

ETERNAL GUIDANCE TO IMAAN (FAITH)

Part II
DEVIATIONS
Caused due to
BID'AT
{Innovation}

Compiled by Dr. THAHIRA IQBAL.(DHMS)

SURA AL-FATIHA

“IN THE NAME OF ALLAH [GOD], THE MOST BENEFICENT AND MERCIFUL.

ALL PRAISE IS DUE TO ALLAH,

THE LORD OF THE UNIVERSE,

THE BENEFICENT, THE MERCIFUL,

YOU ALONE WE WORSHIP, TO YOU ALONE WE ASK FOR HELP,

GUIDE US THROUGH THE RIGHT PATH, THE PATH OF THOSE

WHO HAVE EARNED YOUR PLEASURE.

NOT THOSE WHO HAVE EARNED YOUR ANGER,

NOR OF THOSE WHO WENT ASTRAY” {SURA 1:1-7 QURAN}

AND AS AN ANSWER TO THIS PRAYER OF OURS,

ALLAH SAYS IN SURA BAQARAH:

“ALIF LAM MEEM, THIS IS THE BOOK, NO DOUBT IN IT,

A GUIDANCE FOR THE RIGHTEOUS AND WHO BELIEVE IN ALLAH (GOD)

AND THE LAST DAY---” [SURA 2-VERSE 1-2 --- QURAN, 2:1-2]

THEREFORE, THE QURAN IS THE GUIDANCE FOR HUMANKIND TO LIVE A
RIGHTEOUS AND PEACEFUL LIFE.

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ETERNAL GUIDANCE TO EMAN- II

Part II

DEVIATIONS Caused

As a result of

BID'AT

{Innovation}

(Compiled by Dr. THAHIRA IQBAL.) (DHMS// BAIS// MAIS) Alima
course from the International Online University of Gambia)

THERE IS NO GOD WORTHY OF WORSHIP

OTHER THAN ALLAH.

SO, TAKE HIM AS YOUR WAKEEL—

DISPOSER OF AFFAIRS.

Al-Quran: Sura Muzammil verse no73:

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS BOOK IS NOT FOR SCHOLARS BUT FOR STUDENTS
AND
THOSE WHO HAVE POOR KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH.**

About the Author:

The Author, Dr Thahira Iqbal (a retired medical Practitioner) has been, all her life, a mute witness to the injustice and deviation meted out in the name of Islam.

Is it just a book with only morals, which lead you to Heaven, or does it have any relevance to the way of life here in this world?

She realized that the Holy Quran is the perfect Law book, which provides answers and guidance for a peaceful life in this world.

She has been doing extensive study and research for the past 40 years about what the Quran and Sunnah of the Prophet ﷺ really tell us:

She found that it has the answer to all the problems in this worldly life, if only one follows it diligently.

The books she has written under the title 'Eternal Guidance' are the result of all that she has found in the Quran and the life of our dear Prophet ﷺ, which is a practical way of life that the Quran teaches us. will help man attain the Grace of Allah as well as the peace that he surely lacks, in this world. She is also a student at IOU, Qatar University, and has gained a considerable amount of knowledge from her BA and MA in Islamic Studies.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
إن الحمد لله، نستعينه ونستغفره، ونعوذ به من شرور أنفسنا،
من يهده الله فلا مضل له،
ومن يضلل فلا هادي له، وأشهد أن لا إله إلا الله، وأشهد
أن محمداً عبده ورسوله
أما بعد"

فإن أصدق الحديث كلام الله – وخير الهدي هدي
محمد صلى الله عليه وسلم وشر الأمور محدثاتها وكلّ
محدثه بدعة وكلّ بدعة ضلالة وكلّ ضلالة في النار

MEANING:

I seek refuge with Allah from Satan, the rejected.

Indeed, all praise is to Allah. We ask for help, only from HIM, and seek forgiveness only from HIM. And we seek refuge with HIM from our sins- Who Allah guides none can make astray and who HE makes astray, none can guide, And I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship other than Allah, and I bear witness that Mohammed is HIS slave and HIS messenger. To continue- 'The Only Greatest Truth, is the Word of Allah, and , and the worst ﷺ the best of guidance is the guidance of Muhammad matter is innovation in it, and any innovation leads man to Bid'ah, Every Bid'ah leads man to stray and who strays from the straight path, it leads them to shirk and Shirk leads to the Hell fire!!'

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I thank those who questioned me about what I have written about Bid'ah, and for their criticism, which has enabled me, by the Grace of Allah, to reply appropriately, taking points from the Quran.

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Verses from the Quran
"If Allah (GOD) helps you
None can overcome you, and
If HE forsakes you,
Who is there after HIM that can help you?
And in Allah let the believers
Put their trust. ---^{3: 160}

"Those whom you call besides Allah
cannot create (even) a fly, even if they combine together for the
purpose.

And if the fly snatched away a thing from them, they would have no power to
release it from the fly. So weak are (both) the seeker and the sought."—22: 73

"Do you not know that it is Allah (GOD) to whom belongs the dominion of the Heaven
and Earth, and besides HIM you have neither Wali (protector or guardian) nor Helper^{2:107}

"And certainly, WE shall test you with something of fear, hunger, loss of wealth, lives,
and fruits (of labor), but give glad tidings to the As-Saabireen, who when afflicted with
calamity say: 'Truly to Allah we belong and to HIM is our return"- ^{2: 155,156}

Call on ME and I will answer your prayers." 40: 60

"Verily those who say: Our Lord is Allah and thereafter stand firm on it (Istaqaamu), on
them shall come no fear nor shall they grieve."-46: 13

Do people think that they will be left alone because they say,
"We believe and will not be tested?"-29: 2

And, the main pillar of IMAAN(Faith) in Islam is;

- a. We worship none but Allah and,*
- b. that we associate no partners with HIM, and,*
- c. that none shall take others as lords*

*Besides Allah...." ----(Sura Al-Imran--**3: 64**)*

*Allah will **not** forgive those who Associate partners with HIM": -----4: 48*

*Allah will **not** forgive joining gods in worship with HIM----- 4: 116*

All the above verses and many more **PROVE** the great sin we commit, through innovating new rituals, or seeking help or intercession from other sources other than Allah: Bid'ah.

POETRY:

We look like Muslims
But do not behave like one!
What is wrong with us?
Today, we Muslims have begun to argue and counter-argue
And get divided over every unimportant issue.
Those who prefer to wear caps show
dislike for those who do not wear them.
And those who sport a beard dislike those who do not have one.
One says we should stand in Salaat, with legs together
Another says we should stand with our legs apart.
For such little things, we get divided.
But, the most important issues remain unheeded.
Are we following the laws of Allah?
Ignored is what is shown by our prophet WALLAH!
We concentrate more on his ﷺ appearance.
The way he ﷺ walked, sat, and stood, etc., we give more importance.
But how he behaved in the course of dealing with others
And with neighbors, friends, etc., none bothers!
We like to be like our dear prophet, in our looks
But his behavior we preserved only in books!!
Kindness to even animals and enemies is what our dear
Prophet ﷺ taught,
All his hard work to educate us has come to naught.
Follow the way of life of our dear Prophet
To make our dealings with others perfect.
What other way to propagate Islam? - its true face.
If we want to attain Allah's Grace
And to make the world sit up and pay heed
That Islam is the right law of life that the world needs.
So let us follow, in word and deed, our dear Prophet's Sunnah
If our true aim is to attain Jannah

PREFACE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Islam,

Assalaamu Alaikum WA Rahmatullaahi wa Barkaatuhu.

Wa Assalaatu wa Assalaamu Alaa Rasu'lullah,

I was given several Questions regarding the Innovations and intercessions which have ended up in many rituals which are not at all found in Islam, and have been asked to explain why innovations (Bid'ah) and seeking intercession from other than Allah are wrong.

The following script is a result of my venture to answer their questions.

I also thank '*Sheikh Umar Khan of Al Fajr*' and '*Imam Fayez Rahmaan of Anjuman (Chennai)*', for their help in clarifying my doubts in various matters. They gave their precious time to go through this humble venture of mine with great enthusiasm and gave me great encouragement. (They have highly appreciated this book and wished that our Muslim Brothers and Sisters would benefit from it.)

The verses from the Quran have been quoted with

Number of Sura: Number of the verse

For e.g.: 'Sura Fatiha: verse 2' will be as 1:2

I also wish to thank those who were opposed to my views for their vehement criticism of my work. When I gave the rough copy of this book for review, these scholars demanded an explanation for many points that seemed controversial. I thank them profoundly for their criticism, and by the Grace of Allah, I have been able to explain all of them.

All this I have added in this manuscript in the name of:

'Counter Questions'

I have tried to the best of my ability to answer them with the HELP OF ALLAH SUBHANWA TA'ALA.

May Allahut'alah make this venture of mine be of use to increase the IMAAN of my brethren.

It has taken 3 years for me to write and correct this Series of books. However, obtaining the review of eminent scholars took another two years, due to their busy schedules.

Please note that when I write about the Ulema, when I mention them, I am not targeting them as a whole. But, with due respect, I mean only those Muftis and Maulvis who misguide the weak and ignorant from the firm belief in Allah Alone, just to purchase a small gain in this world.

Many of them, by the Grace of Allah, are true pioneers of Faith who lead their followers through the straight Path of Islam with Constancy and Patience.

May Allah give them the strength to continue in their work.

And those who blame us for causing division among the Muslims should realize that the division has already been caused. We are only trying to reunite the Ummah and calling them toward the Quran and its understanding.

None can claim that calling towards the Quran is 'causing division'.

Nor do we have any lack of respect for our dear prophet and only leader: Mohammad ﷺ, whom we love more than our lives.

All that we say is, we should hold on to his teachings and respect him, and remember him every moment of our lives, to ensure that we are living according to his way of life.

But when it comes to asking for anything, we should ask none other than Allah, the Supreme, because that is the true criterion of Islam.

Please also note that this book will make sense to the reader only if he/she has a clear view of what IMAAN is. I had written the full version of IMAAN and Bid'ah, and Intercession. But as per the advice of our Imam Fayez Alam, the Qateeb of Anjuman e-Himayat, I separated the parts into four portions. So this is the second part.

After knowing what IMAAN is and how the others deviated from the worship of one God, we can now understand how sinful Bid'ah is.

Now, since we have the authentic, uncorrupted text, the Quran to guide us, we have no excuse to say we did not know.

After the advent of Islam through our Prophet ﷺ, the whole of Arabia became staunch and firm in their concept of worshipping none but Allah, and live the pure life of their Prophet ﷺ

This continued during the Righteous Caliphs Abu Bakr (ra) and Umar (ra), Uthman, and Ali (ra). But once lands were conquered, *the cultural rituals and practices of the lands that were conquered were adapted by some of those who reverted to Islam*, though the concept of ONE Allah was retained. Some of these cultures were opposed to the criteria of Islam. Thus, Bid'ah that was prohibited by our Prophet began to appear among the Muslims.¹

Many consider that doing something new in religion, which seems good, is not wrong. But more often than not, it is these innovations, as we shall see, that lead man to shirk that Allah and HIS prophet ﷺ have prohibited.

AND:

We must note that Allah says:

"There is no god worthy of worship. So, take HIM as your Wakeel-- disposer of affairs." --- Al-Quran: verse no:73: 9

Hence, we should ask of HIM and only HIM, whatever our need may be, and HE will surely answer our prayers, if we are sincere in our Salaat and righteousness.

He also says: HE can do anything, but "You cannot make hear, those who are buried in the grave."--- Al-Quran: 35: 22

THEREFORE, GOING TO ASK THE "AULIYA", THOSE WHO ARE BURIED IN GRAVES, IS PROHIBITED BY ALLAH HIMSELF IN THE QURAN.

Najebabadi, Akbar Shah, History of Islam; 1st edition, 2000 / Vol. II [our text for the VII semester BAIS.]

2.

WHAT IS BID'AH?

Bid'ah means any innovation done concerning Faith or worship, which Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ have forbidden or not ordained.

If we just obey what Allah says and live up to what our Messenger ﷺ has advised, we can lead a simple and peaceful life.

If, on the other hand, we begin to wish for rituals as the non-Muslims follow, it would, and is, creating a lot of Bid'ah (innovation). This leads to Shirk later on, for which we will be responsible, and would take us away from Allah's Grace, and will incur the fury (Garran) of Allah upon us, instead.

MAY ALLAH SAVE US FROM THIS STATE, AMEEN.

A Counter Questions:

Worshipping Allah or saying more Salaat cannot come under Bid'ah.

For Allah has said:

"When in trouble, seek help from ME with patience and Salaat. Surely, Allah is with the Saabireen (patient and constant in their belief) --" —Al-Quran: 2:45//2: 153

The numerous Nawafil (Voluntary) prayers which Allah and HIS Rasool have recommended are proof that we may pray to Allah whenever we want and wherever we are. If in trouble, we should turn only to HIM and no one else.

Any innovation in the religion means that the person who does it thinks that Islam is incomplete and has faults!

