah ﷻ. Whoever's offering is accepted will marry the prettier girl."

In those days, a sign of an offering being accepted by Allah ﷻ was that a fire would come down from the sky and eat up the sacrifice. If the fire didn't eat up the offering, it meant that it was not accepted.

Habil owned sheep and goats so he offered a good, healthy sheep. Qabil was a farmer so he offered some grains which were not of very good quality. A fire came down from the sky and ate up the offering of Habil. This made Qabil angrier and jealous. In the end, it was jealousy that made him kill his brother, Habil.

9. FEEDING THE HUNGRY

أَطْعِمُوا الْجَائِعَ

Feed the hungry.

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. To feed the poor and hungry is an action that will be greatly rewarded by Allah ﷻ.
2. A Muslim should not fill his stomach whilst his neighbour goes hungry.
3. We should always serve the poor and needy.
4. Allah ﷻ loves those who take care of the poor and needy.

Story 11

Hadhrat Ali **D** and Hadhrat Faatima **D** had two sons, Hasan **D** and Husain **D**. One day the two boys became very sick. Their parents were very worried. They made a promise to Allah ﷻ that if their sons get well, they would fast for three days.

Allah ﷻ accepted their dua and soon the boys were well. Their parents began their fast.

On the first day, they broke their fast with water. They performed salaah and sat down to eat their meal which consisted of a few pieces of barley bread. They were about to eat when they heard the voice of an old man calling out: "For the love of Allah ﷻ, give me some food. Save my family from hunger." Hadhrat Faatima **D** said to Hadhrat Ali **D** , "How can we eat when these people are hungry?" Hadhrat Ali **D** agreed and they gave all the bread to the old man. That night they went to bed hungry.

The next day, both fasted again. After sunset, they sat down to eat a few pieces of bread when they heard someone cry, "For the love of Allah ﷻ, give us food!" At the door were two orphans. Hadhrat Faatima **D** felt sorry for them. She said to Hadhrat Ali **D** , "It is the command of Allah ﷻ that we should help the poor. Let the little ones have our food." Hadhrat Ali **D** agreed and for the second night they went to bed without food.

Although they felt very weak, the next day they fasted. After sunset on the third day, they performed salaah and ate their simple meal.

When Rasulullah j heard of the incident, he was filled with joy and pleased with his daughter. Indeed! Allah ﷻ was also pleased with this act of kindness.

10. VISITING THE SICK

عُودُوا الْمَرِيضَ

Visit the sick.

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Visiting the sick is a very good action it has great rewards.
2. Angels make dua for a person who visits the sick.
3. Give the sick person hope that he will soon be cured.
4. Keep your visit short when visiting the sick.
5. Ask the sick person to make dua for you as his dua is accepted.
6. Allah ﷻ builds a palace in Jannah for a person who visits the sick.

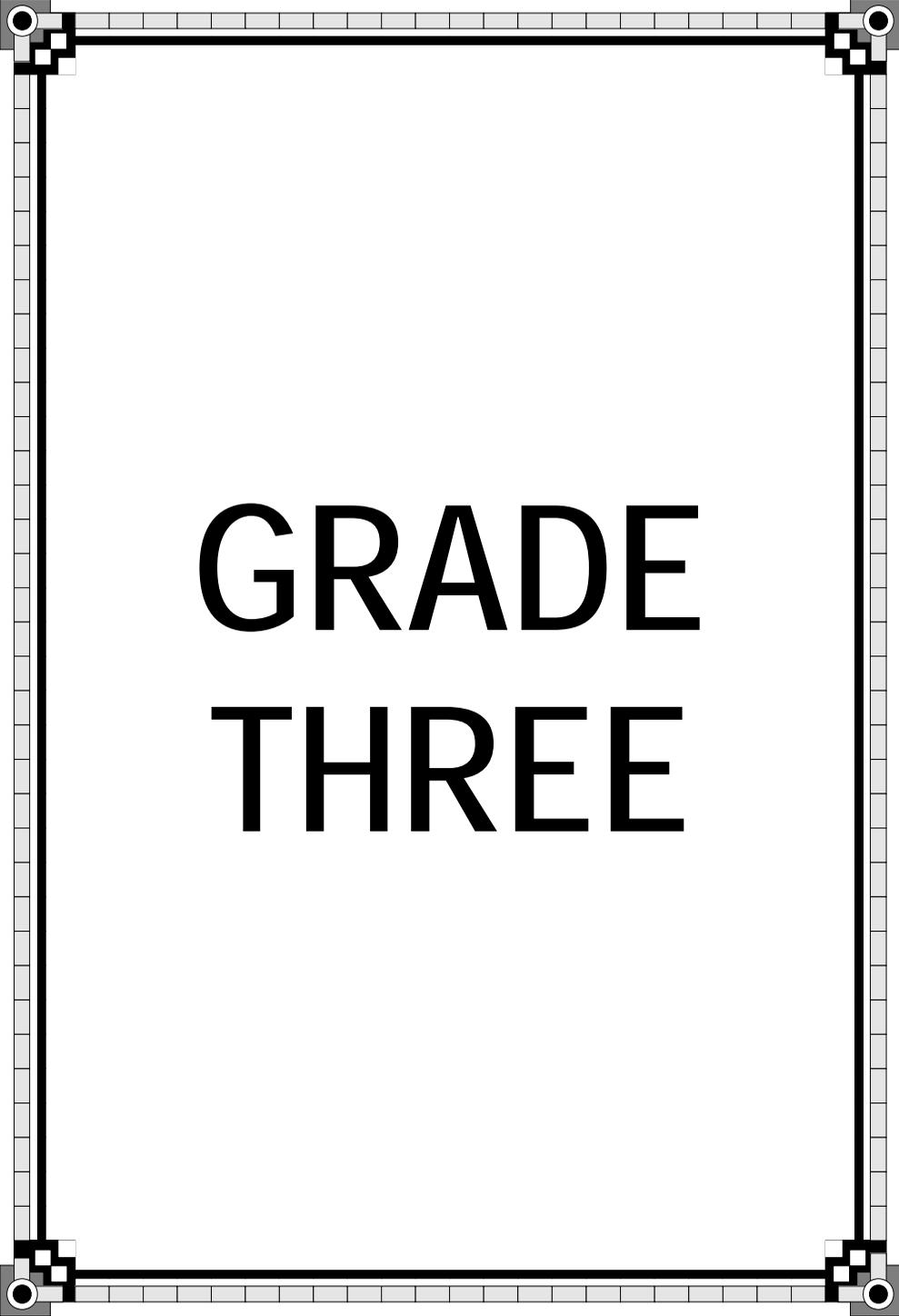
Story 12

Hadhrat Sirri Siqti رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ said, "Once, I had fallen ill and was suffering with diarrhoea. Some people had come to visit me. They sat for so long that it seemed that they were going to stay for the entire day. Their long stay caused me great difficulty because, with them around, it was difficult for me to go to the toilet every now and again. When they were leaving, they asked me to make dua for them. I raised my hands saying, 'O Allah! Teach them the etiquettes of visiting the sick'."

Story 13

Once Allah ﷻ told Hadhrat Moosa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ, "O Moosa! I am sick and you are not coming to visit me." Hadhrat Moosa عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ asked, "O Allah! You are The Greatest. You do not get sick. What do you mean by saying that you are sick and I did not come to visit you?"

Allah ﷻ replied, "O Moosa! A certain servant of mine is sick. Go and visit him because when you will visit him, you will come close to Me. If you visit the sick, you will get lots of thawaab. Visit the sick person even if he is your enemy as this visit could make him your friend. If he does not become your friend, he will not fight with you."



GRADE THREE

11. GUARDING THE TONGUE

أَمْلِكْ عَلَيْكَ لِسَانَكَ

Guard your tongue.

[Tirmidhi]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Say good things or remain silent.
2. Think before you speak.
3. Do not say things, which will cause harm to yourself and others such as lying, backbiting, slandering, swearing etc.
4. Keep your tongue busy in the zikr of Allah ﷻ at all times.
5. Every morning the limbs of the body pleads to the tongue saying, “If you behave yourself, the rest of us will be saved from trouble but if you misbehave (by saying wrong things, arguing, etc.), the rest of us will be in problems.”

Story 14

Once, the master of Hadhrat Luqmaan عليه السلام told him to slaughter a sheep and bring to him the best portions. Hadhrat Luqmaan عليه السلام slaughtered a sheep and brought the tongue and the heart. His master told him to slaughter another sheep and bring the worst portions. Hadhrat Luqmaan عليه السلام slaughtered another sheep and again brought the tongue and the heart. The master was surprised and asked, "How can these two limbs be the best and the worst?" Hadhrat Luqmaan عليه السلام replied, "If these two limbs are used correctly, then they are the best, but if they are used incorrectly, then they are the worst."

12. CRYING OVER ONE’S SINS

وَابْكِ عَلَىٰ خَطِيئَتِكَ

Cry over your sins.

[Tirmidhi]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Crying over our sins means that we should together with crying, also regret committing sins.
2. Sins destroy a person in this world and the hereafter.
3. Stay away from all sins.
4. Seek forgiveness from Allah ﷻ at all times, especially, after doing an evil action.
5. Seek forgiveness at least a hundred times daily. We should seek forgiveness by saying, “Astaghfirullah”.
6. If you harmed or hurt someone, then ask him for forgiveness.

Story 15

Hadhrat Maalik bin Dinaar رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was a very pious man. He was a great sinner before he became pious. He explains how he changed his life.

He says, "When I was young, I was a policeman and very fond of alcohol. I had a daughter whom I loved very much. When she learnt how to talk and walk, I loved her even more. Whenever she used to see me holding a glass of alcohol, she would take it and spill it on my clothes. I never shouted her because I loved her very much. When she was two years old, she passed away and I was extremely sad.

