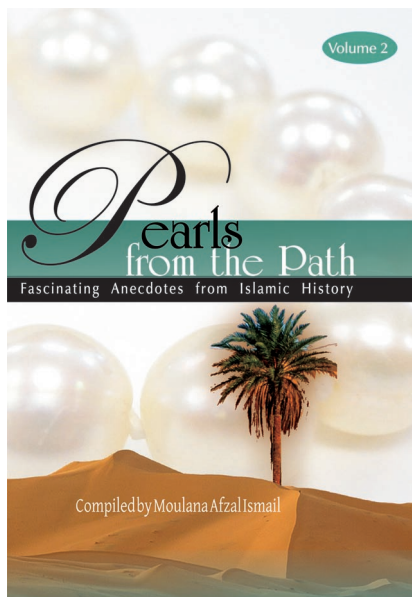


Pearls from the Path

Volume 2

A Compilation of Fascinating Stories and Anecdotes
from Islamic History

Compiled by Moulana Afzal Ismail



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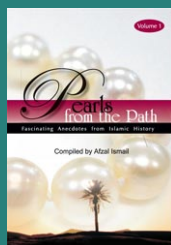
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A Pious Woman Teaches Man Etiquette

Muḥammad ibn Sulaimān Al-Qurashī says that he was once walking on the road to Yemen, when he came across a young boy, who was singing some couplets in praise of Allāh ﷻ. Muḥammad continues: I went up to him and greeted.

He responded, “I will not return your greeting until you fulfil the right I have upon you.”

I enquired, “What right are you talking about?”

He replied, “I follow the teachings of the friend of Allāh, Ibrāhīm ؑ. I do not partake of breakfast or supper every day, until I have walked a mile or two in search of a guest. I would like you to join me for a meal.”

I accepted his invitation. He was exceedingly pleased and I followed him. We continued walking, until we arrived at a tent made of animal skin. As we approached it, he called out, “O my sister!”

From inside the tent a young girl replied, “Yes, I am here.”

He exclaimed, “Our guest has arrived.”

She responded, “Can you please wait a while so that I can express my gratitude to Allāh ﷻ for sending a guest to us.” She then proceeded to perform two rakāts of Ṣalāh.

The young boy then ushered me towards the tent. I entered and he made me sit down. He took a knife and proceeded to slaughter a goat. As I was sitting in the tent, my gaze fell upon the young girl. She was exceedingly beautiful. I continued staring at her clandestinely.

She noticed my glances and exclaimed, “Please stop! Do you not know that the master of Yathrib, Nabī ﷺ, has mentioned that a lustful gaze is adultery of the eyes? I do not wish to rebuke you, but would like to teach you some etiquette so that you abstain from casting a gaze towards me again.”

When it was time to sleep, my young host and I slept outside, while the young girl slept in the tent. But, throughout the night, I heard somebody

reciting Qur’ān in a melodious voice. As morning dawned upon us, I asked the young boy, “Whose voice was that?”

He answered, “That was my sister. She remains awake the entire night.”

I remarked, “Young boy, you should have remained awake the entire night instead of her. Being a woman, she is naturally weaker than you.”

He smiled and said, “Allāh ﷻ has blessed her with the good fortune of worshipping Him and has not granted me the same blessing.”¹



May Allāh ﷻ be pleased with the sterling Muslim women whose remarkable anecdotes grace the pages of Islamic history. Their beauty is true beauty. Film actresses and fashion models, whose lives revolve around sin and transgression, are mere stones when compared to these gems.



Qur’ān Taught in Secrecy in Russia

An ninety-five year old Muslim man from Russia explained how the ‘Ulamā (Muslims scholars) of Russia taught the Qur’ān during the days of communism. He was twenty-five years of age when the execution and oppression of the Muslims commenced and he witnessed the entire period.

He explains : “We used to construct large homes with an open hall in the centre. On all sides of this hall, we would build sound-proof chambers. There was a secret door, leading out of the hall towards these chambers, where we would place a show-case displaying bottles of liquor. We would place portraits of Lenin and others, a television screen and other such obscene items close to the wall where the secret door was

1 Rawḍatul ‘Uqalā’, p 259

situated. Whenever the police arrived and searched the house, they would find nothing. They would notice the liquor bottles and assume that the residents' beliefs and ideologies were in conformity with their own. They would leave, satisfied, but deceived by what they had observed. Little did they realise, that just a few meters away from those bottles of liquor, were young innocent children reciting the Qur'ān. We would lock ourselves up in those chambers for six months at a time, teaching our young children how to recite the Qur'ān. The Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī was taught there as well. Beyond the confines of those chambers, the black winds of communism were blowing unabatedly, but within, the words of Allāh ﷻ and His Nabī ﷺ were being recited and memorised.”¹



May Allāh ﷻ reward the ‘Ulamā of Islam for their supreme sacrifices and dedication in preserving the faith of the Muslims in areas of oppression and injustice. Their invaluable contribution should inspire Muslims to remain dedicated to Islamic teachings during difficult times.



Allāh ﷻ Assists a Sincere Debtor

Nabī ﷺ mentioned that a man from the Banī Isrāʼīl requested another man from his tribe to borrow him a thousand dinārs. The latter replied, “Bring me witnesses so that I can request their testimony when required.”

But the man answered, “Allāh ﷻ is sufficient as a witness.”

The man then requested for a surety, but he again replied, “Allāh ﷻ is sufficient as a surety.”

¹ Āzād Riyāsato Ke Chashm Dīda Ḥālāt, p 17

“You are correct,” the man replied and handed him the money which was to be repaid after a fixed period of time.

The man travelled by sea and completed what he had set out to do. He then searched for a ship to board, so that he could return and settle his debt at the appointed time, but could not find one. So he took a piece of wood, made a hole in it, placed therein a thousand dinārs with a note from him to the creditor and sealed the hole well. He then took the wood down to the sea and said, “O Allāh ﷻ, You are well-aware that I took a loan of a thousand dinārs from so-and-so person and he requested for witnesses and a surety. I replied that Allāh ﷻ was sufficient as a witness and surety. He was satisfied with You as a witness and surety. I have endeavoured to the best of my ability to find a ship to send him the money that is due to him, but my efforts have been in vain. Therefore, I hand this money over to Your care.” Saying this, he threw the piece of wood into the sea and watched it disappear into the distance. He then left, and continued searching for a ship to return to his country.

Meanwhile, the creditor went out, hoping to see a ship that would bring the money owed to him. As there was no ship coming in that day, he thought it best to go back home. As he was leaving, he picked up a large piece of driftwood from the shore, which he thought would serve as an excellent source of firewood. When he chopped up the wood, he found the money and the note sent by the debtor.

Some time later, the debtor returned, bringing with him another thousand dinārs. He explained, “By Allāh, I have tried my best to find a ship to return and bring your money, but could not find one until today.”

The creditor asked, “And did you send something to me?”

The man replied, “I have informed you that I could not find a ship before the one I arrived in.”

The creditor replied, “Allāh ﷻ has delivered that which you had sent in the piece of wood, on your behalf. You may keep your thousand dinārs and return rightly-guided.”¹

1 Bukhārī



A man's eagerness and sincerity to pay off his debt timeously, ensures that Allāh ﷻ directs the money to its rightful owner.



Allāh ﷻ assists those who have trust in Him. Allāh ﷻ says:

وَمَنْ يَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ فَهُوَ حَسْبُهُ

“And he who places his trust in Allāh, He is sufficient for him.” (Sūrah Aṭ-Ṭalāq, verse 3)