By innovating new things in Islam, one accuses Islam of not being complete, while Allah declares that:

"This, your religion Islam –I have made complete." — Al-Quran: 5:3

This is "A Book, the verses of which have been perfected and explained in detail from the ONE WHO is All-Wise and All Acquainted." that you should worship none but Allah---"-

"Verily! I am (sent) unto you from HIM, to warn you and to bring glad tidings. Hence seek you the forgiveness of your LORD ---" Al-Quran:11: 1--3

The whole life of our Prophet ﷺ is an example of how to live this worldly life according to the Law of Allah, both in times of happiness as well as adversity.

If we follow his ﷺ way of life, and ponder how he did every action, at every step we take, then we can be sure that we are on the straight path.

Our Prophet ﷺ has warned us Muslims:

‘Whoever innovates in Religion, it will be rejected from him!’ And, ‘Keep to my Sunnah and that of the rightly guided Caliphs. Bite on it with your molars. And Beware of Innovations, for verily they are all heresy (Bid’ah) and heresy is misguidance which leads to the hellfire.’---²

Allah says in the Quran:

“Have you not seen the one who takes his own desires as his god? Would you {O Mohammad} then be a Wakeel (disposer of his affairs or watcher) over them”—

Al-Quran: 25: 43

Taking desires as God, is taking *what we desire or think is correct and superior*, to what Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ have commanded us to do. ---³

‘By adding innovations [Bid’ah], it opens the doorway to include a great deal of corruption, vile actions and contradictions to the commandments of Allah.’---Tafseer

– Holy Quran-Saudi

THEREFORE, IT IS BID’AH:

- If we pray in any other way than our prophet ﷺ has shown (Like praying more than 4 Rakah in one salaam,
- If we pray or fast more than him, neglecting the duties of the family and others. [Prophet ﷺ forbade the Sahaaba who wanted to fast all day, and pray continuously all night, saying that along with Ibaadah, he ﷺ fulfilled the duties of the house and society as well.].
- If we begin to engage people to recite the Quran for our dead, thinking it will save them from the torture of the graves and Hell. Neither our Prophet ﷺ nor the Sahaaba has done any such thing.
- *If we start thinking the Auliya and Anbiya who are in the grave are hearing us and will help us with Allah*, we are attributing the power of Allah, of All-Hearing,

² Sunan Abu Dawood, Vol. 3, P.1294, No. 4590 and al-Tirimidhi

³ - (40 Hadith of Nawawi: pg. 1075: --our book of Hadith- IOU)

and the capability to cure and save, to (human beings dead or alive) other than HIM---thus causing shirk. -Al-Quran; 7: 180

• *While Allah says: "You cannot make hear, those who are buried in the grave." --- Al-Quran; 35: 22*

• If we begin to create rituals and celebrations, which our Prophet ﷺ has not done, thinking that he will help us even if we do wrong.

• If we begin to pray **TO the Prophet ﷺ himself.**

• If we begin to venerate and glorify beyond limit, the very Prophet who forbade us to do so.

Because by this, we are thinking we are doing better than our Prophet ﷺ

Or,

Is it that we think we know better than him ﷺ? If we respect someone, will we try to outdo him or outshine him?

Our Prophet ﷺ has said: 'Do not do or say anything that contradicts the Quran and Sunnah.' By thinking that, doing extra rituals which our dear Prophet has not shown us, we are deciding something which Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ have not advocated. Thus, *we are 'taking our desires as gods besides Allah'!!!*

"O you who believe, do not put yourselves forward (hasten to decide) before Allah and HIS Messenger, and fear Allah: for Allah is HE who hears and knows all things." — Al-Quran: 49:1

We must remember that Allah is hearing all we think or say, and knows all that we are doing. Hence,

- a. HE will reject our worship if we do it *AS WE WISH*, by adding more rituals, without following the Quran and Sunnah.
- b. By doing so, we will be led astray. Because we are: Disobeying ALLAH and HIS Messenger ﷺ
- c. By spending time and money on unnecessary rituals, we are neglecting other duties through these innovations.
- d. We are deviating away from 'worshipping Allah and obeying our beloved prophet ﷺ at the expense of even Salaat and Saum.

*To avoid Bid'ah, we warn our brothers in Islam,
because, to future generations, it will cause harm.
Like a black ant under a black rock, it will lurk.
It will lead to the unforgivable sin- Shirk,
The warnings of Mohammed (ﷺ), if we ignore
The Grace of Allah will be for us no more.*

3. . THERE IS NO AUTHENTICITY IN INNOVATIONS

All those who claim that our Prophet ﷺ and Imams will intercede for us if we pray to them, and other innovations, are not able to bring out a single verse from the Quran or Sahi Hadith, with the number of the verse or chapter, to prove their stand!!

They could only copy the verses of some of the Qaris or Muftis, who are supposed to have written the Tafseer as they desired, not based on any authentic Hadith.

Even though Allah says ^(in 39: 28 // 54: 17, 22 and many other verses), that most of the Quran is in easy Arabic with no crookedness,' for common man to understand, some of the Clerics and Muftis, felt that no common person ought to read the meaning of the Quran. (This was just as the Jews and Christians Rabbis and Monks had done earlier.)

Whoever tried to dwell a longer time with the Quran, trying to understand the meaning, was termed a witch and accused of practicing Sihr. Through a personal survey, I came to know that many innocent Muslim men and women have been punished or executed for this.

4. CATEGORIZING THE QURAN

Today, some of us Muslims have divided the Quran itself into portions! But Allah tells our Prophet ﷺ to:

“Say: I am indeed a plain Warner, as WE have sent down on the dividers (Jews and Christians) who have made the Quran into parts, so, by your LORD, WE shall certainly call all of them to account.” *Al-Quran: 15: 89-92*

(Just as the Jews and Christians made their Scriptures into shreds, if we too do the same, we can be sure that Allah will also bring us to account. We must remember that all the verses of the **Quran** are narrated for us to take a lesson from so that we will not repeat the same mistakes.)

We find that among our Ulema,

a. Some Ulama advise the common Muslims to recite only certain portions of the Quran [E.g., Manzil] for a certain number of times, as a cure for certain ailments, or to relieve one from black Magic!!

b. Some verses to be read regularly. -Pan 'surah

c. Some verses of the Shari'ah (the laws and way of life) are to be preserved and referred to only occasionally. Some verses are only stories of the Jews and Christians, which are not essential to be recited repeatedly.

They ignore or neglect the fact that Allah says, “Indeed in their stories, there is a lesson for men of understanding.” - *12: 111*

The result is;

There are many who, when asked to read the Quran, say that they were taught only this much. When told to read the Quran regularly, they reply that they do not know anymore, nor do they understand what the Surahs say. They were not taught that the whole of the Quran should be read regularly with understanding.

Allah informs us that HE has sent down from the QURAN, that which is a healing and a Mercy to those who believe. While "it increases the Zalimun (Wrongdoers who misuse it) nothing but loss." *_Al-Quran: -17:82*

It means: "In Allah's Revelation, there is healing for our broken spirits, hope for our spiritual future, and joy in the forgiveness of our sins. All who have firm faith

and strive towards Righteousness will share in these privileges. It is only the rebels who will suffer a loss. The more they oppose Truth, the deeper down they will go into the mire of the state of sin and wrath from Allah, which is worse than destruction." ⁴

'It cures the heart of doubt, hypocrisy, shirk, confusion, and inclination towards falsehood. It is also a Mercy through which one attains Faith and wisdom and seeks goodness. It profits only those who recite it and believe in it.

As for the disbeliever, who wrongs himself when he hears the Quran, it only takes him further from the truth and increases his disbelief (by not grasping the morals given in it and misinterpreting it). The problem lies with the disbeliever and not the Quran.'

Many take it literally that the letters of the Quran, is a healing and Mercy-(Al-Quran: 17:82), for bodily ailments alone, and preserve the book itself, or inscribe its Ayah in amulets, thinking that it will cure them or save them from evil forces. ***They forget that it is the speech of Allah that has the healing effect and not the printed letters.***

Thus, we must realize that our ailments can be cured only by reciting the Quran, and not by preserving its printed letters in the form of Taabees (amulets) or by placing the text itself under the pillow.

Moreover, that should not be the sole aim for keeping the Quran in our house. If we think that if we have a copy of the Quran or certain verses on the wall, it will bring Blessings upon us, *even if we go on doing deeds as per our desire*, then we are wrong.

We can attain the Peace and ultimate BLISS that HE has promised, only if we Believe AND Obey what Allah has ordered through the guidance found in it. - Al-Quran: -2:2-5)

[However, if we aim to read it frequently and avail ourselves of it, then we may keep verses on the wall hangings with meanings inscribed.]

⁴ {Holy Quran, —Saudi king Fahd publication--- Tafseer No: 2282.}

5. WAS THE QURAN SENT ONLY TO BE RECITED WHEN CALAMITIES ARISE?

Only when any problems arise do they recite some portions of the Quran, a certain number of times, to save them from the calamities. Some read or engage Maulvis to recite the Quran, only when somebody dies.

Nowhere in the Quran or Sunnah do we find that this is the method to use our holy Book. Our Prophet ﷺ and his Sahaaba used to recite the verses of the Quran and pray for help when needed. Even when not in trouble, the Zikr of the Quranic verses was always on their lips.

Moreover, they used to check every time whether they were obeying the laws given in the Quran, so that they may avoid sins.

And when any prayer is answered, they used to fall in prostration (Shukur Salaat), thanking Allah for having saved them or helped them.

Allah orders us, "Fulfil your promise to ME and I will fulfil my promise to you."—

Al-Quran: 2: 40

- Considering that, Quran should be recited *only* for some worldly benefit during calamities, or, when someone dies, is in *itself Bid'ah*. This misleads us away from the straight Path shown by Allah.

By this, we are seeking only the benefit of this world.

Allah says ^{2: 200-202}, Whoever prays, 'Our lord gives us (the good) of this world, *such will have **NO** portion in the Hereafter.* “

While whoever prays — “*Our Lord, give us the good of this world and good in the Hereafter and save us from the torment of the Fire. ----Will get both here and the Hereafter.*”

فَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن يَقُولُ رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا وَمَا لَهُ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنْ خَلَقٍ - وَمِنْهُمْ مَّن يَقُولُ رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً
وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ - أُولَٰئِكَ لَهُمْ نَصِيبٌ مِّمَّا كَسَبُوا ۗ وَاللَّهُ سَرِيعَ الْحِسَابِ -

This means that while we may recite portions of the Quran or the Duas mentioned for specific occasions, or to save ourselves from the accursed Satan, *we should also recite and understand what Allah says through HIS words, so that we may implement HIS command in our daily life to do right and avoid wrong to live a righteous life as well as attain the pleasure of Allah to succeed in the Hereafter.*

○ In fact, Allah has asked us to do Zikr every moment of our life, standing, sitting, and while on our sides, and reflect on the greatness of HIS creations- ^{4: 103}

Our Prophet ﷺ has indeed said: "Every letter of the Quran carries one reward. Whoever reads a letter from Allah's Book earns a good deed, and every good deed earns ten similar. I do not say that Alif Laam Meem is a letter, but that Alif is a letter, Laam is a letter, and Meem is a letter." ⁵

However, the aim for which Allah has sent the Quran is for us to understand and implement what HE has ordered in it, so that we can keep away from the sins which HE has forbidden.

Only then can the recitation fully avail us, and help us to achieve HIS Pleasure and the Heaven HE has promised for us. And it is our prime duty to know at least why we are asked to recite them, and what they mean. We now find many translations of the Quran, which, if we read, provide us with a wealth of knowledge and guidance.

1. E.g., we are told that if we recite **SURAH MULK**, it will save us from the torture of the grave. How? We find in it the basic criteria of Faith. Allah asks us to ponder over HIS creations and obey HIS commandments, to achieve this goal. "If Allah wishes to destroy you, WHO is there to save you from it? And if the water sinks to the earth, WHO is there to supply you with flowing water for you to drink? Therefore, remember and "Say: HE is the Most Beneficial and Merciful and in HIM we put our trust. Then you will come to know who is the one in the Manifest error."--67: 28-30

When we imbibe this knowledge that Allah Alone can save us in difficulties, and accept that we should surrender to HIM Alone, and we do not turn to other sources for help, then naturally we will be saved from the torment of the Grave.

2. **SURA KAHF** is to be read every Friday to save us from Dajjal. WHY?

How can we be saved by just reciting this Surah? It is only when we read the whole meaning that we come to understand what the various parables mentioned in it tell us, and can get the moral guidance and light from them.

In Sura Kahf, we are told:

⁵ -- *Authenticated in Sahih Sunan at-Tirmidhi, vol. 3, p. 9, no. 2327.*

❖ *We should be staunch in our belief, in the total surrender to Allah* as the young men of the cave did, when they were pursued by the pagan Kings. These young men were staunch in their Tawheed and refused to worship any other than Allah. And Allah saved them. {V. --9- 22}.