One night I was drunk and went to sleep without reading my Esha Salaah. I had a dream in which I saw that it was the Day of Qiyaamah and everyone was coming out of their graves. I heard the noise of something following me. I looked back and saw a huge, ugly snake coming after me. I started running away to save my life and the snake began chasing me. I saw an old man who was very handsome and smelling of a nice perfume. I made salaam to him and asked him to help me. He started crying and said that he was too weak to help me against such a big snake. He asked me to go to a certain hill that perhaps I would find some help. The snake had come very close to me.

I ran towards the hill and saw that it contained many windows with curtains of silk. An angel called out, 'Come out of your rooms and see if you can help this man in

trouble.' The windows opened and I saw many small children coming out. Amongst them was my daughter who had passed away recently. On seeing me she said, 'By Allah ﷻ! It is my father.' She came to me and I picked her up and hugged her. She pointed towards the snake and it immediately went away. She then made me sit down and sat in my lap. She played with my beard and read the aayat of the Qur'aan which means, *'Has the time not come for the sinful people to change their lives and obey Allah ﷻ?'* I started crying and asked my daughter, 'Do all of you know the meaning of the Qur'aan?' She replied, 'Yes! We know it better than you.' I asked, 'My dear child! What was that snake?' She said, 'It is the shape of your sins. The snake is very strong. It is you who has committed so many sins. It was about to catch you and throw you into Jahannum.' I asked, 'Who was that old, handsome man?' She said, 'That is your good deeds which has become very weak because you did so little good deeds. That is why it could not help you against the snake.' I asked, 'What are you all doing on this hill?' She replied, 'We are the children of the Muslims who died when we were small. We shall wait here until the Day of Qiyaamah when we will be joined to our parents and we will help them if they are in trouble.'

I then woke up still very scared of that big snake. I regretted over my life of sin and turned to Allah ﷻ begging Him to forgive me. I then left out all sins and began to obey Allah ﷻ.

13. HELPING OTHERS

خَيْرُ النَّاسِ أَنْفَعُهُمْ لِلنَّاسِ

The best person is one who benefits other people.

[Kanzul Ummaal]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. We should always help others.
2. We must sacrifice ourselves and our things to help others.
3. When we help others they will love us.
4. They will make dua for us and Allah ﷻ will help us.

Story 16

Hadhrat Umar **D** was a great ruler. He used to walk around the city at night so that he would know the conditions of the people and help them. His desire to help people was such that it prevented him from sleeping at night.

One night he went to the outskirts of Madinah Munawwarah. He came across a tent, outside which, a very worried man was sitting. He also heard a groaning sound

coming from inside the tent. Hadhrat Umar **D** asked him what was happening inside the tent. The man replied that he was a traveller and inside the tent was his wife who was about to have a child. He also said that he had no provisions and he did not know anyone who could help him.

Hadhrat Umar **D** immediately ran home and said to his wife, "O my wife! Allah ﷻ has given us a chance to earn great thawaab. Are you ready for it?" He then explained to her what had happened. She readily agreed. Hadhrat Umar **D** took some flour and butter and his wife took the necessary things needed when a child is to be born. They went quickly to the outskirts of the city. Hadhrat Umar **D** sat with the man and prepared some food while his wife went inside the tent and served as a nurse. After a little while, Hadhrat Umar's **D** wife called out, "O Ameerul Mumineen! Give your friend the good news of a boy." It was then that the man came to know that he was sitting with the leader of the Muslims. He became embarrassed because Hadhrat Umar **D** was serving him. Hadhrat Umar **D** said, "Don't worry. The work of a leader is to serve." They then gave him some provisions and returned home.

14. GOOD CHARACTER

أَحْسِنْ خُلُقَكَ لِلنَّاسِ

Treat others with the best of manners.

[Mishkaat]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Treat others in the way you would like to be treated.
2. Do not be harsh and rude. Be kind to all.
3. Allah ﷻ loves those who have good manners.
4. The best person is the one who has the best manners.
5. If you lose your wealth you have lost nothing, if you lose your health, you have lost something but if you lose your character, you have lost everything.

Story 17

There was a man whose servant had left work without taking his pay. The man took the money, bought some seeds and planted them. The crops grew and the man sold it. He took the money and bought more seeds. More crops grew and he made more money. Eventually, with the money he bought a few cattle. As time passed, the cattle multiplied until they formed a large herd.

Some time later, the servant returned to take his pay which he had forgotten a few years ago. When he asked the man for his pay, the man told him to take the entire herd of cattle. The worker thought that the man was mocking him. The man then explained to him how he had taken his pay and made it grow until it became this large herd of cattle. The worker was very happy and, after thanking the man, he took the herd away.

Story 18

Hadhrat Waail bin Hujr **D** was one of the leaders of Hadra Maut (a city in Yemen). When he accepted Islam, Rasulullah **j** gave him a piece of land in Hadra Maut and instructed Hadhrat Mu'aawiyah **D** to go with him to Yemen and mark off the land for him.

When they set off for Yemen, Hadhrat Waail **D** was mounted on a camel and Hadhrat Mu'aawiyah **D** was on foot. As the heat of the desert increased, the hot sand began to burn the feet of Hadhrat Mu'aawiyah **D**. He

said to Hadhrat Waail **D** , “It is extremely hot and the sand is burning my feet. Will you please allow me to sit behind you on the camel so that my feet do not get burnt?” Hadhrat Waail **D** replied, “You are not fit to sit behind kings on the same mount. However, you may walk in the shadow of my camel.” Hadhrat Mu’aawiyah **D** covered the entire journey, from Madinah Munawwarah to Yemen, in this way. When they reached Yemen, Hadhrat Mu’aawiyah **D** marked off the land for Hadhrat Waail **D** and thereafter returned to Madinah Munawwarah.

After many years, Allah ﷻ made Hadhrat Mu’aawiyah **D** the Khaleefah (Muslim ruler). Hadhrat Waail **D** left Yemen and came to Damascus to meet him. When Hadhrat Mu’aawiyah **D** came to know of this, he went to the outskirts of the city to welcome Hadhrat Waail **D** . He honoured him treated him nicely and not once did he ever remind him about the treatment that he received from him on that occasion many years ago.

15. SWEARING

سَبَابُ الْمُسْلِمِ فُسُوقٌ

Swearing a Muslim is a major sin.
[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Swearing is an evil habit.
2. A person who swears loses his respect.
3. If you swear others they will swear you in return.
4. Swearing will create more problems instead of solving the problem.

Story 19

Once, a man began to swear Hadhrat Abu Bakr **D** whilst Rasulallah **j** was also there. Hadhrat Abu Bakr **D** remained silent. The man continued to swear him but Abu Bakr **D** continued to remain silent. After some time, Hadhrat Abu Bakr **D** said something to him. When he did this, Rasulallah **j** got up and began to walk away. Hadhrat Abu Bakr **D** immediately got up and went after Rasulallah **j**. He asked Rasulallah **j** the reason for going away. Rasulallah **j** replied, "As long as you remained silent, Allah **ﷻ** sent an angel to swear him on your behalf. When you said something in revenge, the angel went away and shaytaan came. I, therefore, went away."

16. MODESTY

الْحَيَاءُ شُعْبَةٌ مِنَ الْإِيمَانِ

Modesty is part of Imaan.

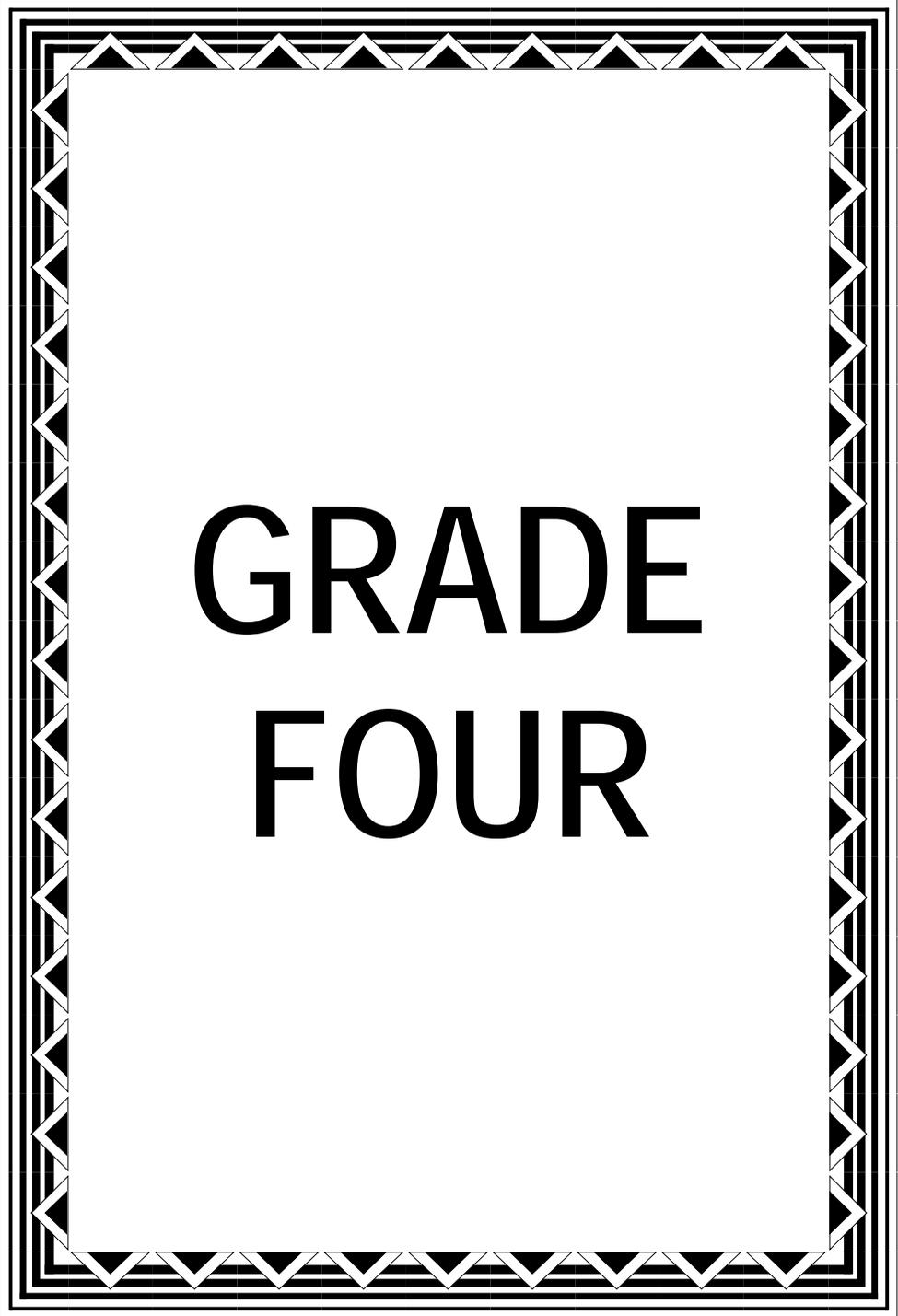
[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. A person who has true Imaan will always be decent and not rude.
2. Modesty should be shown in everything.
3. A person's speech, dressing and manners should always be respectful.
4. Imaan and modesty are joined to one another. If one's modesty is lost, he'll lose his Imaan.

