

MY JOURNEY AS A DAAE

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING THE QURAN

This article is from an assignment of mine I wrote and received 98% I hope it will be of use to others, too.

This article relates to how a Dae should use Hikmah, and induce the common Muslims to understand the Quran, to make them realize the importance of the basic laws of Islam.

Alhamdulillah, I was born in a normal Muslim family, and though my parents were not so strict in other matters, my father was staunch in Tawheed. He was very particular that we should not seek any help from anyone other than Allah. Those were the times when people used to go to the Mazaar and seek the help of the dead who were buried there.

But my father was dead against it, and we were considered as 'Wahabis' by our relatives and neighbours. Being brought up in that environment, I too was steadfast in Tawheed, but had many questions about the injustice that was being meted out to women in the name of Islam. This led me to do more research and pray for Allah's help. For HE tells us to: "--Seek help with patience and Salaah, Allah is with the Saabireen."—Surah Baqarah 2: 153

Mashallah, I came across a sister to whom I was relating this urge of mine. One day, when I was attending a Byan, that sister, handed me a copy of the Quran, with Tafseer, named the 'Holy Quran' of Saudi 'King Fahd Publications'. Although I have gone through many Tafseer and translations of the Quran earlier and later, I still consider it the best, as I could understand many matters through it.

However, I was too outspoken and did not like to compromise with religion. But that had its bad results also. Being a member of a Social Service organisation, I had to face the ire of my other members when I found that they were ready to have a home for orphans, but were reluctant to appoint an Islamic teacher as warden. It was their opinion that bringing them up as good citizens was sufficient. But I fought tooth and nail against this, and claimed that food for the soul was as important as food for the body. Now they have an Islamic teacher, Alhamdulillah.

Finding me a little learned (though I do not consider myself much learned: I am still a student in IOU), many gathered round me to learn about Islam and the meaning of the Quran. But I did the mistake of first talking about Tawheed, and about the Bid'ah which was being practiced by our brothers and sisters, who went to the graves of those considered as 'holy saints', to seek help.

LO! The next day, to my disappointment, only two sisters turned up to listen to my classes!

I realized that I had started the wrong way. None can force any, from what they are doing, just by telling them this is wrong or right. Till today, I face the same problems. Though many do come to me for explanations, I found that, when it went against their concept, they slowly withdrew.

For e.g., A Tamil Muslim sister used to attend my classes during the last Ramadhan. She had many questions to ask and, in spite of the others feeling bored, I patiently answered all of them. But when it came to Zakaah, she informed me that in their

community they distributed Zakaah among themselves: i.e., if the brother had a Zakaah amount to distribute, the first to claim the right to it was his sister, even if she was well-to-do! I told her that Islam has enjoined Zakaah, actually for the poor and needy, the wayfarer and the indigent--(2: 215). If the sister is poor, yes, she has the right to it. But if she has a house to live in and her husband has a good income, it is not right to claim the Zakaah of the brother, whose amount could be utilized by some really needy.

Also, she told me that when girls get married in her community, they are asked to hoard at least 1000 Tolas of gold! This is to be on the safe side, when a calamity strikes. And, since T.J. has said, we need to give Zakaah for it only once, they have no problem with this.

I was shocked and gave the reference from the Quran. I told her that hoarding is a great sin (Sura 104), and our Prophet ﷺ has warned us that on the Last Day, the gold will be melted and branded on her flanks. - Sahi Bukhari

There! The next day, she was absent. She never showed up because I had told her she was wrong. But we cannot compromise and adjust to their whims and fancies.

For Allah tells us, "Do not fear them but fear me."—Surah Al-Baqarah, 2: 150

Now I have concluded that the need of the hour is to get our brothers and sisters to learn the meaning of the Quran. Instead of pointing out their mistakes to them. I feel this alone is sufficient for them to realize where they are wrong.

Therefore, as a result, I have started to go soft and just delve into the Tafseer of the Quran. I decided to speak kindly and not be too strict on others, but try to explain things in a nice way. This is how I was inspired by Allah to write. I decided to write my thoughts and truth about "Tawheed and Bid'ah " and "Guidance to peace through Islam," taking points from the Quran and only Authentic Hadith. This, so that it may be of use to others, even after I am no more. Then they may like reading it, and in-sha-Allah by HIS guidance, they may see the truth, by following the Quran and Sunnah.

For, NOTHING CAN TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER THE QURAN --Ibn Khatir

AND

ALLAH HAS ORDERED US TO "OBEY HIM AND OBEY HIS MESSENGER"

I only hope our brothers and sisters take a little time off their busy schedule and search for the truth. In-sha-Allah they will succeed in this Dunya and the Hereafter.

I decided to study more through an online course, and graduated at the age of 72. Alhamdulillah, with the BA and MA in Islamic studies, through which I could further my knowledge, I could do more research and express myself more eloquently.

Now, after many years of having written many books with the help of Allah, people have begun to recognize my work and appreciate my hard work. Yet, this could not have been accomplished without HIS Help. May Allah guide all Muslims to follow the teachings found in the Quran to attain HIS pleasure and Paradise. Ameen.

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