❖ The people who discovered them did not grasp the moral behind the occurrence, that Allah can resurrect anybody even after 309 years. Instead, they made a monument on the spot as a memorial. --{V. 21}

❖ Allah also informs us that, before promising to do something, we should say 'Insha'Allah' (if Allah wills). For, *only if Allah wills, can anything happen.* — {V: 23-24}

❖ We should not *desire the glory and pomp* and glitter of this world, but should be patient and persevere with what we have, and keep ourselves in the company of those who keep glorifying Allah, seeking HIS Face. ^{V: 28} (We must remember that we cannot compare HIS Face with anything we know [Surah Ikhlas]).

❖ *Even exulting ourselves* about the good things of life **is shirk**: Men of the garden. --{V. 32-43}

❖ We must accept that all that is happening in this world *has a benefit for us*, like Moosa (al) realized when he travelled with Al-Khidr (as) --{V.: 61-82}

❖ We *must be humble* like Dhul Qarnayn was, even when Allah gives us all the worldly power, and not be arrogant. {V. 83-100}

❖ And we know who the greatest losers are when we recite: 'Those whose efforts have been wasted in this life while they thought they were acquiring good by their deeds.' - {V: 103-104}

❖ Even if all the trees were made into pen and all the ocean-ink, and had as much more, it would not be sufficient to glorify the power of Allah! - {V: 109}

❖ And if we are firm in this belief, then naturally, we can be saved from the delusions of Dajjal, who will try all tricks to subdue us towards worshipping him.

Thus, we must realize that every Ayah of the Quran carries a Message for us. We ought to recite the Quran daily with understanding, *along with the Duas* mentioned for our specific needs.

Instead, if we just recite like a parrot, we may recite it and, at the same time, unknowingly do the very shirk that it prohibits.

No Surah of the Quran is unimportant. Every parable mentioned in it has a moral to explain to man, how to lead his life in this world, and to receive the pleasure of Allahut'alah.

For Allah says in Sura Yusuf (12: 111): "Indeed in their stories, there is a lesson for men of understanding."

Our dear Prophet ﷺ showed us through his practical example how to obey Allah's Command that is given in the Quran.

While the Christians and Jews think they will be redeemed by their deity, Jesus, or Uzair, no such promise was given by our Prophet ﷺ. We need not be complacent that just by saying we are Muslims, we will attain Paradise directly. – Al-Quran: 29: 2

Allah asks, "Do people think that they will be left alone because they say: 'we believe', and will not be tested?' This shows that we will be tested. Only if we are patient and constant can we attain the peace and tranquility, Allah has promised in the Quran:

"And seek HIS Help with Sabar and Salaat." "Nay to HIM Alone you call, **and if HE wills**, HE will remove that distress, for which you call upon..."---Al-Quran: -6: 41

"Verily those who say: Our Lord is Allah and thereafter stand firm on it (Istiqam), on them shall come no fear nor shall they grieve." - Al-Quran: 46: 13

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6. WHO ARE THE GREATEST LOSERS IN THE SIGHT OF ALLAH?

Allah orders to: "Say: (O Mohammed ﷺ Shall WE tell you the greatest losers (Mufliis), in respect of their deeds?" — {they are}

*"Those whose efforts have been wasted in this life, while they **thought** they were acquiring good by their deeds. "They are those who deny the Ayaat of their Lord and the Meeting with HIM." Al-Quran: 18: 103,104, 105*

Hence, their deeds are in vain and, on the day of Resurrection, WE shall not give them any weight." (I am repeating this so that we may realize the magnanimity of our sin of Bid'ah.)

Is it not because we deny the Ayaat of our Lord that we disobey HIM? Will we have the audacity *to disobey* Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ, if we really believe and fear HIS punishment, that we will be accountable for our deeds on the Last Day?

Imam Sufyan-ath-Thawri says: 'Innovation is more pleasing to Iblis than sin, since a person makes repentance from sin, but does not repent from innovations. This is because he regards the Innovation as something good, for which he 'thinks' he will receive rewards from Allah and therefore, will not repent from it!!'

And Allah says in Surah Mohammed - 47:33: "Obey Allah and Obey HIS Messenger, and do not make your deeds Batil (null and void)" --- {by inventing new things in your Deen.}

'The acceptance of righteous deeds is stipulated by the following two basic conditions:

1. The intentions while doing such deeds must be totally for Allah’s sake only, without any show-off (Ria) or to gain praise or fame, etc..

2. Such a deed must be performed, following the Sunnah of Allah’s Messenger, Mohammed ﷺ, the last of the Messengers.

Narrated Ayesha (ral): Allah’s Messenger ﷺ said: “If somebody innovates something which is not present in our religion, which we have not ordered (anyone) to do, then that deed will be rejected and will not be accepted.” ---⁶

WHAT IS THE USE OF DOING DEEDS WHICH, ULTIMATELY, WILL BE TERMED AS WASTE, AND THROWN BACK AT YOUR FACE, BY THE ALMIGHTY ON THE LAST DAY?

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7. WHAT IS WRONG IF WE INNOVATE IN RELIGION, AND DEVIATE FROM THE SUNNAH?

We must note one important matter while reading the Quran. We learn of many incidents where Allah punishes man even for seemingly small disobedience to HIS orders.

E.g.;

❖ Adam and Hawwa (as) thought they would benefit when they ate the forbidden fruit (a seemingly small mistake) but, it was disobedience to Allah’s Order and they were stripped of their raiment and though HE forgave them later, they were no longer fit to stay in Heaven, and were expelled from it, to lead a life of probation in Earth. -- Al-Quran: 2: 36

❖ When the Sabbath day was declared, a day of rest by Allah for the Jews, their fishermen were forbidden to catch fish on that day. To tempt them, the sea was full of fish, and they could not resist it. So, they dug a drain from the sea to the land and laid a net the day before, to trap the fish, so that they could collect it the next day. —This way, they thought they could get through HIS law and yet gain a considerable profit. But Allah says HE cursed them and changed them into monkeys and swine!!—Al-Quran: 2: 65

❖ When Yunus (al) got enraged with his people for not obeying him and left in a huff without waiting for Allah’s direction (a seemingly small mistake), he was

⁶ Sahi Bukhari, Vol. 9: H. No: 449 // // // // Vol. 3: H. No. 861----- Source Noble Quran.

swallowed by the fish. When he repented, he was not immediately redeemed. He was left on the shores of an island under a gourd plant, sick and half-digested, for a few days till his sin was all washed off. Allah says: He (even though a Prophet) would have stayed in the belly of the fish till the Last Day, if he had not been a devout Man doing Zikr regularly and had not repented immediately and kept reciting:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ سُبْحَانَكَ إِنِّي كُنْتُ مِنَ الظَّالِمِينَ

'There is no god worthy of worship other than Allah and indeed I am of the wrongdoers' (21: 87),

❖ In Sura Kahf, the man who had two gardens **boasted** to his companion that he was given so much wealth because he was a favorite of Allah. He thought he would continue to enjoy all these luxuries in Heaven as well. He **believed** that it would last forever!

But because he exulted in pride, Allah immediately caused the water to sink into the land, and all his wealth was lost. This was for committing shirk, by **exulting** in the favors of Allah. And he repents, but too late, saying:

وَيَقُولُ يَا لَيْتَنِي لَمْ أُشْرِكْ بِرَبِّي أَحَدًا 18: 42

'Woe to me would that I had **not done shirk** to my LORD.'

We find that in all the above cases, those who asked forgiveness were forgiven only after they were punished for their sins!!!

Therefore, we need not be complacent that we will be let off, just by reciting "Astagfirullah" a certain number of times.

The repentance should come from the heart and, if Allah wills, HE will forgive. We should pray with humility and in secret, and hope and fear whether Allah will forgive us or not. Al-Quran: 7: 55- 56

For Allah says: "And verily WE will make them taste of the near torment (of this world) before the supreme torment (in the Hereafter), so that they may return."—Al-Quran: 32: 21

Hence, if we do not repent, we can expect any punishment that may follow by way of trial. This would help us turn back to Allah to seek forgiveness. Remember, [as our prophet ﷺ has said], that even a thorn that pricks us is expiation for our sins!!

This realization helps us bear the adversity with patience and hope.

Allah says in the Quran that whoever deviates from the way of Allah and HIS Messenger even a wee bit, HE will set the Shaitan for him as an intimate companion, to make his deed fair seeming, and make him feel that he is guided

right. Thus, he will go on doing it till he is termed a wrongdoer and burned in Hell.

-- [Al-Quran: 35:8//// 43:36////92: 810]

That is why we keep asking Allah, in the Sura Fatiha, to “Guide us through the right path---” so that HE will make it easy for us to go on doing good deeds”⁻⁷⁻ And to not let us deviate from the Straight Path:

“O Lord! Let not our hearts slip away after you have guided us and bestow on us your Mercy. Indeed, you are the Bestower.”^{3: 8}

رَبَّنَا لَا تُزِغْ قُلُوبَنَا بَعْدَ إِذْ هَدَيْتَنَا وَهَبْ لَنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ

“Rabbanaa Laa Tuzig Khuloobuna, Ba'da Hadaitana, Wa Hab Lana Min Ladunka Rahmatan. Innaka Antal Wahab.” – Al-Quran: 3: 8

Is it not better to keep to the path of Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ and be saved, than following innovations, by which we are risking the wrath of Allah upon ourselves?

For, Allah says, “Exceed not the limits in your religion (by innovating something) other than the Truth (given in the Quran), and do not follow the inclinations of people who went astray in times gone by, and misled many, and strayed from the right path.” — Al-Quran: 5:77

And our Prophet ﷺ rightly said that: *'The Only Greatest Truth, is the Word of Allah, and the best of guidance is the guidance of Muhammad ﷺ and the worst matter is innovation in it, and Any innovation leads man to Bid'ah, and, Every Bid'ah leads man to stray and who strays from the straight path, it leads them to shirk and Shirk leads to the Hell fire!!'* ---Sahi An-Nasaa'i 1589/// Sahi Muslim 2042

Our beloved Prophet ﷺ used to recite this in every gathering and teach his Ummah this, just as he taught them the Quran!!

Even today, these verses are recited in the Haram Sharif in Mecca and every Masjid around the world, where people adhere to the Quran and the Sunnah of the Prophet ﷺ for guidance and nothing else.

This specifies the importance of staying away from any innovations that have cropped up, *not at the time of our Prophet ﷺ but many years later!*

⁷ -{92:6,7 Quran --- Sahih Bukhari Vol. 6: H. No. 472.}

Allah has ordered: “Obey Allah, and HIS Messenger ﷺ and those endowed with knowledge, and who are in authority. But if you **(have doubts or)** differ in anything amongst yourselves in any matter, then, refer it to Allah (the Quran), and HIS Messenger ﷺ, if you believe in Allah and the last Day. That is more suitable for final determination.”: Al-Quran: 4:59

Thus, if we have any doubt about what our Muftis say, we have to only look into the Quran, and Sunnah-Authentic Seerah of our Prophet ﷺ.

Beware of false Hadith and check if it does not OPPOSE THE TRUE TEACHINGS OF THE QURAN. We must remember that the true Hadith will never teach us anything against the criteria of Islam, which are:

‘PRAYING TO ONLY ONE ALLAH EXCLUSIVELY AND
ASKING ONLY HIS HELP, AND DOING GOOD DEEDS PLEASING TO HIM.’

Thus, we can be sure that all these rituals are invented (Bid'ah), and not in Islam. Our Prophet ﷺ has warned us that the first account we will be asked about is of the Salaat. Salaat is the only act that distinguishes a Muslim from a Non-Muslim. I.e., if a man does not say his Salaat and rejects its validity, he is not a true Moomin!!

And, Salaat is nothing but praying directly to Allah and
And seek help from HIM ALONE AND NONE ELSE.

Whatever we may be doing, the thought that HE is watching us should act as a deterrent to prevent us from doing wrong. However, even when we call ourselves Muslims, when we feel the laws given in the Quran are not enough, and imbibe or follow the cultural rituals of other religions opposed to our Shariah, it is then that we go astray.

Through this, man deviates from the very foundation of Islam, which means:

TOTAL SURRENDER TO ALLAH

This is what our dear prophet taught us!!

And we repeat the very Kalimah Shahadah in every Salaat 5 times a day:

**“I BEAR WITNESS THAT THERE IS NONE WORTHY OF WORSHIP EXCEPT ALLAH,
AND MOHAMED ﷺ IS THE SLAVE, AND MESSENGER OF ALLAH”**

8. WHAT IS WRONG IF WE BLINDLY OBEY THE KNOWLEDGEABLE CLERICS AND MUFTIS WHO KNOW BETTER?

If we 'blindly' follow the rulings, supposedly written by the learned ones without proper verification, it is equivalent to worshipping them, just like the Jews and Christians did!!

Allah says in Sura Taubah: "They (Jews and Christians) took their Rabbis and their Monks to be their lords besides Allah and Messiah son of Mariam (Jesus), as their lord while they were commanded (in the Torah and Injeel) to worship none but One Ilah (God-Allah). 'La Ilaaha Illa Huwa' (none has the right to be worshipped but HE). Praise and Glory be to HIM, from having the partners they associate (with HIM)" ---Al-Quran: 9:31

When Mohammad ﷺ recited: "They took their Rabbis and their monks to be their lords besides Allah--" Adi bin Hatim, who was a revert from Christianity, said: O Allah's Messenger! They do not worship them.