Story 20

Hadhrat Ayesha **D** had great knowledge of Deen. Once, a blind man came to her to ask her some matter of Deen. When this blind person came, she immediately made purdah. The man sensed this and asked, "I am blind, why are you making purdah from me?" Hadhrat Ayesha **D** said, "You are blind but I am not blind. You cannot see me but I can see you."



GRADE FOUR

17. DECEPTION

مَنْ غَشَّنَا فَلَيْسَ مِنَّا

He who deceives us is not one of us.

[Kanzul Ummaal]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Deceiving and cheating are evil habits.
2. They are major sins.
3. Cheating includes lying, tricking and misleading others.
4. The cure for deception is to be truthful at all times.
5. Rasulallah j did not want to have anything to do with a person who cheats and deceives.

Story 21

Rasulallah j once passed by a person who was selling a heap of grain. Rasulallah j put his mubaarak hand inside the heap and took out some grains from inside which were wet. Rasulallah j asked him how the grains got wet. The man said that the grains got wet in the rain so he put dry grains on top to hide it. Rasulallah j told him to leave the wet grains on top so that the people will be able to see them otherwise it will be deception. Thereafter Rasulallah j said, "He who deceives us is not of us."

N.B. Wet grain increases the weight and is defective

18. DUA

الدُّعَاءُ مَخُّ الْعِبَادَةِ

Dua is the essence of Ibaadah.

[Tirmidhi]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Dua means to beg Allah ﷻ for our needs.
2. Dua must be made with humbleness and sincerity.
3. Dua can be made in any language.
4. Dua is a weapon for a believer to solve his problems.
5. For our duas to be accepted we should ensure that our food and earnings are always Halaal.
6. We should ask Allah ﷻ for all our needs of this world as well as the next.

Story 22

Hadhrat Rabi'ah Basriah (R.A) was a lady who was very pious. Once, she was going to Makkah Mukarramah to perform Haj. She had an old donkey to carry her luggage. On the way the donkey died. Her friends offered to carry her goods but she refused. The caravan moved on and Rabi'ah was left alone.

She then made dua to Allah ﷻ, "O Master of the worlds! I am alone, weak and poor. You have invited me to Your house and now You have killed my donkey, leaving me alone. Please help me." Allah ﷻ answered her dua.

At once the donkey became alive. She put her goods on it and continued her journey.

19. INTOXICANTS

كُلُّ مُسْكِرٍ حَرَامٌ

All intoxicants are haraam (unlawful).

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Intoxicants are those things that cause a person to lose his mind and intelligence.
2. Intoxicants may be in a form of drugs such as Mandrax, LSD, Heroin, Ecstasy, Dagga etc. or in a liquid form such as beer, wine, juba and other types of alcohol.
3. Intoxicants lead a person to commit all types of evil actions.

Story 23

Once a king caught a man and said, "If you do not kill this child, or commit sin with this woman or drink wine, I will kill you." The man thought to himself that the least harmful of the three was to drink the wine. In a drunken state, he killed the child and committed sin with that woman.

From this incident we learn that alcohol is the root of all sins. It leads a person to commit many other sins.

20. GRATITUDE

مَنْ لَمْ يَشْكُرِ النَّاسَ لَمْ يَشْكُرِ اللَّهَ

He who does not thank people cannot thank Allah.

[Tirmidhi]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. We should always thank those who help us.
2. We may give them a gift or write a note to express our gratitude.
3. We should always be thankful to Allah ﷻ who provides all our needs.
4. By being grateful and thankful, Allah ﷻ will increase his favours upon us.
5. We should thank others by saying ‘Jazaka Allah’.

Story 24

Hadhrat Luqmaan عليه السلام was the slave of a rich man. The good character of Hadhrat Luqmaan عليه السلام had such an effect on his master that his master used to treat him like a very close friend. It was the habit of the master that whenever he had anything special to eat, he would let Hadhrat Luqmaan عليه السلام eat first and he would eat the leftovers. Hadhrat Luqmaan عليه السلام took into consideration the love of his master and would eat a little and then send the major

portion to his master. One day, during the melon season, the master received a melon from somewhere. At that time Hadhrat Luqmaan ؑ was not there. The master sent someone to call him. When Hadhrat Luqmaan ؑ came, the master cut the melon into slices and started feeding it to him, slice after slice. Hadhrat Luqmaan ؑ ate the slices as though he was really enjoying it and all the time expressed thanks to his master.

When there was one slice left, the master said, "Let me eat this slice and see how sweet this melon is." Saying this, he put a piece of melon into his mouth. The melon was so bitter that it caused him to fall unconscious. When he regained consciousness, he asked Hadhrat Luqmaan ؑ, "How could you eat all those slices with such relish and enjoyment when one piece of it made me fall unconscious?"

Hadhrat Luqmaan ؑ replied, "O Master! I have received hundreds of gifts from you. It would be extremely ungrateful of me to complain of this after enjoying hundreds of favours from you."

21. SALAAH

الصَّلَاةُ عِمَادُ الدِّينِ

Salaah is a pillar of Deen.

[Shu'bul Imaan]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Salaah is the most important form of Ibaadah (worship)
2. When we perform our Salaah we are showing our obedience to our creator.
3. Salaah is the key to jannah.
4. The first question we will be asked on the day of Qiyaamah will be about Salaah.
5. Reading our Salaah will protect us from evil and sins.

Story 25

Once a woman died. Her brother was at the graveside when she was buried. By chance his bag fell inside the grave without anyone noticing. When he came home he realized what had happened. He needed the bag because he had some important papers in it. He decided to secretly go and dig up the grave. When he dug the grave up, he saw that it was full of fire and his sister was being punished. This made him very sad. He went home and told his mother what

he had seen. He asked her if she knew why his sister was being punished. His mother replied that it was probably because she used to delay her salaah and perform it after the time of salaah passed.

Story 26

A great saint once said, "Have your needs fulfilled by Allah ﷻ through Salaah. In the past, when a calamity befell the people, they would hurry towards Salaah."

There was once a porter who was well known for his honesty. People used to give him their money and other valuables to take to different places. Once he was taking some goods to a certain place when he met a man on the way who asked him where he was going. He informed the man. The man asked the porter to give him a lift on his mule. The porter made place for the man on his mule and they continued on their journey.

When they came to a crossroad, the man asked the porter, "Which road will you take?" "The main road," said the porter. The man said, "No, take the other road. It is shorter and there is plenty of grass on the way for the mule to feed on. I have travelled on it often so I am familiar with it." The porter believed him. After a distance, the road ended. There were many dead bodies lying about. The man jumped off the mule and pulled out a knife with the intention of killing the porter. The porter said, "Take the mule and the goods but don't kill me." The man insisted

upon killing the porter. The porter asked the man a chance to perform two rakaats Salaah. The man said, "You can do as you please. All these dead people asked for the same thing but their Salaah did not help them." The porter began his Salaah but could not think of anything to read after Surah Faatihah. Meanwhile the man was getting impatient and told the porter to hurry up. Suddenly the following aayah of the Qur'aan came to the mind of the porter:

أَمَّنْ يُجِيبُ الْمُضْطَرَّ إِذَا دَعَاهُ وَيَكْشِفُ السُّوءَ

'Who is The One who answers the call of the one who is wronged and removes the evil' The porter recited this verse and tears came to his eyes when suddenly a horseman appeared on the scene. He was wearing a shining helmet and carried a spear in his hand. He stabbed the rogue with the spear and killed him. A flame of fire rose from the spot where the dead body fell.

The porter went into sajdah and thanked Allah ﷻ for saving him. He quickly completed his Salaah, ran towards the horseman and asked him who he was. The horseman replied, "I am a slave of The One who answers the call of the oppressed (He was an angel). You are now safe and you may go wherever you please." The horseman then rode away and disappeared.

22. FRIENDS

لَا تُصَاحِبُ إِلَّا مُؤْمِنًا

Do not choose anybody to be your companion except one who is a Muslim.

[Abu Dawood]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. A Muslim should choose his friends carefully.
2. Always check the habits of your friends.
3. If they have any bad habits do not become their friends.
4. Always choose good and pious friends.
5. Always help your friends in need.

Story 27

'Uqbah bin Abi Mu'eet was one of the leaders in Makkah Mukarramah. It was his habit to invite all the noble people of Makkah to a meal whenever he returned from a journey. He used to meet Rasulullah ﷺ quite often and also invite him to these meals.

Once, during one of these meals, he presented the food to Rasulullah ﷺ. Rasulullah ﷺ said, "I cannot eat your food until you say that Allah ﷻ is One and I am His Messenger." 'Uqbah read the kalimah and Rasulullah ﷺ then ate the food. Ubayy bin Khalaf was a close friend of 'Uqbah. When he heard that 'Uqbah read the kalimah and accepted Islaam, he became very angry.

'Uqbah tried to explain to him that Rasulullah ﷺ was a very noble person and if he did not eat the food, 'Uqbah would be disgraced. So, to please Rasulullah ﷺ and to encourage him to eat the food, he read the kalimah. Ubayy did not believe him and said, "If you are true in what you are saying, go and spit in the face of Rasulullah ﷺ." (Na'oozubillah)

'Uqbah listened to his friend and went and spat in the face of Rasulullah ﷺ. Allah ﷻ disgraced both of them in this world and they will be punished severely in the Aakhirah. This is the end result of evil company.



**GRADE
FIVE**

23. SPYING

لَا تَجَسَّسُوا

Do not spy.

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. A Muslim does not spy on another person. Spying is an evil habit.
2. Spying creates hatred because you are interfering in another person's affairs.
3. By spying you will be finding fault with another Muslim whereas finding faults is haraam.
4. We should hide one another's faults.
5. Do not spy into another person's home intentionally.

Story 28

Once Rasulullah j was walking with a group of Sahabah when they passed by two graves. Rasulullah j said, "The two people buried in these graves are being punished. One is being punished because of spying/carrying tales and the other is being punished because of not being careful about the splashes of urine."

Story 29

Once, a person was selling a slave. Someone came and bought the slave. Before selling him, the seller told the buyer that the slave has the fault of carrying tales. The buyer did not worry about it and bought the slave. He took the slave home and gave him work to do. After working for a few days, the slave came to the wife of the master and told her that her husband didn't like her anymore and was planning to remarry.

The wife said in shock, "What are you saying?" The slave said, "I am telling the truth. However, I have a plan which, if you carry out, will make him love you more." The master's wife said, "Tell me this plan." The slave said, "When your husband sleeps at night, shave off a few hairs from under his beard. This is a proven method."

The slave went up to the master and said, "It seems that your wife is interested in someone else and wishes to kill you." The master said in surprise, "That cannot be possible." The slave said, "Test it out for yourself. Tonight pretend to be asleep and see what happens."

That night, the wife took a razor and stretched her hand forward to shave some hair from behind his beard. As she put her hand forward, the master caught her hand and killed her with the same razor. The wife's family heard about it and killed the husband. In turn the husband's family heard about it and killed the wife's family. This fight lasted for many years. This was because of the evil of carrying tales.

24. HUMILITY

مَنْ تَوَاضَعَ لِلَّهِ رَفَعَهُ اللَّهُ

He who humbles himself for the sake of Allah ﷻ, Allah ﷻ will elevate him in rank.

[Shu'bul Imaan]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Being humble means to believe that others are better and superior than you.
2. This will help you in being of service to others.
3. If one has position or wealth one should be more careful to be humble as these qualities create pride in ones heart.
4. We should always feel that we are lower than all Allah's ﷻ creation.

Story 30

Hadhrat Salmaan Farsi **D** was the governor of Madinah Munawwarah. On one occasion, he was walking through the market when someone thought that he was a labourer. That person told him to pick up his load. Hadhrat Salmaan **D** happily picked up the load and carried it for the man. When the people saw this, many requested that he give the load to them but he refused.

After some time the person realised who was carrying his load. He became worried and begged Hadhrat Salmaan **D** to forgive him. Hadhrat Salmaan **D** told him not to worry. The man felt ashamed of what he had done that he took an oath never to give his load to anybody to carry.

Story 31

Hadhrat Umar's **D** journey to Syria is well known. He and his slave were travelling on one camel to Syria. They shared the camel. For a certain distance Hadhrat Umar **D** would ride the camel and his slave would lead it, and for the same distance the slave would ride the camel and Hadhrat Umar **D** would lead it.

At one stage it was Hadhrat Umar's **D** turn to lead the camel when they had to pass through water. He took off his shoes and, holding them under his arms, entered the water and crossed. When they neared Syria, it was once again the turn of Hadhrat Umar **D** to lead the camel. Hadhrat Abu Ubaidah **D**, who was waiting for Hadhrat Umar **D**, saw this and said, "O Ameerul Mumineen, the people of the city will come to welcome you. It is inappropriate that you lead the camel while the slave rides it. You should be riding the camel." Hadhrat Umar **D** replied, "Allah **ﷻ** had honoured us through Islaam. Your suggestion will make me to be unjust to my slave. Should I be unjust to impress people?"

25. OBSCENE TALK

لَمْ يَكُنْ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ فَاحِشًا وَلَا مُتَفَحِّشًا

Nabi j was naturally not an obscene person nor did he behave with indecency.

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. To be obscene means to be rude or indecent.
2. A Muslim is never rude in his behaviour or in his speech.
3. If anyone is rude to you, never behave rudely to him, rather treat him with kindness.
4. We should never swear anyone or behave in a shameless manner.

Story 32

Hadhrat Anas D says, "I was once walking with Rasulullah j . He was wearing a shawl made of coarse material. A villager came up to Rasulullah j , grabbed the shawl and pulled Rasulullah j towards him. He pulled Rasulullah j so hard that the shawl actually left a mark on his blessed shoulder. The villager then said (very rudely and disrespectfully), 'O Muhammad! Give me some of the wealth that is by you which belongs to Allah ﷻ.' (Look at the tolerance and beautiful

character of Rasulullah j) Rasulullah j smiled and told one of the Sahabah to give this villager some wealth."

26. TAQWA (FEAR OF ALLAH)

اتَّقِ اللَّهَ حَيْثُ مَا كُنْتَ

Fear Allah ﷻ wherever you are.

[Shu'bul Imaan]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Taqwa means to fear Allah ﷻ in every place or condition. Allah ﷻ is observing us every moment of our lives.
2. Taqwa is to fulfil every command of Allah ﷻ and to protect yourself from his disobedience by not committing any sin.
3. Allah ﷻ loves those who have the quality of Taqwa.
4. A person who possesses Taqwa will be very close to Rasulullah j on the Day of Qiyaamah.

Story 33

Hadhrat Umar **D** was the leader of the Muslims. One night he was walking in the streets of Madinah. As he passed one of the houses, he heard two people talking. A woman was saying to her daughter, "Let us mix some water with the milk. We can make more money. We are poor and we need the money. Nobody will know what we did."

"No," said the daughter. "It is wrong to mix water with the milk and then to sell it. It is against the order of Hadhrat Umar **D**. It is dishonest."

The mother said, "Hadhrat Umar **D** is not here. He will not know what we are doing." "We must obey Hadhrat Umar **D**, even if he is not here," said the daughter. "Besides, he may not know, but how can we hide from Allah **ﷻ**? He sees everything and He knows everything."

Hadhrat Umar **D** walked off silently. He was very pleased with the girl.

Story 34

Once, while Hadhrat Umar **D** was travelling, he saw a shepherd grazing a flock of sheep. He requested for some milk since the Arabs used to give travellers milk to drink for free. The shepherd apologised and said, "I am not the owner of these sheep. I am only a shepherd. I do not have the owners permission to give you the milk."

Hadhrat Umar **D** decided to test him. He said to the shepherd, "Let me tell you something which will benefit both of us. You sell me a goat. I will benefit from its milk. You can take the money for yourself. As for the owner, tell him that a wolf ate up the sheep. He will believe you because there are many wolves in this area." Upon hearing this, the shepherd immediately started saying,

"Then where is Allah ﷻ? Then where is Allah ﷻ?"

(What the shepherd meant was that have you forgotten that Allah ﷻ is watching? Maybe I can lie to the owner and take away the money, but can I hide from Allah ﷻ?).

Hadhrat Umar **D** was very pleased with his reply. He later bought the shepherd (who was a slave) and freed him. He also gave him many sheep as a gift.

27. HATRED

لَا تَبَاغَضُوا

Do not hate one another.

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. To hate another person is an evil habit.
2. As Muslims we should love each other.
3. We must always keep our hearts clean.
4. If we had a problem or a fight, we should be the first to ask for forgiveness.

Story 35

Hadhrat Anas **D** says, "Once we were sitting with Rasulullah **j** when he said, 'Very soon a person from Jannah will enter.' A man from the Ansaar entered with his shoes in his left hand and water dripping from his beard (showing that he had just made wudhu). The next day Rasulullah **j** repeated his statement and the same man who entered with his shoes in his left hand and water dripping from his beard. The third day the same thing happened.

When Rasulullah j went away, Hadhrat Abdullah bin Umar D went up to that man and said, 'I had an argument with my father and took an oath that I will not stay at home for three days. Please allow me to stay with you for three days.' Hadhrat Abdullah bin Umar D spent the three nights with that Sahaabi and did not see him do any extra ibaadah. After the three days he said to that Sahaabi, "I did not have any argument with my father. I wanted to see what special action you are doing that made Rasulullah j declare you a man of Jannah. Thus I only made an excuse to come and stay with you. Now after staying with you, I don't see anything special."