Mohammad ﷺ replied, 'They certainly do. The Rabbis and Monks made things lawful as unlawful, and unlawful things as lawful, and they followed them. By doing so, they have worshipped them.' ⁸

If we too, blindly follow the rulings, supposedly written by the learned ones, without properly verifying whether it is according to the Quran and Sunnah, then it is equivalent to worshipping them, just as the Jews and Christians did!

Various translations and Tafseer are available for our reference. However, the only condition is that we should be sure that it is according to the criteria of the Quran and Shari'ah-- the main pillar of IMAAN (Faith) in Islam;

- a. We worship none but Allah, and
- b. that we associate no partners with HIM, and
- c. *that none shall take others as lords* besides Allah. Al-Quran- 3: 64

This is what we call Tawheed. This is the basic difference between Islam and other religions. If we deviate from this foundation, we must realize that we are turning towards disobedience and Kufr. That is why we repeatedly warn of the harm that Bid'ah may lead to Shirk.

⁸ — {Narrated by Ahmed, At-Tirimidhi and Ibn Jareer./// ---Tafseer Al Tabari, Vol. 10, Page No. 114.----Source: Noble Quran foot notes}

9. HOW DID THE JEWS AND CHRISTIANS WORSHIP THEIR RABBIS AND MONKS?

- ❖ They announced Uzair and Jesus as sons of God, and their followers accepted it as true!!—Al-Quran: 9: 30 ⁹
- ❖ Although they, too, were prohibited from dealing with Riba (interest), they ignored it. And their followers accepted it. — Al-Quran: 4: 161
- ❖ Though they, too, were prohibited from taking intoxicants, they made it lawful.
- ❖ Though they, too, were told not to be deceitful to others, they decreed that there was nothing wrong with cheating the pagans. ^{3:75}
- ❖ And the Rabbis and Monks who devour the wealth of mankind in falsehood, and hinder [them] from the way of Allah. — Al-Quran: 9: 34
- ❖ And they said the fire will not touch us except for a few days. ^{Al-Quran: 3: 24 / 2:}

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The Rabbis and Monks in those days interpolated the Scriptures. In the same way, a few hundred years ago, some Hypocrites interpolated some of the Hadith or Sayings of the great Imams for their benefit. This is what some of us follow as authentic. BEWARE!

⁹ (Jews worshiped Ezra, son of Allah----- Bukhari Eng. trans. pg. 105/ Ch. 8/ no. 4581)

10. DOES IT MEAN WE SHOULD NOT AT ALL ASK THE CLERICS AND MUFTIS?

NO! I only wish our Muslim brothers. Please be careful. When they obey their Maulvis and Muftis, if anything seems to go against the basic Criterion of Tawheed that is mentioned in the Quran, they should not accept it without verifying.

I am NOT targeting all the Maulvis and Muftis, Nowzubillah. It is only those who mislead Muslims by such Fatwas that I am indicating. There are many others whom we respect, who advise the Truth {of bowing only to Allah and none else}. Remember, the Muftis with their thorough knowledge of the Arabic language, *have a great responsibility when translating the Quran or Sahi Hadith into other languages.* When some of them venture to deviate from the true meaning and misinterpret it to gain some benefit, then they are the ones who are causing division among our community. They are bearing the burden of the sin of misleading others from the straight Path that Allah has shown through HIS Messenger ﷺ.

Allah asks in Sura Ma'idah: v. 63- 65

"Why do not the rabbis and the religious learned men forbid them (the Jews and Christians) from uttering sinful words (evil like shirk and other bad deeds) and from eating illegal things, and advise them to become Muttaqu'n? Indeed (if they had done so) we would have blotted out their sins and admitted them to Paradise."

Similarly, when the Muslim Ummah tends to stray away from the True guidance of Tawheed given in the Quran, is it not the duty of the Muftis and Clerics to warn them that it will lead to shirk and towards Allah's wrath?

If they are true to their Faith, why do they not prevent all the Bid'ah that people commit at the graves of the Auliya?

Why! We see with our own eyes that the devotees who visit the Dargah or Mazaar of the Auliya, prostrate before the grave and cry and plead to the Auliya buried there, to relieve their problems, whatever they may be!!

Do they think that they are being heard? While Allah says: "You cannot make hear, those who are buried in the grave."---Al-Quran: 35: 22

✚ In a certain Dargah (Hajji Aali) in Bombay, I saw that the Cleric (Mufti) who was managing the affairs, told the devotee to carry a copy of the Quran on his head and go round the grave (do Tawaf) of the grave of the 'Auliya' and then pray to it devotedly!! Of course, they are asked to make an offering of some amount of cash in the box before they proceed!! (What a lucrative income for the maintainers!!)

The devotees are promised that the more they offer, the better their prayers will be answered.

○ And we also find many books written about the Auliya, declaring that if their prayers for help are not fulfilled, the supplicants can hold them by the collar on the Last Day and question them!!! {E.g., the stories of the 10 Beebies (Das Beebyon Ki Kahaani) / Pooree Fatiha, etc..}

Are not these clerics (Muftis and Maulvis), who induce all the innovations at the Ajmer, Nagore, and walking on fire in Muharram?

Are not these clerics, who misguide others by telling them to approach the Mazaar and Dargah, or accept payment for reading “Sura Fatiha” and ‘Sura Yaseen’ on the dead?

While all these Surahs were revealed only as guidance for us, those who are living, they say that the reward of reciting them will reach the dead! *Al-Quran: 36: 70*

Where is it written that this is allowed??

Will they bear the consequences of the deeds of those who follow their Fatwa? Aren't these clerics who cause divisions among us Muslims? Was there Shaafi, Hanafi, Maliki, or Hambali during the time of the Prophet ﷺ?

All these Imams worked to bring the ONE Madhhab: The Madhhab of Mohamed ﷺ to their followers!! *These noble souls had only tried to unite the Ummah of Mohammad ﷺ under one Umbrella of the straight path, but their followers have divided themselves into different categories.*

Hence, is it not necessary for us to warn them to wake up at least now?

Is it not time for Islamic awakening to bring the true concept of Islam to the Ummah and make them beware of all the discrepancies falsely introduced into the pure and TRUE way of life of our dear Prophet ﷺ ordained by Allah (Subhanat'alah)?

Were there Shia and Sunnis during his time? We come to know through history that this division came about because of the hypocrites and those who unknowingly followed them. By the way, why do we denounce the Shias that they do shirk because they call Ali (ral) as 'Waliyullah' and venerate him?

Do we not call Dastgir, and those buried in Nagore Sharif, Ayrwadi, etc., as 'Waliyullah'? Why have these double standards?

And do you know? Some have already begun to claim that Imam Ali (ral) is GOD incarnate, and to worship him!!— [e.g., The Nusayrees of Syria and Dauszes of Palestine and Lebanon.]

THIS IS THE RESULT OF UNBRIDLED INNOVATIONS.

“Verily joining others in worship with Allah is a great Zulm (wrong) indeed.” —31:13

11. THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF BIDDAH

The following innovations that are happening in our society show how ill-informed our Ummah is about our religion. They, in the process of imbibing the culture and beliefs of others, have accepted as right the matters that are opposed to Islam. This is the very reason that some Muslims think that all religions lead to GOD, and we may choose what we like. They are not aware of the main concept of Tawheed, which is the essential criterion of Islam.

PRAYING FOR THE DEAD

Abu Hurairah narrated: Allah's Messenger said; When a person is dead, all his deeds cease (stop) except three;

- I. Deeds of continuous Sadaqah (charity), e.g., an orphanage, a School (for Islamic studies as well as academic), or a well for supplying water, etc.
- II. Knowledge passed on, with which mankind can benefit. e.g.: Books
- III. A righteous, pious son (or daughter), who begs Allah to forgive his (her) parents." ¹⁰

Yes, if righteous children pray for their parents or give Sadaqah (charity) while praying for them, it may help their righteous parents in their grades of reward. This is the reward for having brought them up on the righteous path. But the children may give in charity, only as much as they can afford. It is not compulsory to take loans for this purpose.

✓ When the child returns any debt the parent had incurred, or seeks amends for any wrong he had done, and the other person forgives him, then some of the punishment will be lessened for him.

✓ The prayers of those whom they have brought up or spent for their upkeep and education, etc., can avail them. This is because it will be a Sadhaqatul Zaria, as a result, for their good deeds.

✓ The Duas of other Muslims on behalf of the dead will benefit the dead, by the permission of Allah, *if he is worthy of it.*

i.e., if the man had done righteous deeds for the sake of Allah, and those who had benefited from it, pray for him, it will surely bestow benefits for him, and his grade in Heaven will increase.

¹⁰ --- Sahi Muslim, the Book of Wasaya (wills and testaments.)

✓ Furthermore, the funeral prayer itself consists mostly of prayers for the dead. Allah asks us to pray for the dead, because they can attain Heaven only by the Grace of Allah.

Thus, praying for the dead Muslim brother is allowed. Scholars differ about dedicating the recitation of the Quran to parents. There is no doubt that the reward of their children, being righteous enough to recite, will reach the parents. However, the parents will not receive the reward when it is done by hiring others.

Allah Knows Best.

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BID'A - INNOVATIONS:

However, the innovations we find done by some are beyond what is acceptable.

✚ We find that some people think that after a person dies, the Soul (Rooh or Reeh or whatever it is) will return and hear their dear one's prayers for them or to them! They claim that if they do not receive their prayers, the dead will come in a dream to inform them that they are waiting for their prayers.

✚ Some even claim that their dead relatives are waiting for their dear ones to visit their grave every year on their Warsi (death day)!! They recite the Quran many times over and dedicate the recitation to their dead.

✚ Some even pay money and engage Maulvis to recite the Quran all day and night for the redemption of their dead.

✚ They even claim that the souls of the dead wander about and are restless. Hence, we should dedicate some Quranic verses so that their souls may rest in peace.

What is the truth about this matter?

We find that Allah warns in the Quran, that whoever deviates from the way of Allah and HIS Messenger even a wee bit *and abandons Salaat*; HE will set the Shai'tan [Qareen] for him as an intimate companion, to make it seem that his deeds as fair seeming and that they are guided right. He will go on doing it till he

_____ is
termed a wrongdoer and burnt in Hell. Al-Quran: 35:8/ 43:36/92: 8-10]

It is this Qareen (who is appointed for every man to make his deeds seem good and whose time of death is not yet come) that wanders about after the person dies. ¹¹

Do you want to appease this Qareen (Satan) by your rituals?

Do You Not Realize That the Dead Cannot Return to the Earth?

Their Souls are in Barzaq. The Good Souls are in Illiyoon,

While The Evil Souls Are In Sijjeen.

Therefore, believing that they are returning to earth or waiting in their graves for the visit and prayers of their children is completely false.

WHAT IS SHIRK THAT ALLAH WARNS AGAINST?

Allah says that HE will forgive any sins HE wishes except Shirk. —Al-Quran:4: 48

As informed in the book on Eman, SHIRK is any deed that brings others to par with Allah Subhanat’alah. Disobeying Allah’s command and following one’s desires is also equal to taking them as God. Setting partners with HIM or giving HIS attributes to HIS slaves all come under shirk. One who does shirk will have all his good deeds turned to dust (wasted): (Al-Quran: 25: 23)

If he has done shirk, NO number of prayers or Tasbeeh, by his children or well-wishers, will be of use for him in the Hereafter. For Allah says, “On the Day **none** will avail for him; neither his children nor his wealth, except *who brings with him a clean heart*.” —Al-Quran: 26: 88, 89// 36: 5

“The sinners will wish that he will be redeemed by his children, his wife, or relatives, or kindred who sheltered his wrongs in this world, but none will be of aid then.”^{70:11-15}

i.e.: He would be ready to offer all that is in the earth, to be saved from the punishment. That is why any innovation that even remotely leads to Shirk should be avoided.

If the dead has rejected the commands of Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ, or justified his evil deeds, or committed Shirk, no number of prayers or Sadaqah will avail him.

Ultimately, it means that **ONLY** what one does in this world, of the good, **for the sake of Allah** (including his Ibaadah as well as his duty towards other fellow beings) is going to avail him in the Hereafter. Moreover, nowhere in the Quran nor the life of our Prophet ﷺ Do we find such rituals implemented?

¹¹ --- Sahi Muslim: Vol. 4, p. 1472/ No. 6757

✚ Appointing certain days to remember the dead, like 3, 10, and 40, and holding huge gatherings on such days, thinking it will benefit the dead, is also an Innovation!

This ritual is initiated when a person dies, relatives gather together to discuss the inheritance and decide who gets what.

For this, they thought it would be good to appoint a day for the purpose.

This was the first step to Bid'ah.