The Sahaabi said, "I don't do anything special. However, I don't have hatred nor jealousy for any Muslim." Hadhrat Abdullah D then said, "This must be the quality that makes you a Jannati."

28. HAVING MERCY ON OTHERS

لَا يَرْحَمُ اللَّهُ مَنْ لَا يَرْحَمُ النَّاسَ

Allah ﷻ does not show mercy to him who does not show mercy to others.

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. We must be merciful and kind to the creation of Allah ﷻ.
2. We should not ill-treat or harm any creation of Allah ﷻ.
3. Be kind to your servants and workers.
4. Always show kindness to children and to the old people.
5. Allah ﷻ will show kindness and mercy, to a person who is kind and merciful.

Story 36

In the early days of Islaam, the non-Muslims made life very difficult for Rasulullah j . They mocked him and spat in his face. They threw thorns in his path. They threw the insides of a camel on him. They tried to starve him. They stoned him. His tooth was broken in battle. His relatives and friends were killed. They even tried to kill him!

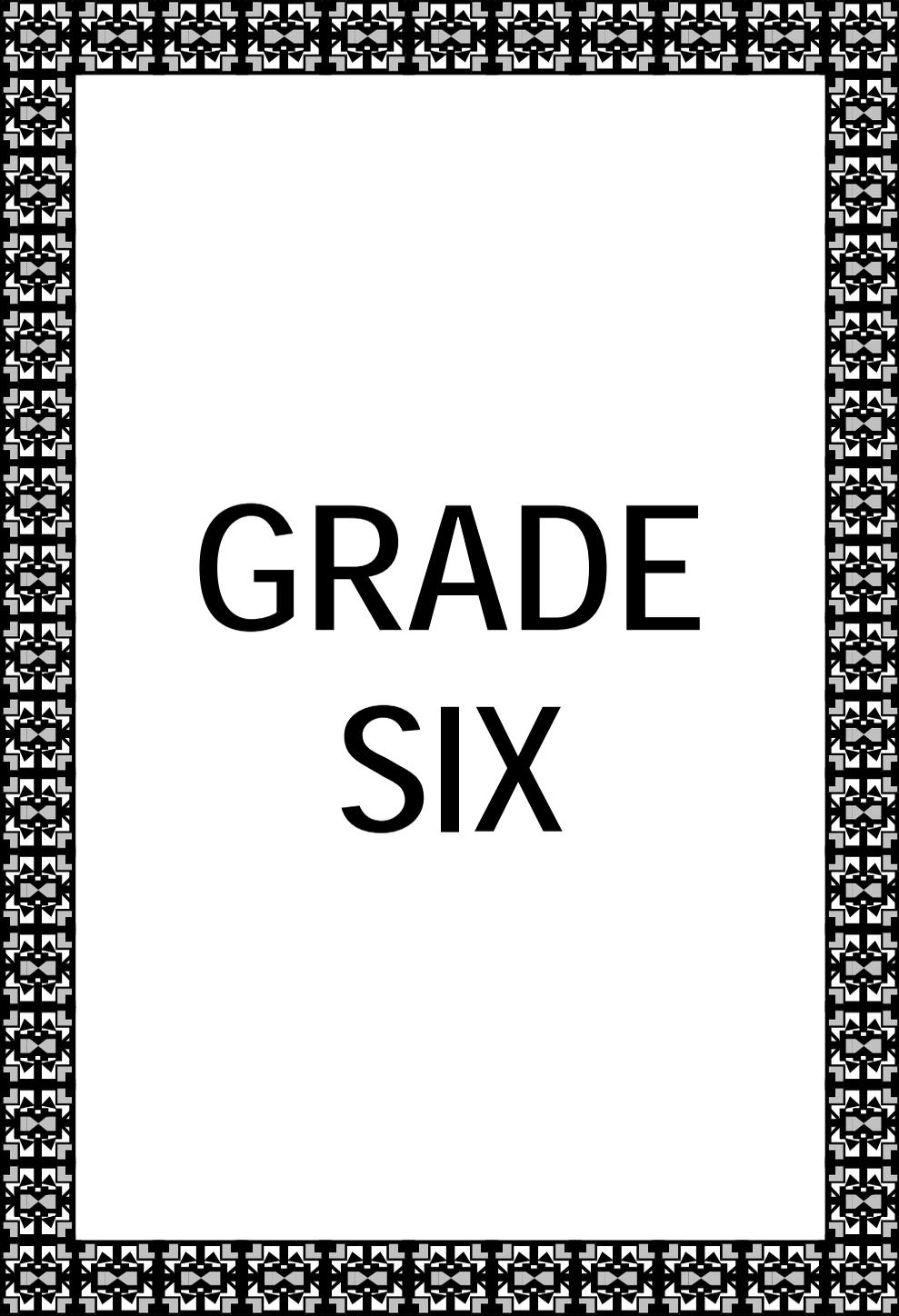
When Rasulullah j entered Makkah victorious, with 10 000 men, the non-Muslims were at his mercy. They were weak, helpless and very frightened. He asked them, "How do you expect me to treat you?" "With kindness and pity, one noble Brother and Nephew!", they replied.

Tears filled the eyes of Rasulullah j and he said, "I say to you what Yusuf عليه السلام said to his brothers. Have no fear this day. Go for you are all free." Rasulullah j had mercy on them.

Story 37

Once, Hadhrat Umar **D** was patrolling the streets of Madinah when he spotted a tent on the outskirts. When he reached there, he saw a woman with children. He noticed that the children were crying and that there was a pot placed on the fire. He asked the woman why the children were crying. She replied that they were crying out of hunger. Hadhrat Umar **D** asked her what was in the pot. She replied that there was only water in the pot to make the children think that something was cooking.

Hadhrot Umar **D** hurried to Madinah to fetch flour, dates and other things to prepare a meal. He carried the food on his back and he himself prepared the meal and gave it to the lady to feed the children. The lady was pleased with Hadhrot Umar's **D** kindness and made dua for him.



GRADE SIX

29. WEALTH

إِنَّ لِكُلِّ أُمَّةٍ فِتْنَةً وَفِتْنَةُ أُمَّتِي الْمَالُ

Every nation had a test. The test of my Ummah is wealth.

[Tirmidhi]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. The test of wealth means that neither should we be greedy for wealth nor should we misuse the wealth Allah ﷻ has provided.
2. Having wealth or money is not harmful provided one uses it correctly.
3. We should not desire for more than what Allah ﷻ has destined for us.
4. We should always thank Allah ﷻ for what He has provided us and trust in Him alone to fulfil our needs.
5. We should always spend in the path of Allah ﷻ by helping the poor and needy.

Story 38

A poor man by the name of Th'alabah ibn Haatib came to Rasulullah j and requested Rasulullah j to make dua that he becomes wealthy. Rasulullah j said, "Don't you like my way (of simplicity and poverty)? I take an oath in that Being who controls my life that if I wished, the mountains of Madinah would turn into gold and follow me wherever I go. However, I do not like such riches." Th'alabah went away.

After some time he came back and made the same request and also promised that if he became wealthy, he would fulfil the rights of everyone. Rasulullah j made dua that he must become wealthy. The result of this dua was that the few goats that he had, began to increase. They increased to such an extent that he had to move to the outskirts of Madinah. Thus he used to perform only Zuhr and Asr with Rasulullah j whilst the rest of the Salaahs he performed at home. Thereafter his goats increased even more and he had to move right out of Madinah. Consequently he used to come for Jumu'ah Salaah only. Eventually he had to move even further out of Madinah and thereafter stopped attending even the Jumu'ah Salaah.

Meanwhile the aayaat of Zakaat were revealed. Rasulullah j wrote out in detail the Zakaat that should be taken from animals. Rasulullah j then gave the paper to two Sahaabah and told them to collect the Zakaat from the people he also

specifically instructed them to go to Th'alabah and another person from the Banu Sulaim tribe.

When these two people reached Th'alabah and showed him the paper of Rasulullah j , he said, "This is Kharaaj (tax taken from non-Muslims). Carry on with your work. On your way back, stop by me again."

The two of them then went to the person from the Banu Sulaim tribe. When he saw how much Zakaat he had to give from his animals, he chose the best animals and happily gave it to them. They said, "You have brought the best animals whereas we have been instructed to take the average animal, not the highest quality nor the lowest quality. Thus we cannot take these animals." However this person insisted that they take the best quality animals. They then went and collected Zakaat from the other people.

On their return, they again stopped by Th'alabah. He asked them to show him the paper on which the details of the Zakaat were written. After examining it again, he said, "This is a tax which is not to be taken from Muslims. Carry on back to Madinah. I will think about it for a while before I make a decision."

When they returned to Madinah, they reported the entire incident to Rasulullah j . Rasulullah j was pleased with the man from the Banu Sulaim tribe and made dua that Allah ﷻ give him a lot of Barakah in his life. When Rasulullah j

heard about Th'alabah, he said thrice, "Woe be to Th'alabah!" Ayaat of the Qur'aan were then revealed about Th'alabah. A friend of Th'alabah who was present immediately went to Th'alabah, rebuked him and told him what had happened.

Th'alabah rushed to Madinah with his Zakaat and begged Rasulullah j to accept it. Rasulullah j said, "I have been commanded by Allah ﷻ not to accept your Zakaat. When I had sent my instruction to you, you did not obey. Now your Zakaat cannot be accepted."