Later, it became a compulsory ritual where the family of the dead person was forced to spend on their tea and later on their food. (Instead, according to the Sunnah of the Prophet ﷺ, it is the neighbors and relatives who have *to provide food for the bereaved during their time of bereavement.*)

They were threatened that, if they did not do it, the Arwah (soul) of the dead would not rest in peace!! {A concept of the non-Muslims}

I have come across many such incidents where, even if the family was poor, they were ordered to spend on the ritual; even if they had to mortgage their land, or take a loan for the purpose! This evil practice continues!

Our Prophet ﷺ declared, "It is not allowed for a believer to mourn for the dead person, for more than 3 days except, if it is a wife for her husband in which case it is 4 months and 10 days." _Al-Quran 2: 234 **12**

✚ Appointing a day to visit the graves and place a 'shawl of flowers (chador)' or a Bouquet on the grave is a very grave kind of innovation. The graveyard is illuminated and decorated like a festival on the night of **Shabe Baraat**. *The innovation is that one should visit the grave and lay flowers at the feet of the dead.*

All this is only what they find other religions doing, and want to copy. They think it is a good deed. However, all this is not found in the Sunnah of the Prophet ﷺ and leads to shirk, of which one has to beware. Those who do this claim that Mohammad ﷺ has been seen going to the graveyard Jannatul Baqi at Medina, to

¹² Sahi Bukhari 5341/// Fath Al Bari 9: 394 /// Muslim --2: 1123-- Ibn Khathir.

pray for the dead, *on the night of Baraat*. This is not true, for it was his habit to visit the grave often,

NOT ONLY ON THAT PARTICULAR DAY.

✚ Another innovation is that they appoint a certain day as **Shabe Meraj**. The Prophet ﷺ and his companions neither celebrated it nor did they distinguish it with any special acts of worship. *Should such a celebration of that night be lawful, our Messenger ﷺ would have clarified it to the people either by word or deed.* And the companions would have continued the celebrations.

✚ On the other hand, Allah says that whoever remembers HIM sitting, standing, and on his sides, and forsakes sleep {at night –any night: Tahajjud} --- for HIS remembrance-- he is the believer. -^{32: 15-17-} Sura Sajdah

✚ Celebrating birthdays with rituals that are not at all in Islam is, in itself, an innovation. Our Prophet ﷺ never celebrated his or his children's birthday, nor any death anniversary!

It is all a Western concept and not Islamic. Usually, when someone has achieved something, we may want to celebrate and thank Allah for enabling them to achieve it. What have you achieved by having your lifespan move one more year towards old age, towards death? Is this something to be celebrated?

While it is not wrong to remember the birthday or give Sadaqah to the poor on one's birthday, celebrating it with pomp and show is certainly not the way shown by our Prophet ﷺ.

If we say, why not we celebrate, when all others are celebrating?

The answer is;

Do you want to follow their vain desires and thus open the way to shirk?

Because this leads to the next step: **Celebrating the birthdays** of those who are *no longer alive in this world*, including the Prophet ﷺ. It is a great Bid'ah, which would almost certainly lead, and is leading one towards shirk.

Today, processions are taken out with much fanfare, causing great disturbance to the public in the name of the birthday of our dear Prophet ﷺ or other 'Auliya'. We were warned that it would all end up with future generations worshipping them in the Quran. Today, we find it is already happening!

✚ In Nagore and Ajmer, they hold Urs (celebrations) to venerate the 'Auliya' on certain days of the year with great fanfare. At Nagore, the clerics fast for 3 days, before they are taken in procession carrying on their heads, the 'Chandana koodu'—some pot full of Sandal powder, which they consider sacred!

It is carried through the main roads of the city, where people rush to be able to touch it, till it reaches the Dargah (Mazaar-Grave of the 'Auliya'),

Money pours into their boxes from the ignorant public.

Many such rituals are carried out in the name of Islam,

- Rituals found in other religions,
- Rituals not found during the life of our dear Prophet ﷺ or his Sahaaba,
- Rituals, which Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ have forbidden.

✚ The miracles happening at Ajmer: the Mazaar of Sheikh Muin-ud-din Chishti, which is in the state of Rajasthan, India. Here, thousands of pilgrims visit the Mazar and pray for their needs. When their prayers are answered, they fulfil their vows. Money pours in without any of it being accounted for. The Main pilgrimage is fixed once a year, on the 'Urs' held on the death day.

✚ Celebrating or mourning the death of Imam Husain during Muharram causes hatred and division among the believers. In the process, by being violent and doing strange rituals like shouting and beating their breasts, they even harm themselves, and call Imam Husain to save them, thinking he is still alive. All these innovations created by the Hypocrites cause division among the Muslims. —Acts which our Prophet ﷺ has forbidden.

✚ And there are some among us 'Muslims' (Sunnis), who arrange to venerate the 'Panja' on the first few days of Muharram. These are supposed to be the flags of Imam Husain during the war of Karbala. They make these Panja in silver and preserve them. On the first of Muharram every year, they take it out and, after washing it, place it on a dais and begin to read the Fatiha on it. This lasts for 10 days.

Those who have vowed some money to fulfil their desire may offer the money in the box provided for the purpose. On the tenth day, the organizer (cleric) takes a bath and 'purifies' himself and walks on a bed of burning coal prepared for the purpose. Then they take the Panja from its resting place and go in procession to the river or water source to wash it. Then it is kept back in the Sundook (box) till the next year. Do we not find this ritual exactly as the Ganapathi festival of the Hindus (except walking on fire)? They pray to the idols for 9 days, and on

The 10th day goes in procession to drown the idol in the river!!!

✚ Having superstitions: Considering some days as evil: E.g., The Last Char-Shumba (Wednesday) of the month of Safar is considered to be inauspicious to conduct weddings. Some go to the beach and offer chapattis: if infertile, if he has

no job, or feels they are affected by Sihr, etc.; he offers 'Awlaad ki roti', 'Naukri ki roti' or 'Sihr ki roti', etc.!

✚ When some people give Sadaqah, which is not wrong in itself, they add a lot of rituals to that, too. They place some rice, one egg, and some oil in a cup, on a plate. It is a must that they see their face in the oil and put some coins in it, and then give it to the poor. They believe that they can be cured only when all their evil is passed on to the poor by giving this Sadaqah! --How selfish of them? This should not be our intention.

✚ Giving Sadaqah in the name of the Auliya or those Martyrs of Badr, etc., is also another innovation!

✚ If there are a lot of snakes or pests in the house, they give Sadaqah in the name of Suleiman (al). While Allah has ordered to give Sadaqah only in the name of Allah. 6: 121—Sura An'am

✚ Visiting and *supplicating at the graves* of the holy 'Saints', who taught us to pray only to Allah. How can they do so when our Prophet ﷺ has said, "Allah has made this whole world a Mussallah (a place of prayer) for me and my followers *except the graves and the toilet.*"¹³

✚ Thinking the hair and teeth or any other article which belonged to the Prophet ﷺ brings Barkat (blessings) and venerating it is the worst part of Bid'ah. People beguile us by claiming some hair of somebody to be the hair of Mohammad ﷺ. We get beguiled and believe this, and go to have 'darshan' of it!!! This is happening in Kashmir, Kerala, and other parts of India.

✚ While Allah has forbidden setting animals free in the name of other than Allah [in Sura Ma'idah: 5: 103], we find that some of us, set animals free in the names of the Auliya and saints like; Nagore, Ajmer etc.; and say that it will reach its destination by itself!! Is it not the height of disobedience to the command of Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ?

✚ Some even sacrifice animals in the names of Auliya and saints, while Allah has prohibited slaughtering of animals as sacrifice for any other than Him- Al-Quran: 2: 173

✚ Somebody has innovated about even the birth of our Prophet ﷺ: They claim that when our Prophet's ﷺ mother began suffering from birth pains, Maryam (Ral) and Asia (Ral) (wife of Pharaoh), descended from the heavens to look at the delivery of Aminah: the mother of Mohammad ﷺ! (Astagfirullah).

¹³ Abu Dawood Vol. 2: H. No. 2037

✚ Some others even declare that the mother of the Prophet ﷺ did not have to suffer birth pains at all!

✚ The innovation has not even missed to the extent that, when Adam (al) sinned and asked forgiveness, he saw the name of Mohammed ﷺ on the Arsh of Allah! They say that he immediately prayed: ‘O Allah! Please forgive us in the name of Mohammed ﷺ, and that, only then, were they forgiven!

Where did they get all this from?

Is it not clearly mentioned in the Quran that, when Adam (al) and Eve sinned, Allah taught them both how to repent, and **they both** recited: (7:23)

“Our Lord, we have wronged our souls. If you forgive us not, and bestow upon us YOUR Mercy, we shall certainly be lost!”?

قَالَ رَبَّنَا ظَلَمْنَا أَنفُسَنَا وَإِن لَّمْ تَغْفِرْ لَنَا وَتَرْحَمْنَا لَنَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ

NOWHERE IS THE NAME OF MOHAMED ﷺ MENTIONED!

✚ They even claim that he ﷺ was created from light!!!! Therefore, he is an angel and is alive and not dead. Where did they get this from? While Allah asks: “Mohammad ﷺ is no more than a Messenger, and many Messengers have passed away. ***if he dies or is killed, will you turn back on your heels?***” --- Al-Quran: 3:144

✚ MOULOOD:

Recently I attended a Meelad Function and found, to my horror, that they placed a book of Meelad on the Dais, along with some sweets, and sprinkled rose water on it (just as the Sikhs do), and read Sura Fatiha on it and distributed sweets saying it will bring Barkat (Blessings). All these rituals have been imbibed into our religion from the non-Muslims.

In the Majlis (gathering), they begin to give lectures about how, before our Prophet ﷺ was born, a light shone on his father Abdullah’s forehead, and how after he was born, his breast was torn open, and his heart washed, so on and so forth. They give more importance to these narrations than to his teachings or way of life, which has to be followed by us in this world, if we require the Grace of Allahut’alah!

Then they call out:

“The chariot of our Prophet ﷺ is arriving. So, please, all of you, stand up and greet him!!! They imagine that the Prophet ﷺ has arrived in person to listen to the Majlis!!

After that, when they started standing to say Salaams, I was shocked to hear them actually praying to our Prophet ﷺ!

‘O Nabi!

You are the only one who can save us.

You alone can remove this distress from us.

We are all in trouble. Please save and help us.’ etc., etc.

The Prayers which we are ordered to direct only to Allah!!!

The very attributes of Allah, which only HE possesses: the ALL-HEARING and ALL-KNOWING (40:65) are directed to the very Prophet ﷺ, who forbade it and strove all his life to make us understand.

Through all these innovations, they have raised the status of our Prophet ﷺ to equal status with Allah, which our dear Prophet vehemently forbade. While he took pride in calling himself 'the slave of Allah', these innovations have caused the shirk that Allah will never forgive.

✚ Many tie a talisman (Taghut) around their waist or wrist and think it will save them from the evil eye, just as non-Muslims believe. (They, the non-Muslims, use red or yellow thread, and we use black thread!! That is the only difference.)

Our Prophet ﷺ has profoundly prohibited such things. Do you think that that talisman or piece of black thread is going to help you against Allah, if HE wishes you otherwise?

Allah asks: “Have you not seen those who were given a portion of the Scriptures? They believe in Jibt (superstitions) and Taghut (anything worshipped or called for help, other than Allah) and say they are better guided as regards the way than the believers.” “They are those that Allah has cursed and he whom Allah curses; you will not find for him any helper.” -(Al-Quran: 4: 51, 52)

These verses, like many others, were sent to warn us Muslims, not to do what the non-Muslims did, and incur the curse of Allah therewith. ALLAH CURSES THEM. BEWARE.

✚ Some write the Quranic verses in tiny letters and use them as good luck charms, and hang them around their necks. This is like a sick man, when given a prescription by a doctor, instead of reading it and buying the medicine, rolls it into a ball, puts it into a pouch, and hangs it around his neck, believing it will make him well.

✚ Some Maulvis Recite and blow the verses of the Quran in water, and their followers preserve it for the patients to drink, thinking the blown water will help. This innovation has reached such an extent that small bottles of water blown into

it by the Maulvis are sold in shops. Although reciting Quranic verses and blowing on water does cure certain ailments, one cannot consider it as holy water and preserve it for future use.

WHAT A LUCRATIVE BUSINESS!!

Some declare that since they have gone to Hajj and Medina and prayed at the Haram Sheriff, they can exempt themselves from saying Salaat, the rest of their lives!!!!

The reason they give is: "Have I not said Salaat there, where one Salaat equals 1,00,000 times; the Salaat at Mecca, and 1000 times; the Salaat at Medina that I would say anywhere else?

Therefore, I have done all the Salaat for my lifetime!"

IS THERE ANY VALIDITY FOR THEIR CLAIM?

Indeed, it is very beneficial to say Salaat at the Haram and Medina. But this does not absolve him from establishing Salaat for the rest of his life. This is because Salaat is one of the fundamentals of Islam, just as Hajj is!!

And, Salaat is the only duty to Allah for which man has no excuse. Even when sick or travelling, a Muslim is not exempt from Salaat, while all other pillars of Islam are only for those who can afford it. If one neglects His Salaat, he will only return to his former state of Jahiliya and will be misled towards sin.