Shortly thereafter Rasulullah j passed away. When Hadhrat Abu Bakr ؓ was the Khaleefah, Th'alabah brought his Zakaat to him. Hadhrat Abu Bakr ؓ said, "How can I accept what Rasulullah j did not accept?" When Hadhrat Umar ؓ became the Khaleefah, Th'alabah again brought his Zakaat. Hadhrat Umar ؓ said, "How can I accept what Rasulullah j and Hadhrat Abu Bakr ؓ did not accept?" When Hadhrat Uthmaan ؓ became the Khaleefah, Th'alabah once again brought his Zakaat. Hadhrat Uthmaan ؓ said, "How can I accept that which was not accepted by Rasulullah j , Hadhrat Abu Bakr ؓ and Hadhrat Umar ؓ ?" Th'alabah died during the rule of Hadhrat Uthmaan ؓ .

30. SEEKING KNOWLEDGE

طَلَبُ الْعِلْمِ فَرِيضَةٌ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِمٍ

Seeking knowledge is the compulsory duty of every Muslim.

[Ibn Majah]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Ilm or Knowledge of Islam is the greatest treasure and fortune any person can gain.
2. Ignorance of Islam is the worst poverty.
3. Without Ilm a person will never understand his purpose of life nor will he be able to practice his Deen.
4. When a person seeks the knowledge of Deen, Angels accompany him and he is rewarded for every step he takes towards learning.
5. A student of Deen is protected from sin when he learns and the mercy of Allah ﷻ descends upon him.
6. We should always have a desire to learn more about our Deen.

Story 39

Kathir bin Qais says, "I was sitting with Hadhrat Abu Darda **D** in a masjid in Damascus when a person came to him and said, 'O Abu Darda **D** ! I have come all the way from Madinah Munawwarah to learn one Hadith from you as I understand that you have heard it directly from Rasulallah j .' Hadhrat Abu Darda **D** asked him if he had any other work in Damascus. He replied that he did not have any other work. Hadhrat Abu Darda **D** again asked, 'Are you sure that you have no other work in Damascus?' He replied, 'I have come here only to learn this Hadith from you.' Hadhrat Abu Darda **D** then said, 'Listen! I have heard Rasulallah j saying that Allah ﷻ eases the way to Jannah for one who travels to seek knowledge. The angels spread their wings for him and everything in the heavens and earth even the fish in the sea, make dua for his forgiveness. The superiority of a person possessing knowledge over a person involved in worship is like the superiority of the moon over the stars. The Ulama are the inheritors of the Ambiyaa ﷺ. The Ambiyaa ﷺ did not leave behind gold and silver. They left behind knowledge. A person who acquires knowledge acquires a great wealth.' "

Hadhrat Abu Darda **D** was one of the Sahabah who had great knowledge. He is known as Hakimul-Ummah (The very wise person of the ummah).

Hadhrat Anas **D** narrates that Rasulallah j said, "If you wish to see people who are freed from the fire of

Jahannum, then look at the students studying the knowledge of Deen. By Allah ﷻ, when a student goes to the door of an 'Aalim with the intention of learning, for every step that he takes he will be given the reward of one years 'ibaadah. Every portion of ground that he steps on makes dua for his forgiveness and day and night the angels announce, 'Here are those whom Allah ﷻ has freed from the fire (of Jahannum).' In this way an abode is made for him in Jannah."

Story 40

Many students were studying Hadith in Madinah Munawwarah by Imaam Maalik رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ. One day there was an announcement that an elephant had come into the town. An elephant is a very strange animal to the Arabs. The students heard this announcement and immediately left the lessons and ran out. One of the students, whose name was Yahya, remained seated peacefully. Imaam Maalik رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ asked him: "There are no elephants in the country that you live in. Why don't you also go to see it?" Yahya replied: "Hadhrat, I left Spain to meet you and learn from you. I did not leave my hometown to see elephants." Imaam Maalik رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was very pleased when he heard this reply and gave him the title; "The most intelligent of the people of Andalus (Spain)."

31. LEARNING THE QUR'AAN

خَيْرُكُمْ مَنْ تَعَلَّمَ الْقُرْآنَ وَعَلَّمَهُ

The best amongst you is he who learns the Qur'aan and teaches it.

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. The Qur'aan is the greatest gift and blessing of Allah ﷻ.
2. Those who are making an effort to learn or teach the Qur'aan are very fortunate as they are best of all people.
3. We should always try to learn to recite the Qur'aan correctly with Tajweed.
4. We should also learn the meaning of the Qur'aan and practice on its teachings.
5. Great rewards have been promised for those who are learning or teaching the Qur'aan.

Story 41

Hadhrat Zaid bin Thaabit **D** was six years old when his father passed away. He was eleven at the time of hijrah. He wanted to take part in the battles of Badr and Uhud but was not allowed because of his young age. He took part in all the battles thereafter.

When the Sahabah were marching towards Tabuk for battle, the flag of the Banu Maalik tribe was being held by Ammarah **D**. Rasulallah **j** instructed him to give it to Hadhrat Zaid **D**. Ammarah **D** thought that maybe, someone had complained about him therefore Rasulallah **j** instructed him to give the flag away. He asked, "O Rasulallah **j**, is this because someone complained about me?" Rasulallah **j** replied, "No. Because Zaid **D** knows more Qur'aan than you. This has given him preference."

32. THE BEST ZIKR

أَفْضَلُ الذِّكْرِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

The best form of Zikr is “Laa ilaha illallah”.

[Tirmidhi]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Zikr means to remember or think of Allah ﷻ.
2. A person who remembers Allah ﷻ, Allah ﷻ remembers him.
3. By making Zikr our hearts will be cleansed of all evil qualities.
4. A person who recites **laa ilaha illallah** 100 times daily, his face will shine like the full moon on the day of Qiyaamah.
5. A person who makes the Zikr of Allah ﷻ is like a living person, whilst a person who does not make Zikr is like a dead person (spiritually).

Story 42

Once, Hadhrat Moosa ؑ asked Allah ﷻ to teach him a special form of Zikr. Allah ﷻ told him to read **laa ilaha illallah**. Hadhrat Moosa ؑ said that this Zikr is read by everybody. Allah ﷻ again told him to read **laa ilaha illallah**. Hadhrat Moosa ؑ replied that he wanted a Zikr that was for him only. Allah ﷻ said, "O Moosa ؑ, if the seven skies and the seven earths were placed in one pan of the scale and the kalimah **laa ilaha illallah** was placed in the other pan, the kalimah will be heavier."

Story 43

Abu Yazeed Qurtubi رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ writes, "On learning (through the Hadith) that the one who reads لا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ seventy thousand times will be saved from the fire of Jahannum, I completed this number once for my wife and few times for myself.

There used to live near us a young man who was known to be blessed with the power of kashf (Allah ﷻ sometimes allows him to see certain things of the unseen like what is happening in someone's grave, Jannat, Jahannum, etc.) but I hesitated to believe it.

Once, this young man was eating with us when he suddenly uttered a cry and said, "I see my mother burning in the fire of Jahannum." When I saw how grieved he was, I thought of giving one of my complete seventy thousand recitations of the Kalimah for his mother. I quietly did so in my heart without telling anybody about it. As soon as I did this, the young man became happy and said, "O Uncle, my mother has been relieved of the punishment of Jahannum." This incident proved useful to me in two ways: Firstly, the blessing of reciting the Kalimah seventy thousand times was proved by actual experience, and secondly, it showed that the young man was really blessed with the power of kashf."

33. DUROOD SHAREEF

مَنْ صَلَّى عَلَيَّ وَاحِدَةً صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ عَشْرًا

One who sends one durood upon me, Allah ﷺ will bless him ten fold.

[Muslim]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Our Nabi j made great sacrifices on our behalf. He went through many difficulties for us.
2. We should send Durood and Salaam upon him in great quantity in return for his favours upon us.
3. By sending Durood upon Nabi j , the love of Nabi J will enter our hearts.
4. A person who does not send Durood after hearing the name of our Nabi j is a miser or a stingy person.
5. We should at least send 100 Durood upon our Nabi j daily.
6. We should increase our recitation of durood on Fridays.

Story 44

Allah ﷻ once revealed to Hadhrat Moosa ؑ, "O Moosa ؑ, if there were no people on earth to make My Zikr, I would not send down a single drop of rain nor would I allow a single seed to grow. O Moosa ؑ, do you wish to become very close to me?" Hadhrat Moosa ؑ said, "Yes indeed O Allah ﷻ." Allah ﷻ said, "Recite abundant Durood on the Prophet Muhammad j ."

Story 45

Ubaidullah bin Umar **D** says, "I once had a close friend who was a writer. After he died, I saw him in a dream and asked him how Allah ﷻ had treated him. He said that Allah ﷻ had forgiven him. I asked him what action of his was liked by Allah ﷻ for which Allah ﷻ had forgiven him. He replied that whenever he used to write the name of Rasulullah j , he used to always add j . For this Allah ﷻ gave him what no eye has seen, no ear has heard of and no heart has imagined."

34. BACKBITING

إِيَّاكُمْ وَ الْغِيْبَةَ

Save yourself from backbiting.

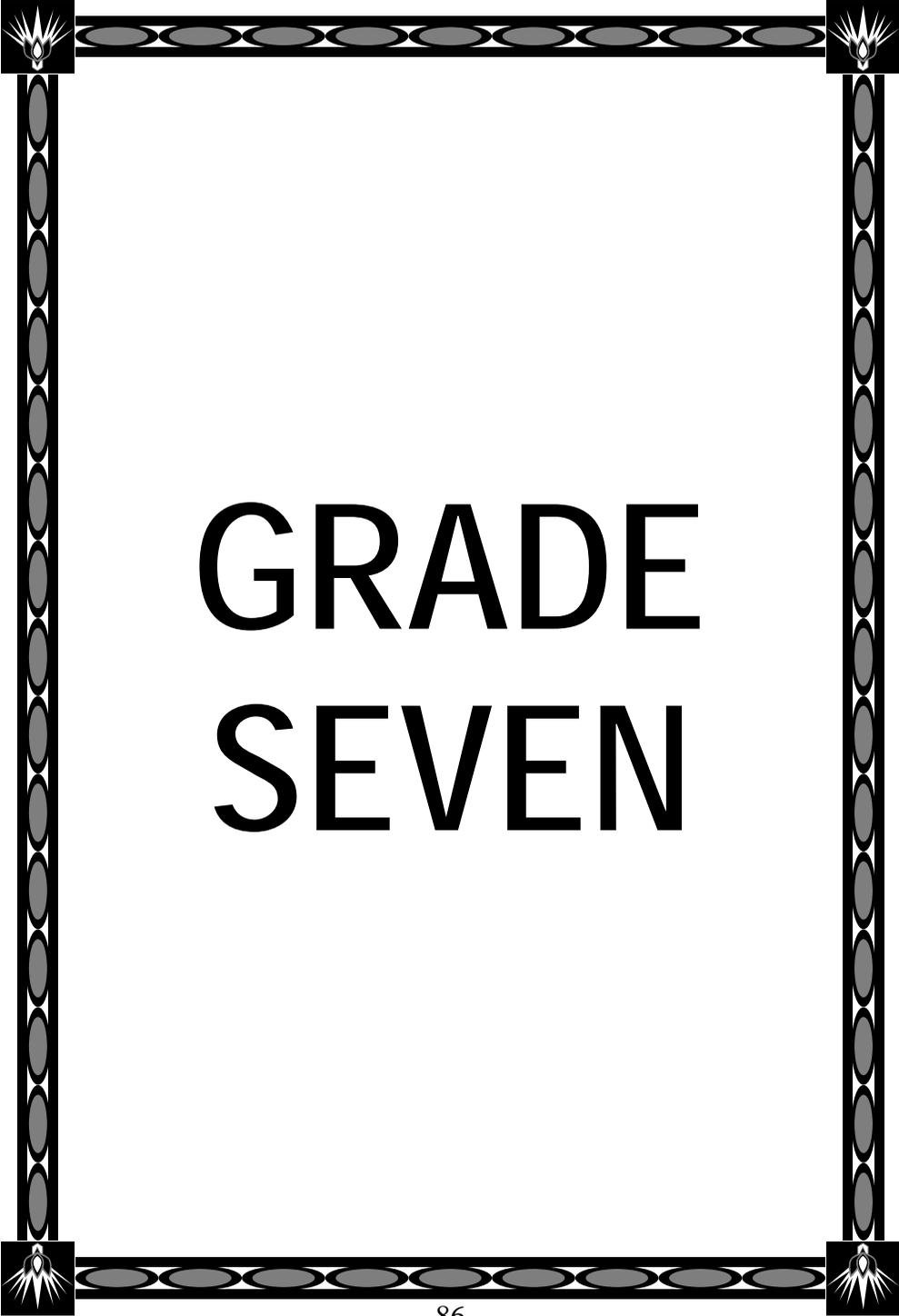
[Kanzul Ummaal]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Backbiting means to say such things about someone in his absence which if he happens to hear he will dislike.
2. If what is said about him is found in him then this is gheebah and if not, then it is slander, which is worse than backbiting.
3. Backbiting creates disunity, fighting, hatred, jealousy, etc.
4. Backbiting is like eating someone's dead flesh.
5. We are giving all our good deeds away to that person whom we speak ill of.

Story 46

Rasulullah j once commanded the people to fast and said to them that none of them should break their fast until he gives them permission. When the night set in, a person came to Rasulallah j and said, "O Rasulallah j , please permit me to break my fast." Rasulallah j permitted him. Another person came with the same request and was also granted permission to break his fast. A third person came and said, "O Rasulallah j , there are two women who are finding the fast very difficult. They are feeling shy to ask you for permission to break their fast. Please give them permission." Rasulallah j turned away from him. He presented his request a second time but again Rasulallah j turned away from him. When he requested for the third time, Rasulallah j turned away from him and said, "They did not fast. They were eating the flesh of people during the day (they were indulging in gheebah). Go and tell them to vomit." This man went and told those two women to vomit. When they vomited, blood and pieces of flesh came out. He returned and informed Rasulallah j of what happened. Rasulallah j said, "If that blood and flesh remained in their stomachs, they would have entered the fire of Jahannum."



GRADE SEVEN

35. NEIGHBOURS

خَيْرُ الْجِيرَانِ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ خَيْرُهُمْ لِجَارِهِ

The best neighbour in the sight of Allah ﷻ is he who is good to his neighbour.

[Mustadrak Haakim]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. We should always be kind to our neighbours. Never harm them in any way.
2. We should always be the first to help them if they are in any difficulty.
3. We should share our food with them. If they are poor we should assist them.
4. We should not do any action which will cause problems like disturbing them when they are asleep.
5. If they cause any difficulty to us we should be patient and forgive them.

Story 47

One of the neighbours of Hadhrat Bayazid Bustami رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was a fire-worshipper. This neighbour once went on a journey, leaving behind his wife and his suckling child. When the night would approach, the child would become restless and cry because of the darkness. (They didn't have a lamp). When Hadhrat Bayazid رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ came to know of this, he would light his lamp and leave it at the neighbour's house at night. Because of the light, the child would be at ease and sleep soundly. When the fire-worshipper returned, his wife informed him of the kindness of Hadhrat Bayazid رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ. This had such an effect on the fire-worshipper that he immediately went next door and accepted Islam at the hands of Hadhrat Bayazid رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ.

Story 48

One of the neighbours of Imaam Abu Haneefah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was a cobbler. During the day he would be busy making and mending shoes and at night he would get drunk and sing till late, causing a disturbance. Every night, whilst performing Salaah, Imaam Abu Haneefah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ would hear him making noise.

One night, Imaam Abu Haneefah رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ did not hear him making noise. On making enquiries, he found out that the police had arrested the cobbler. Next morning, immediately after Salaah, Imaam Sahib رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ went to the door of the governor of the city. The governor received him honourably and asked if he needed anything. Imaam Sahib رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ said, "One of my neighbours has been arrested. I request the governor to release him." The governor ordered the release of Imaam Sahib's رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ neighbour as well as all the other prisoners who were arrested on that day.

As Imaam Sahib رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was returning from the governor's house, his neighbour, who was now released, ran up to him and said, "You have made great consideration for me. May Allah سُبْحَانَكَ grant you the greatest reward for protecting your neighbour."

The cobbler repented from drinking alcohol. He then began to attend the gatherings of Imaam Sahib رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ until he became one of the prominent Ulama of the time.

36. GIFTS

تَهَادَوْا تَحَابُّوْا

Give gifts to each other you will love each other.

[Al-Adabul Mufrad]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. Muslims should always love one another.
2. By giving gifts to another Muslim it shows our love for him.
3. Giving of gifts removes hatred from the heart.
4. If we give someone a gift we should never ask him to return it.
5. We should make a habit of giving gifts to one another.
6. We should not feel shy to give simple things as gifts.

37. DOUBTFUL THINGS

دَعْ مَا يُرِيْبُكَ إِلَىٰ مَا لَا يُرِيْبُكَ

Leave out those things which create doubt in your mind and choose those things that do not create doubt in your mind.

[Tirmidhi]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. If a person is in doubt regarding the permissibility of something, he should abstain from it.
2. Use only things that are not doubtful.
3. Stay away from doubtful foods. Do not eat such food which are you not sure of.
4. A person who avoids doubtful things safeguards his Imaan and his honour.
5. A person who uses doubtful things might indulge in haraam.
6. Remember, “**when in doubt leave it out**” or “**first find out**”.

Story 49

Hadhrat Abu Bakr **D** had a slave who used to give him a portion of his daily income. Once the slave brought some food from which Hadhrat Abu Bakr **D** ate a morsel from it. The slave said, "You always first ask me where I get the food from, but today you did not ask." Hadhrat Abu Bakr **D** replied, "I was so hungry that I forgot. Tell me now, how did you get this food?" The slave said, "Before I became a Muslim, I used to do fortune-telling (which is haraam). I did some fortune-telling for some people who promised to pay me later. I happened to see those people today celebrating a wedding and they gave me this food."

Abu Bakr **D** said, "Ah! This will kill me." He then tried to vomit the morsel which he had swallowed but could not do so as his stomach had been quite empty. Somebody suggested that he drink water to his fill and then try to vomit. He kept on drinking water and vomiting until the morsel came out. Somebody remarked, "May Allah ﷻ have mercy on you! You put yourself through such difficulty for a single morsel."

Hadhrat Abu Bakr **D** said, "I would have taken it out even if I had to lose my life. I have heard Rasulullah **j** saying, 'The flesh nourished by haraam food will go into the fire of Jahannum.' I therefore quickly tried to vomit that morsel lest any portion of my body should receive nourishment from it."

The pious people would not eat anything until they were perfectly sure that it was halaal. If there was the slightest doubt, they would not eat it and if by mistake they ate it, they would immediately vomit it out.

Story 50

Hadhrat Umar **D** once received some musk from Bahrain. He said, "I want someone to weigh it so that it may be equally distributed among the Muslims." His wife said, "I shall weigh it." Hadhrat Umar **D** kept quiet. A little later he again asked for someone to weigh the musk and again his wife volunteered to do so. Again, Hadhrat Umar **D** kept quiet. When she offered for the third time, Hadhrat Umar **D** said, "I do not like your touching the musk while weighing it and rubbing it on yourself afterwards as this would amount to something more than my share."

Any other person weighing the musk would have had the same advantage but Hadhrat Umar **D** did not like this preference for any member of his own family. Look at this cautiousness to avoid even the slightest bit of doubt.