And through Salaat, we are praying only to Allah and none else for all our needs of this world **and** the Hereafter.

Allah specifically says in Sura Baqarah, Verse 21.

- O mankind! Worship your Lord (Allah), Who created you and those who were before you, so that you may become of the Righteous (the pious) - Al-Quran: 2:21

- Recite the Quran and perform Salaat. "Verily, As-Salaat prevents (you) from Fahisha and disbelief..." Al-Quran:29: 45

- "And Allah has enjoined on the believers, Salaat at the fixed time."-- Al-Quran: 4:103

- "And whoever turns away from the remembrance of the MOST Beneficent (Allah), WE will appoint for him Shaitan as a Qareen (an intimate companion)." Al-

Quran:43: 36

DO WE BOTHER?

ARE WE TRYING TO BE REGULAR IN OUR SALAAT?

We give more importance to visiting the graves and doing rituals, Rituals that have not been enjoined for us in Islam, while Salaat becomes the casualty.

BEWARE!!

There is every chance that those who have written the explanations of the Hadith (in the names of the Imams and Muftis by forging their names) are conveying false messages, which are not at all in the Quran.

12. PROOF FROM THE QURAN

How can they declare such lies, when the very first verse in the Quran— {2:1-5} declares that only those who believe and establish Salaat and are Righteous, will be successful and can attain Heaven?

How can they say the Auliya will remove others' problems, when Allah declares, "If Allah helps you, none can overcome you, and if HE forsakes you, who is there after HIM that can help you? And, in Allah let the believers put their trust" ---Al Imran 3: 160/ Sura Mulk 67: 28

Will they bear the consequences?

While Allah warns, "Those who disbelieve say to those who believe: follow our way and we will verily bear your sins. -- Never will they bear anything of their sins. Surely, they are liars." --- Al-Quran:29: 12

Do they not have any fear of Allah's punishment? When Allah warns them, "And verily, they shall bear their own burden and that of others (of those whom they misled). And verily they shall be questioned on the Day of Resurrection about that which they used to fabricate." --- Al-Quran: 29: 13

And those who follow them are not going to be spared. -- Al-Quran: -7: 38- 39

Allah declares: *"It is not possible for any human being, to whom Allah has given the Book and Al-Hikmah and Prophet hood, to say to the people: 'Be my worshipers rather than Allah's. On the contrary, he would say, 'Worship only Allah, because you are teaching the Book and you are studying it. Nor would he order you to take the angels and Prophets as lords. Would he order you to disbelieve after you have submitted to Allah's will? - {Al-Quran: 3:79, 80}*

While Allah HIMSELF declares that **no one** whom Allah sends will tell the believers to ask **their** help, rather than Allah's, we find many asserting that our

Prophet ﷺ has declared that ‘any who approaches his Mazaar at Medina, and ask him ﷺ will get his intercession whatever they do.’!

As mentioned earlier, all this is the handiwork of the Hypocrites who had set out to divide and ruin the religion of Islam.

Alas! They have succeeded in their mission, and we Muslims remain ignorant of their plot.

Thus, all these rituals have no foundations in Islam.

We cannot be complacent that Allah will forgive us for our innovations, which will ultimately lead to shirk. We will become responsible for our future generation, who will follow us and be drowned in shirk. Al-Quran:29: 13

For, HE has vehemently forbidden and warned that, whoever tells lies about Allah and HIS Prophet, to purchase a small gain of this world; *“HE will not speak to them nor look at them nor purify them on the Day of Resurrection, and they shall have a painful torment.”* - Al-Quran: --3: 77 // 29: 12-13

And Allah will not excuse those who followed them. They also will be punished because Allah will ask; Where was your intellect, when you followed others blindly? Those who follow will not be excused and will not be able to come out of the fire: Al-Quran: 2: 166- 167/ 7: 38- 39

“And on the Day when HE will gather them together and that which they worship (or pray for help or intercession) besides Allah, HE will say: Was it you who mislead these MY slaves (worshippers–Muslims) or did they stray (themselves) from the right path? Al-Quran: 25:17

They will say: “Glorified be YOU! It was not for us to take any Auliyas (Protectors, Helpers, etc.) besides YOU. But YOU gave them and their fathers comfort, till they forgot the warning, and became a lost people (doomed to total loss).” -Al-Quran: 25: 18

So, the very people they call upon for help with Allah will disown them and then:

“You can neither avert (the punishment) nor get help. And whoever among you does wrong, WE shall make him taste a great torment” -Al-Quran: 25:19

Jesus will be asked, ‘Did you say to them to ‘take me and my mother’ for two gods beside Allah?’ and he will answer: ‘Never did I say to them anything but what

you commanded: 'Worship Allah, my LORD, and your LORD. And I was witness among them while I dwelt among them.' If they called on me for help (after you raised me), I am innocent of it. (i.e., I do not know). If you punish them, they are your slaves, and, if you forgive them, verily YOU, Only YOU are the Almighty and Wise" ---Al-Quran: 5:116-118

Our Beloved Prophet ﷺ said, "You will be gathered on the Day of Judgment, and some people will be driven to the left side (wrongdoers). When Allah asks, *I will also say like Essa (al) said: 'I was witness over them while I dwelt amongst them. -----But if you punish --you are Almighty, Wise!'* " ---¹⁴

{i.e., He ﷺ will declare that he does not know what we did after his demise!! And he will not ask Allah to forgive them. On the other hand, he will leave the judgment to Allah HIMSELF. }

All this proves that whatever is mentioned about the Jews and Christians is for us to take a lesson from. If we ignore it, saying it is only for the Jews and Christians, then we are ignoring the command of Allah, who has sent the Quran itself for us Muslims, and not for the Jews and Christians.

And Allah warns in 42: 30, 31: "And whatever of misfortune befalls you, it is because of what your hands have earned" ... "and you cannot escape from Allah (HIS punishment) in the earth, and besides Allah you have neither any Wali (guardian or Protector) nor any helper." Hence, if we are afflicted with any problems, we must turn to ALLAH for help and forgiveness, and no one else.

13. IS IT WRONG TO LAY A WREATH OR CHAADER OF FLOWERS ON THE GRAVE OF THE DECEASED OR GO TO THE GRAVEYARD ON A PARTICULAR DAY?

Narrated Abbas (ral): 'Once Mohammed ﷺ passed by two graves and said: "Both of them (persons in the grave) are being tortured for two sins:

Then he ﷺ asked for a green branch of a tree, slit in two lengthwise and planted one on each grave and said: "I pray that their punishment may be abated till those two branches get dried."

This action was a kind of invocation on the part of the Prophet ﷺ - Sahi Bukhari- H. No. 78

Our Prophet ﷺ was informed (by Allah) that they were suffering and he had invoked Allah, and placed the branch, hoping that Allah would reduce their

¹⁴ Sahi Al Bukhari Vol. 6, H. No. 150-Source Noble Quran /// Ch. 14: No.4625—1995 ed .Eng. trans)

sufferings. The reason one was suffering was because he allowed his dress to be soiled while using the toilet, and the other was a slanderer.

Do we have the power to lessen the suffering of those in the grave?

The least we can do is place a branch of a palm tree split lengthwise, and pray to Allah: “Ya Allah! We saw our dear Prophet ﷺ doing this. Please forgive us if we are wrong.”

Now, here we should stop to ponder. We see people laying wreaths of flowers (surely a concept of the non-Muslims), on the graves of the deceased in the hope that the punishment may be abated.

We think that a wreath of flowers *is better than* the branch of a palm tree, which Mohammad ﷺ placed!

We are trying to do something that we think is better than what our Prophet ﷺ did; i.e., we are committing Bid’ah, an *innovation* in religion.

Today, it has become a ritual to visit the graveyard on the 15th of the month of Sha'ban (Shabe Barat) and pray for the deceased. They attribute it to the Hadith that somebody saw our Prophet ﷺ coming out of Jannatul Baqi in Medina in the morning of Shabe Baraat! (Already mentioned). They fail to mention that our Prophet ﷺ used to go often to the graveyard and pray for the dead.

This fact is not mentioned in the Hadith, to make it appear that there is something special on that day only. However, it is a clear innovation against our Prophet ﷺ, who said: ‘Do not make it a point to visit graves on this day (i.e., any particular day) only. To do so is Bid'ah as it goes against the teaching of the Prophet ﷺ. It comes under the general meaning of the Prophet's prohibition on visiting graves on a specific day and making that like a festival.’-- 15

We must remember that Islam came to India many years after the Prophet ﷺ through Muslim merchants who were the later generations of the Sahaaba. Their noble character attracted those with whom they came into contact, and Islam spread all over the west coast of India. During their trade transactions, they were able to propagate their Faith through their patience, trustworthiness, and noble actions (not by sword).

¹⁵ (Ahakaam al-Janaa'iz wa Bidayuh by Al-Albaani)

However, the customs and traditions of those who embraced Islam remained. Thus, they followed these customs and rituals from their former religions. They adopted the habit of *visiting the cemetery and the shamshaan* to pray to the dead and lay wreaths of flowers on the tombs. After all, we are all reverts, and some of the rituals are bound to percolate into our ways of life.

14. IS IT WRONG TO HOLD URS FOR THE DEAD SAINTS (AULIYA)?

❖ We find that all the ‘holy priests’ who came to preach Christianity to the people are today venerated as saints and worshipped. E.g., St. Antony, St. Aloysius, etc.; Processions are taken out in their name, and people flock to their graves or statues to get their prayers answered.

Similarly, we find that the Muslim pious scholars, who came to India to propagate the true religion, are also themselves venerated and later worshiped as Auliya and Saintly men.

E.g., the followers of Imam Abdul Khader Jeelani, and others at Ajmer, Nagore, and Ayrwadi, etc.

Allah asks:

“Is it not to Allah that sincere devotion is due? But those who take for protectors, others with Allah (say); *‘We only serve them so that they may bring us nearer to Allah.’* Allah will judge them in that wherein they differ. Truly Allah guides not him who is a liar and a *disbeliever.*” ---Al-Quran: 39: 3

Is this not what we are saying when we go to the Mazaar (graves) of the Auliya:

‘WE ONLY SERVE THEM SO THAT THEY MAY BRING US NEARER TO ALLAH?’

- Then are we not liars and disbelievers in the sight of Allah?

- Are we not lying against what our dear prophet ﷺ preached?

- The Surah goes on to say that we are commanded to worship Allah Alone, and whosoever takes others as Auliya will be the greatest losers on the Last Day. On top and bottom of them, will be layers of fire.

- Allah warns HIS slaves (we Muslims) to fear HIS Displeasure. And whoever avoids Taghut and turns in repentance to HIM, will have glad tidings of guidance from Allah. ---Al-Quran: 39: 16- 17

- Has not Allah said: “And when my slaves ask you (O Mohammad ﷺ) *concerning ME, I am indeed near, I respond to the invocations of the supplicant when he calls*

on ME. So let them obey ME and believe in ME so that they may be led aright" –Al-Quran: 2: 186

- Allah has also said; You may think something is good for you, but it may be bad, and something bad for you, but it may be good. So only Allah knows what is good or bad and bestows accordingly. -- Al-Quran: 2: 216

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT HERE, ALLAH IS ADDRESSING US-- HIS SLAVES—MUSLIMS.

❖ Do you think that the respected 'Auliya' and our dear Prophet ,ﷺ who are reclining in Barzakh like bridegrooms, or the Martyrs, rejoicing in the rewards of Allah, are hearing your plea for help, and answering your prayers?

If so, how misled you must be?

How selfish of you to think of disturbing them, from their tranquility, even after they have left us?

How astray you are from the straight Path of surrendering only to the ONE and ONLY Allah (GOD)?

NAY!

"Allah makes whom HE wills to hear, but you cannot make those to hear, who are buried in the graves." - Al-Quran: 35:22

- Are you attributing something of the Power, which Allah Alone possesses; All-Hearing what you are saying, to those good people who are blissfully unaware of the shirk you are committing?

- Allah will ask: ^(41: 47, 48): "Where are the partners you attributed to ME? And those whom they used to invoke will fail them, and those who invoked other than Allah for help, will perceive that they have no place of refuge."

- "Do the disbelievers (those who do not obey Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ) think that they can take *MY worshipers as Auliya (friends and protectors) besides ME?* I have prepared for them Hell as entertainment!" Surah Kahf: 18:102

- "Have you taken Auliya (protectors) other than HIM, such as *have no power either for benefit or for harm to themselves?*" — Al-Quran: 13:16

- When we recite Surah Fatiha upon these Auliya, are we not taking them as Protectors other than HIM? While Fatiha is meant to be directed towards Allah (sub) Alone! We promise in Surah Fatiha:

“YOU Alone we worship, and YOU Alone we seek help from” is it ok to break the Promise we make to HIM at 17 times a day during Salaat?

- And Allah declares: “The Day when no Protector can avail his client in any way, and no help can they receive, except those who receive Allah’s Mercy?” —Al-Quran: 44: 41, 42 Sura Dukhaan

❖ Thus, Salvation can be obtained only if we have Allah’s Mercy! And that can be obtained only if we ask for it from HIM and HIM Alone!!