38. ANGER

اجْتَنِبُوا الْغَضَبَ

Avoid anger.

[Shu'bul Imaan]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. It is necessary to control one's anger.
2. Shaytaan takes control of a person who does not control his anger.
3. If an angry person is standing he should sit down. If he is sitting he should lie down or move away from the place.
4. When angry, recite Ta'awwuz, drink water or make wudhu.

Story 51

Once, a pious person by the name of Hadhrat Bayazid Bustami رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ was getting ready for the Eid Salaah. He had a bath, put on clean clothes, applied some itr and set off for the Eidgaah. While passing by a house, someone mistakenly threw some ash from the roof, which landed on Hadhrat Bayazid رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ. Instead of getting angry, Hadhrat Bayazid رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ started rubbing the ash on himself and said to himself, "O Bayazid! You were deserving of fire burning you but Allah ﷻ sent ash." He went away without even looking up to see who had thrown the ash.

Story 52

Once, shaytaan approached Hadhrat Moosa عليه السلام and said, "You are the chosen messenger of Allah ﷻ. You speak directly to Allah ﷻ. I wish to repent. I request you to intercede on my behalf to Allah ﷻ. Hadhrat Moosa عليه السلام was very happy at this. If shaytaan repented, he would not mislead the people anymore. Everyone would then obey Allah ﷻ. He made wudhu and performed salaah. He then made dua. Allah ﷻ said, "O Moosa, shaytaan is a liar and he intends to deceive you. Tell him if he wishes to make taubah, he should go to the grave of Hadhrat Aadam عليه السلام and make sajdah there."

Hadhrat Moosa عليه السلام was again very happy as he thought that this was a very easy thing for shaytaan to do. He conveyed the message to shaytaan. When shaytaan heard this, he became very angry and said, "How can I make sajdah to that person who is dead when I did not make sajdah to him whilst he was alive.

Nevertheless O Moosa عليه السلام, you have done me a favour. In appreciation for what you have done, I will tell you something. On three occasions beware of me:

- 1) At the time of anger. At that time I am in the heart of a human being and I run in his body like blood.
- 2) At the battlefield (as well as when learning or propagating Deen or being in any way in the path of Allah

ﷺ). At that time I attract the person to his wife, children and belongings so that he may return to them.

3) When a male and female are in privacy. I attract them to each other until they both engage in evil."

39. BEING ALONE WITH A FEMALE

لَا يَخْلُونَ رَجُلٌ بِامْرَأَةٍ

No male should be alone with a strange female.

[Bukhaari]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. If a strange male and female are alone then the third person is Shaytaan. Strange means that they are not blood relatives eg. (Father and daughter, Mother and son or brother and sister.)
2. Shaytaan will try his best to make them commit an evil action as he becomes the messenger between the two of them.
3. A person should be careful not to go to such places where he will be alone with a female.
4. A strange male and female may only remain alone in privacy once they are married.

Story 53

There was a very pious monk In the Bani Israeel who was famous for his piety. He used to stay alone in his monastery and engage himself in the worship of Allah ﷻ. There were three brothers and their sister also staying in that area. The three brothers were called to go out in jahaad. They were concerned about the safety of their sister. After making mashwara (i.e. after holding a meeting) they decided to leave her by the monk. They trusted him because of his piety.

When they approached him and informed him of their intention of leaving their sister with him he blankly refused. After much insistence and begging, he finally agreed to look after their sister. He told them to leave her in a small house which was next to his monastery. They left her there and went out in jahaad.

Initially, the monk used to take food and leave it outside the door of the house. He would then go back to his monastery and from there inform her that her food was by the door. Gradually shaytaan began to whisper to him, "The poor girl is alone. She has no family with her and she doesn't know anybody else. At least speak to her a little so that she won't feel so lonely." Thus he began to speak to her a little but from outside the house (He was outside while she was inside). As time went, their conversations got longer and longer until eventually they began to speak to one another for the entire day.

Then shaytaan again began to whisper to him, "It is rude to speak to someone while you are outside and the other person is inside. Etiquette demands that you go inside the house and speak to her." Thus he began to go inside the house and speak to her. Within a very short time, shaytaan got them involved in sin. After some time she gave birth to a son. Shaytaan began to frighten the monk about what will happen when her brothers return. In this fear he killed their sister and her child, dug a hole in which he placed their bodies and placed a big rock over it.

When the brothers returned to fetch their sister, the monk told them that she got very sick and died. He then took them to a place and said that this was where he buried her. (That was not the real place where her body was) The brothers were very grieved over the death of their sister. That night, shaytaan came in the dream of all the brothers and told them that the monk lied to them. Actually he fathered a child from her then killed her and her child. He then showed them the place where their bodies were buried.

In the morning the brothers discovered that they all had the same dream. They went to the place which they were shown in the dream. They moved the rock, dug up the hole and found the bodies of their sister and her child. They then approached the monk and informed him of what they had seen in their dream. The monk confessed that he had done all these evil things.

The brothers then took their case to the king who decided that the monk should be executed. Just before his execution, shaytaan came up to the monk and said, "It was I who encouraged the brothers to leave their sister in your care, it was I who urged you to speak to her, it was I who prompted you to go inside the house, it was I who tempted you to sin and it was I who told the brothers the truth. I put you in all these problems. Now if you believe in me and disbelieve in Allah ﷻ, I will get you out of all these problems." At that moment he disbelieved in Allah ﷻ and he was executed. May Allah ﷻ save us from such an evil death. *Aameen.*

40. DEATH

أَكْثِرُوا ذِكْرَ هَازِمِ اللَّذَاتِ يَعْنِي الْمَوْتَ

Increase in the remembrance of the destroyer of all pleasures (death).

[Tirmidhi]

Lessons learnt from this Hadith:

1. A person who is enjoying the pleasures of this life forgets that he will have to die.
2. Death will bring an end to the pleasures of life in this world.
3. We should prepare ourselves for the life of the hereafter by thinking of death all the time.
4. The actions of a person will accompany him in the hereafter.
5. We should always do such actions that will benefit us in the Hereafter.

Story 54

There was once a man who amassed great wealth. He built a magnificent palace for himself and arranged all types of comforts and luxuries in it. When he moved into the palace, he organized a feast for his friends and relatives. When everyone sat down for meals, he sat on a throne and thought to himself that he has a good stock of everything which will last for years. While he was thinking these thoughts, a beggar came and knocked on the door so loudly that it disturbed all the guests who were eating.

The servants rushed to the door to see who was causing the disturbance. When they saw this person, they asked him what he wanted. He said, "Send your master to me." They said, "Do you think our master is going to come out to see you?" The man said, "He will come. Go and tell him." When they went and told their master about it, he said, "Why didn't you all give him a good hiding and send him away for being so rude?" As he said this, the man started knocking even louder. The servants again rushed to the door. The man said, "Tell your master that I am Izraeel, the angel of death." The servants were shocked and when they told their master, he was stunned and humbly said, "Ask him to take someone else in my place."

The angel, who had entered the palace already, said, "You can do what you want but I cannot go back until I take your soul out of your body." The rich man gathered his wealth and said, "Curses upon you, O wretched wealth! You kept me too busy to remember and worship Allah ﷻ." Allah ﷻ

granted his wealth the power to speak and it said to him, "Why do you curse me? It was because of me that you could go into the courts of kings when the poor were driven away. It was because of me that women were attracted to you and you used to indulge in sin with them. You spent me on haraam and I was helpless in your hands. Had you spent me on good, I would have benefited you." In the middle of this dialogue, the angel of death pulled out the soul from his body. This was a bad ending for the one who forgot death.

Story 55

A king once decided to tour his kingdom. A suit of clothes was brought to him but he rejected it. Another was brought but he rejected it also. After rejecting many different suits of clothing, he finally chose one. He wore this elegant suit and called for a horse. A fine horse was brought but he rejected it. Another was brought which he also rejected. An entire stable of horses was brought before him and he selected the best horse. The king then mounted the horse and rode off followed by his courtiers, ministers and soldiers. Shaytaan made him feel very proud and superior to everyone else. As he rode on, he came across an old man who was dressed in rags. The old man greeted the king but the king ignored him. The old man caught hold of the horse's bridle. This greatly angered the king who said, "Off with you. How dare you catch hold of my horse's reins?" The man said, "I have some business with you." The king said, "Be patient and wait till I return

for then I shall have time to listen to what you have to say." The man said, "I must say it now." He then gave a violent tug and pulled the bridle away. The king asked, "Well, what do you want to say?" The man said, "It is a secret, I must whisper it in your ears." The king bowed his head and the man whispered in his ears, "I am the Angel of Death and I have come to take your soul." The king turned pale and said in a shaky voice, "Please give me some time to go home, meet my people and arrange my affairs." The angel said, "No, you shall have no respite. Never again shall you meet your people or see your possessions." Saying this, the Angel of Death pulled out the soul from his body and he fell down from the horse like a log of dry wood.

After this, the Angel of Death went to a pious man who was also on a journey. The angel greeted him with Salaam and the man replied with Salaam. The angel said to him, "I want to say something in your ear. I am the Angel of Death." The man said, "Most welcome! Blessed is your visit! I have been waiting for you for a very long time. Of all the people who were away from me, I was most anxious to meet you." The angel said, "Go and hasten to do the task for which you have undertaken the journey." The man said, "I would dearly love to meet my Allah ﷻ more than anything else in the world." The angel said, "Choose for yourself any state in which you would like to meet death and I shall draw out your soul when you are in that state." The man said, "Let me make wudhu and stand in salaah. When I am in Sajdah, take my life away." The pious man began his Salaah and

when he went into Sajdah, his soul was taken out of his body.