- “Allah is the ‘Wali’ (Protector or Guardian) for those who believe.” ---[Al-Quran: 2; 257]

AND ALLAH WARNS THAT SUCH PEOPLE ARE NOT GOING TO HELP YOU IN ANY WAY ON THE LAST DAY:

- “And those whom they invoke besides Allah have no power of intercession— except he who bears witness to the truth and with full knowledge.” --- Al-Quran: 43: 86

i.e., only those who have full knowledge like the prophet Essa (as) and the Auliya, and, our dear prophet Mohammad ﷺ will testify--- testify to the fact that they preached only the Unity of Allah and did not ask to pray **to** them or ask **for their help**—thus rejecting all their prayers to them for help as false.

- And Allah says: “If you invoke or call upon them, they will not hear your call, and if (in case) they were to hear, they could not grant your request. And on the Day of Resurrection, they will disown and reject your ‘Partnership’ of invoking them with HIM. And none can inform you like HIM, WHO is All-Knower.”—Al-Quran: 35: 14

(Those who go to the graves of Auliya, and other burial places, to seek solace and pray to intercede should note this.)

✚ And these were the very pious men who strove all their lives to propagate the Teachings of Allah and the Prophet ﷺ. All they reiterated was: complete surrender to the ONE and Only Creator and NONE ELSE.

They were so pious and engrossed in Allah’s Zikr (remembrance) that they never felt the world’s atrocities as something to worry about. They firmly believed and propagated that those who follow them should put their trust only in Allah for intercession. They never asked us to call upon them or ask for their help. NEVER!

✚ We find that many celebrate the remembrance of such Auliya by preparing sweets and saying ‘Fatiha’ upon them. They assert that these Auliya have declared that if any of their wishes for which they have been prayed to are not fulfilled, they may catch hold of their collars on the Day of Resurrection. All this is a lie.

Money pours in for the ceremony, and it is done with great devotion and cleanliness, while Salaat is neglected, in most cases.

✚ - Allah says, ^{16:56}; -- They assign a portion of what WE have given them to things they do not know. By Allah, you shall certainly be questioned about all that you used to fabricate.”

- “Those men who take others for worship besides Allah: they love them as they should love Allah. And those who are followed will disown those who followed them. They would see the torment, and all relations will be cut off from them” [Al-Quran: 2:165-167]

I.e., those who mislead others will clear themselves of blame, saying we ourselves were misguided. Why did you not ponder over the Truth?

✚ However, we find many of us are afraid to leave these innovative practices because they fear breaking their Niyaz. Therefore, they perform the ceremony every year in fear that some calamity may befall them if they do not fulfil their Niyaz (Vow)

When it comes to the breaking of the covenant of Allah, they say: ‘Oh, Allah is Ghafoor ur Raheem. HE will forgive us. We can always ask forgiveness from Allah for Missing Salaat, going to Hajj, fasting, not giving Zakat, etc., but we have promised to go to Urs every year. If we do not go, some mishap may befall us.’

This is the main reason that most Bid'ah and Shirk have taken shape and persist. They fear them more than they fear Allah.

✚ We find the Urs and celebrations conducted in the names of the other Holy men; --Ajmer Sharif, Nagore etc.; - have reached to such an extent that their followers rush to their graves every year spending thousands of rupees, even ignoring the order for Salaat and Saum and Hajj which is the duty of every Muslim! They prefer to visit Ajmer rather than go to the Hajj!!

Every year, a letter is distributed, announcing the approach of Urs in Ajmer. The middlemen who conduct these rituals even write: “If you are not able to come, you can send the money (Niyaz) and inform me about your problems. I will **pray to Khawaja Sharif** to ask Allah to remove your troubles!!”

AN INTERCESSOR FOR AN INTERCESSOR!

And do you know where all the money goes? The custodians of the shrine and the family of the ‘Auliya’ are fighting for it. Do you know that the case is pending

in the Supreme Court as to who should take custody of all the income poured into the Dargah by the beguiled public!!!

Does it not only fill the coffers of the trustees and administrators of the 'Holy shrines'? Is the money being used for any other social benefits? Please Ponder. Is all the money thus collected halal?

Even if they do spend on social activities, any deed done with Haram income will be rejected by Allah.

(Allah says that all such deeds will be like floating dust: Al-Quran 25:23)

Remember, to go to such places and believe that 'Auliya', who are not alive, will hear us and grant our wish, or intercede for us, is committing shirk.

What a waste of all our efforts to get Barkat (blessings)?

Why not pay more attention to what these respected 'Auliya' taught us?

✚ Our Prophet ﷺ **forbade** that his grave be a place of celebrations. "Do not make my grave an Eid (Place of celebrations), nor make your houses graveyards (devoid of prayers) and ask Allah's Blessings for me wherever you may be."¹⁶

When annual gatherings around the Prophet's ﷺ grave itself are forbidden, then the huge gatherings and celebrations held on the burial places of the different saints are completely outside the teachings of our beloved Prophet ﷺ.

B. Counter Question:

Question:

Is there any proof that Muslims are doing shirk?

Answer:

If those who go and prostrate to the graves are not enough proof for shirk, the following gives enough evidence of the Muslims' committing shirk openly.

It is but only a tip of the iceberg!!

The news item from 'Siasat; Hyderabad' dated 21-6-2012 says:

➤ A large number of people from Rajasthan are heading towards Hyderabad, the hub of Muslims, and their mingling with the locals has caused many ignorant Muslims to be led astray.

Calendars hang on the walls of various shops at Begum Bazaar, mostly owned by Gujaratis, showing Muslim men sitting in front of the 'great Swami Ashram Baba' with great respect. They are attracted to him because they find that many

¹⁶ Sahi Bukhari; Vol. 2, H. No. 2037

of their problems are 'solved by him'! He is 'Begawan' and no one returns empty-handed.

➤ Another example is a barber near the Masjid Miyan Mashak who has become a health-healer! People flock to him at his footpath shop to receive a thread and some lemons. He takes a piece of hair from his clients and promises to remove their problems by doing a particular special puja (Sihir) on it. He charges Rupees 1,100 /-For it.

➤ Another person named Chandu heals young children by bathing them. He charges Rs. 30-50 for the 'healing bath'.

➤ Another does faith healing business near the Himayath Sagar. People flock to him to promote their business! Do you know the majority of those who go to such places are 'Muslims'?

The local clerics were vociferous (clamoring loudly) to give strict punishment to one such notorious person called 'Nagin Babi', who was arrested last week for practicing witchcraft.

But the authorities ask: *why do you not prevent your people* from going to such fakes?

How true!

Will their business flourish *without the support of the locals--the Majority Muslims?*

➤ Let us ponder.

Why do these go to such fake swamis?

Though Islam orders us to ask only to Allah, why do they fall into such traps?

Is it not because the knowledgeable Muslims (clerics) are not bothered about what others do, as long as they benefit from it?

When some clerics (like those in Ajmer) announce; 'Come to the graves of Auliya and to us; we will help you tide over your problems', the ignorant get beguiled. They think that it is not wrong to seek assistance from anyone other than Allah, and turn to wherever they find solace

---Thus, they fall into shirk, that Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ have strictly forbidden.

✓ If only the clerics had announced **from the Quran** that:
'Whatever happens, it is from Allah. HE ALONE can save or cure you' -3: 160

✓ If only they had announced that.

"Those whom you call besides Allah cannot create (even) a fly, even if you combine together for the purpose. And if the fly snatched away a thing from them,

you would have no power to release it from the fly. So weak are (both) the seeker and the sought.” —: 22: 73

✓ If only they had announced that NONE can save you except Allah, whatever your trouble is. So put your trust in Allah and Allah Alone. “HOLD FAST TO THE ROPE OF ALLAH, hold fast to what has been inspired to you” - 43: 43

✓ If only they had announced that: Allah tests you with loss of wealth, health, your children, and yourselves to know who is staunch and patient during adversity. — 2: 155-157

✓ And if only they had announced: ‘Do you think you will enter Paradise without such trials as came to those who passed away before you? They were afflicted with severe poverty, ailments, and were so shaken that even the Messenger and those who believed along with him said; When will come the Help of Allah? Yes, Certainly the Help of Allah is near!!’ - 2:214

“So, Call Upon Your Lord (RABB) Exclusively (Purely for HIM).” — 40:65.

“And pray for help from Allah with patience and constancy.”: 7: 128

“And seek help with patience and Salaat, and Allah is with the patient.”

— 2: 153 يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ

“And Whoever Submits His Face to Allah (Muslim), And He Is a Good Doer (Muhsin), Then He Has Grasped the Most Trustworthy Hand Hold”—31: 22

✓ If only they had warned them, would these ignorant people have fallen into the trap of those who are trying to beguile them, to ruin their Faith? — Towards shirk—towards Hell?

Please ponder.

Why are our clerics silent on this matter?

Why are they not forbidding the Muslims to keep away from all this shirk?

As mentioned above, Allah says: “Had the Jews and Christians Rabbis and Monks forbidden their people from deviating from the straight path, they would have achieved heaven.” —Al-Quran: 5: 63- 65.

Similarly, if our clerics fail to warn our Ummah from deviating from the straight path, how can they hope for the very Heaven that they seek?

C. COUNTER QUESTION:

Will we be able to bring all the Muslims under one umbrella by targeting the Clerics and Muftis?

The answer is NO! We are not targeting any of the clerics or Muftis. We are only requesting those who are free with their Fatwa, ‘please turn towards the Quran and Sunnah and verify if they are saying the correct thing, before they announce

something. We request that they warn and educate the public through their sermons, with what they learn from the Quran. They are responsible for every word they utter and, if they mislead the Muslims, they are in for a very Great Sin

WE CANNOT COMPROMISE WITH FAITH, TO BRING ALL UNDER ONE UMBRELLA

❖ We only remind them that,

❖ All that ALLAHUT'ALAH wants of us is: Believe, be united and, "Race one another in hastening towards good deeds, Forgiveness from your LORD, and towards Paradise--"- Al-Quran: 57: 21

❖ And, "persevere in patience and constancy, and strengthen each other and fear Allah, that you may prosper."- Al-Quran, 3: 200

❖ That means that we should be an example to each other, so that others may follow us and we may race to strengthen each other to create an environment where we, as Muslims, are respected and recognized as

THE TRUE TORCHBEARERS OF TRUTH.

=====

15. IF OUR FATHER HAS WILLED IT TO PERFORM MEELAD ETC?

HOW CAN WE GO AGAINST IT?

Allah instructs us on this subject:

"And WE have enjoined on man to be good and dutiful to his parents, but if they strive to make you join with ME anything of which you do not know, then OBEY THEM NOT. Unto ME is your return and I shall tell you *what you used to do*." -Al-Quran: 29: 8 //: 31/14, 15

.....When Allāh HIMSELF tells us not to obey, even our parents, if they tell us to do something new in religion (Bid'ah), then how can we hold that as an excuse to continue the wrong practices and rituals we have been doing all these years?

How can we persist in our wrong rituals, even after we are able to understand the Quran well, and are reminded of the true Knowledge?

Evil has no authority over us except, so far as we deliberately choose it.

"When it is said to them: 'Follow what Allah has sent down,' they say, 'Nay! We shall follow what we found our fathers following.' What! Even though their fathers had not understood anything, nor were they guided?" ---Al-Quran: 2: 170

"Verily, they found their fathers on the wrong path. Hence, they (too) made haste to follow in their footsteps! And indeed, most of the men of old went astray before them. And see what was the end of those who were warned" — Al-Quran: 37: 69- 73

And the forefathers and those who misled them will say: “---Had Allah guided us, we would have guided you. It makes no difference to us (now) whether we rage, or bear with patience, there is no place of refuge for us.”—Sura Ibrahim^{- Al-Quran: -14: 21}

Though these words were for the idolaters and the people of the Book, we must remember that it is a warning for us Muslims. We too must stick to only what has been given in the Quran and not follow what our forefathers did, who deviated in later years, from the calling upon only Allah and none else.

REMEMBER, WE ARE ALL REVERTS AND MAY EASILY FOLLOW THE CULTURE OF OUR FORMER RELIGIONS WITHOUT REALIZING THAT IT IS SHIRK. EVERY PERSON IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR DEEDS AND CANNOT BLAME THEIR PARENTS OR LEADERS FOR THEIR MISDEEDS.

Allah may forgive them because they had done so unknowingly, but if we persist even after we know the truth, then we are being responsible for our future generation falling into shirk.

If we continue doing the same wrong even after knowledge has come to us, regarding all these innovations, then we are committing the great sin of disobedience, same as Iblis committed and became one of the rejected!

Hence, before following their footsteps, we should first investigate if it is within the tenets of Islam. “Those men who take others besides Allah: they love them as they should love Allah. And those who are followed will disown those who followed them. When they see the torment, then all relations will be cut off from them” ----Al-Quran: 9: 99

Alas, the very forefathers who unknowingly misled us will disown us on the Day of Judgment!!! -- Al-Quran: -2:166-167 / 9: 99 And when we ask Allah to give double punishment to those who mislead us, HE will say, "For each one there is double punishment..."-- Al-Quran: 7: 38

If we stubbornly hold on to our wrong opinions about the deviations we are causing, we will have to bear the burden of those who follow us in future generations!!! **IS THAT, O.K.?**

16. WHAT IS WRONG IN WHITEWASHING THE GRAVES OR BUILDING STRUCTURES OVER THEM?

This is a matter of great controversy, and many argue about this and refuse to accept that it is wrong. Hence, I have ventured to give a detailed explanation as to how serious the problem is that will and is surely leading us Muslims towards Shirk and Kufr.

All this I was able to attain by Allah's Grace in the course of my studies in IOU and other sources. I have given only a summary.

The detailed account of the prohibition of building or decorating on graves is given in the Book "A summary of Islamic Jurisprudence" by Salih al Fawza'n, with all references to authentic Hadith.

Our Prophet, ﷺ, forbade even visiting the graves in the beginning and only allowed them after the faith of IMAAN had been ingrained into his followers. This was *because of the fear that it may lead to grave worship and shirk*. He later allowed it with certain conditions:

1. "Do **not (even) pray towards the grave** nor sit on them": {*Sahih Muslim, Vol. 2: p. 460, No. 2122*}

2. Do not pray Salaat in a structure (Masjid) containing a grave. "Not build a Masjid over the grave nor place a grave in the Masjid."

3. Nor is recitation of the Quran, Yaseen, or Surah Fatiha in the graveyards allowed. Our Prophet ﷺ did not do it, nor did any of the Sahaaba. Instead, one should only say Salaams and recite a supplication to ALLAH *for the dead*--¹⁷.

He ﷺ declared: "All the earth is a Masjid (place for prayer) *except the grave and the toilet*"- ¹⁸ Hence, reciting Allah's words in the Graveyard is forbidden.

4. Above all, Allah has declared, "And the Masajid are for Allah (Alone), so *invoke not anyone along with Allah.*" — *Al-Quran:72: 18*

¹⁷ --(Sahi Muslim Vol 2 pg. 460, No 2122, Abu Dawud vol 2, pg 917, No. 3223)

¹⁸ Sunan Abu Dawud, (English Trans.), vol.1, p.125, no.492,

We should note that the funeral service is not held in the graveyard but in a separate area or the Masjid. And we do not pray to the dead. One of the supplications for the dead, as our prophet advised, is:

“O Allah, forgive him, raise his rank among those who are guided, and take care of those he leaves behind him. Forgive us and him, O Lord of the worlds; expand his grave for him and illuminate it for him.” - Sahih Muslim 920

✓ Prophet ﷺ forbade the whitewashing of graves, the building of structures over them, or writing on them.” ¹⁹

Mohammed ﷺ said, “When a righteous man among those people dies, they build over their graves a place of worship. *They are the most evil of creation in Allah’s sight!* -Narrated by Ayesha (ra): --²⁰

✓ Imam Malik reports that the Prophet ﷺ said, “The curse of Allah falls upon the Jews and Christians for they have made their Prophets’ tombs places of worship.” ---²¹

✓ When we go through the Seerah of our dear Prophet ﷺ, we come to know that he ﷺ ordered Imam Ali رضي الله عنه to break any structures which had been built over the tombs and not to leave any mound to remain, except to the height of the palm of the hand! --²²

✓ He ﷺ ordered that one should not raise the grave above ground level, (except to the level of one’s palm), nor build structures on it” ---²³ He ﷺ also declared: “All the earth is a Masjid (place of worship), *except graveyards and toilets.*” --,²⁴

That is why our Prophet ﷺ said, "Pray in your houses, do not make them into graveyards." ²⁵

✓ The Prophet’s wife, Aa’ishah رضي الله عنها, reported that when death was descending upon Allah’s Messenger ﷺ, he drew his striped cloak over his face saying, “*May Allah’s curse be on the Jews and Christians for taking the graves of their prophets as places of worship.*” She added, “Were it not for that, they would have made his grave prominent, except that I feared that it would be taken as a place of worship.”²⁶

¹⁹ Abu Dawood Vol. 2, H. No. 3219/ Sahi Muslim: vol. 2 No; 2116

²⁰ Sahi Bukhari; Vol. 1: H. No. 419 /// Vol. 2; H.No. 426

²¹ Sahih Bukhari: Vol:1, H. No:62 (Muwatta Malik) Pg. 360

²² Sahih Muslim, (English Trans.), vol.2, p.459, no.2115,

²³ Sunan Dawood; Vol.2 PP-914.15. No. 3212///

Sahi Muslim; Vol. 2. PP. 459-60-No.2116] /// 229

²⁴ Sunan Abu Dawud, (English Trans.), vol.1, p.125, no.492,

²⁵ Sahih Al-Bukhari, (Arabic-English), vol.2, p.156, no.280 and

Sahih Muslim, vol.1, p.376, no.1704.

²⁶ 26 Sahih Al-Bukhari (Arabic-English), vol. 1, p. 255, no. 427,

D. Counter Question:

Then why is the Mazaar of the Prophet made prominent?

In the beginning, the grave of our Prophet ﷺ was also not made prominent as per his instructions. It was only later that this innovation happened. *It was* Caliph al-Waleed ibn 'Abdel-Malik (reign 705-715 C.E.) who expanded the Masjid Nabawi towards the East, and included the house of Ayesha (ra) where the Prophet ﷺ was buried. But care was taken that a circular wall and then two triangular walls were built around it so that no one would be facing the grave directly during Salaat.

17. WHY HAS OUR PROPHET FORBIDDEN BUILDING STRUCTURES UPON GRAVES?

The reason for not allowing structures upon graves is obvious. We will be the reason for *the future generations to venerate and then worship their dead and pious forefathers as the people of old have done, thus deviating from the straight path of bowing to only Allah.*

Alas! We have started worshipping and are busy erecting a mosque over the graves of the very 'holy Dastgir' and other Auliya who taught us not to worship anyone other than Allah.

THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT THEY WORSHIPPED THE IDOLS OF THE HOLY MEN, AND WE ARE WORSHIPPING AND ASKING THE HELP AT THEIR GRAVES!!!

Sahih Muslim, (English Trans.), vol. 1, p. 269 no. 1082, and Sunan Abu Dawud, (English Trans.), vol. 2, p. 917, no. 3221

18. DO WE REALLY WORSHIP THE GRAVES?

Many may say we are not worshipping the graves.

Yes, it is true that, in the beginning, when they began doing Bid'ah by celebrating functions in the name of the Auliya and our dear Prophet ﷺ, they did not worship them. **But NOW?**

✚ Have you gone to the Dargah and seen how the *devotees prostrate to the graves?*

✚ Have you noticed how they hold onto the Mazaar and plead TO those who are buried there, to save them from calamities or give them a child?

✚ Have you noticed how Sura Fatiha is recited on the graves of the Auliya, and how they beseech them for intercession with Allah to forgive their sins?

Are they hearing your pleas?

✚ Have you noticed how they vow to fulfil some Niyaz (money) if their wish is fulfilled?

This is all the result of considering that venerating their graves is only a trivial matter, and does not involve Shirk. Is this not enough proof that people have already started worshipping the holy ones like the people of old?

This is the result of committing Bid'ah (Innovations) out of our imaginations, which Allah and the Prophet ﷺ have not advocated.

Why turn to others? When Allah says, "Call on ME and I will answer your call."^{40: 60} "And, I created Man and Jinni only to worship ME" -- 51:56

E. COUNTER QUESTION:

We of the Salaf say: we should not call upon anybody else but Allah. But if, when we visit the graveyard, we do call upon those in the graves, conveying our greeting to them. Then why can we not call upon our Prophet ﷺ?

Answer: When we approach a grave, we pray to ALLAH for them. We say those words because our Prophet ﷺ told us to. We are just obeying our Prophet ﷺ and this is to remind us that we too will one day reach the graveyard. We are not praying to those in the grave nor venerating them.

Nor do we ask those in the grave for any favor. It is like the incident when the Prophet ﷺ had to leave Mecca, he called out to the city:

يا بلادي- أنتِ أَهْبُكِ - لا أَخْرُجوني ما مخرج

'Oh, my city, I love you. If I were not driven out, I would not have left.' Does this mean that the city is hearing the Prophet's words? No! It is just a way the Arabs

used to express their intentions. He is not asking the city for anything. Similarly, when we visit the grave, we do not ask for anything.

If we want anything, Allah says, "Ask only from ME"

SURAH FATIHA AND DUA IS IBADATH AND IBADATH IS ONLY FOR ALLAH.

Please Remember That, In No Way Do We Mean to Disrespect the Anbiya and Auliya. We only STICK to their *TEACHING*. Instead of venerating them in *person*, we should pay attention to their teachings about Allah and the Prophet. If Their Narration Is Not Corrupted, It Will Be Only following Taqwah, Tawakkul, and Not Attributing His Names to Any Other: Tawheed.

19. THEN WHY IS IT THAT GOING TO MEDINA AND VISITING THE MAZAAR OF THE PROPHET IS ALLOWED?

The presence of the Prophet's grave in the Masjid in Medina cannot be used to justify the building of a mosque over the graves of other holy men.

This is because, as mentioned earlier:

When Mohammed ﷺ died, he was buried in the very place where he died, as he had said that all prophets were buried on the very spot where they died. It was Ayesha (ra)'s hut, which was adjacent to the Masjid-e-Nabawi. But it was not raised, nor was it cemented.

When expansion took place afterwards, care was taken that a high circular wall was built around the grave, and then a triangular wall was built to prevent anyone from facing the grave directly while praying!

So, when we have 2 walls, separating the grave from the mosque, we cannot claim that we are bowing to the grave when we face the Qibla, unless that is our intention. Nobody is allowed to approach it or venerate it.

Salaat is allowed in Masjid-e-Nabawi due to this fact, and also because of the many benefits of praying there.

Because Mohammed ﷺ has said:

"A single Salaat in this Masjid is better than 1000 Salaat elsewhere, except the Masjid-e-Haram (Where one Salaat is 100,000 times and praying at Masjid al Aqsa is equal to praying 500 times elsewhere)." -Sahih Muslim: Vol. 2, H. No. 3204

(This he said, not because he was to be buried there. This happened only later.)

✚ Our Prophet ﷺ has said: "Do not journey (pilgrimage), except to three Masajid; Al Masjid-e-Haram, Al-Masjid al Aqsa, and this Masjid---Masjid-e Nabawi." --Sahi Muslim Vol. 2; H. No. 3209.

✚ This means that pilgrimage for a Muslim is allowed only to these three Mosques and nowhere else. (Therefore, travelling to Ajmer, or other such graves as a pilgrimage, is forbidden)

✚ That is why visiting the Masjid Al Nabawi is allowed. Here, our aim should be only pilgrimage to the Masjid, and visiting the holy place where our dear Prophet lived. Our aim should not be to venerate the grave of the Prophet ﷺ

✚ The fact that now the grave of our Prophet ﷺ is there can be a test by Allah to see whether we are following HIS orders and not deviating towards worshipping the grave of our Prophet ﷺ.

✚ Of course, we may feel happy to stand where our prophet ﷺ stood and pray where he prayed. But if we begin to think that, it is something holy and to be worshipped, then we are straying from the path shown by him (ﷺ).

✚ What a pity that in many Muslim countries the picture of the tomb of some other king is presented as the tomb of the Prophet ﷺ and these pictures are sold, to be hung in houses.

**THE PROPHET ﷺ HAS NO TOMB (MAZAAR), OR SANDUQA ON HIS GRAVE.
(Reported By Jaffar Bin Muhammad, From His Father)**

20. MANY NAMES OF ALLAH HAVE BEEN ATTRIBUTED TO MEN.

We come to know Allah through the Attributes HE has mentioned in the Quran. Alas, we have named our Auliya with these attributes, which belong ONLY to HIM. Allah says:

“MA KHADARULLAHA HAKHA KHADRIHI” Surah Hajj- V:74

“They have not estimated Allah HIS Rightful Estimate.”

✓ **HE IS OUR ONLY AAQA/KHWAJA - (MASTER OR LORD)**

We cannot call anybody else our LORD-

✓ **HE IS OUR BEST WITNESS** ---Surah Bani Israil-17: 96

We can have no other intercessor!!

✓ **HE IS OUR BEST WAKEEL:** وَقَالُوا حَسْبُنَا اللَّهُ وَنِعْمَ الْوَكِيلُ – 3: 173

None else is the Disposer of all our affairs

✓ **HE IS OUR BEST AND ONLY ‘MOULA’-PROTECTOR** -- (2: 286// 9: 51)

✓ There can be none other to help us, unless HE wishes, as:

HE IS OUR BEST ‘NASEER’ (HELPER).”— (Al Imran-3:173)

So, turn to only HIM while in distress. For;

✓ **HE IS OUR ONLY ‘GHAUS-E-AZAM’**— The greatest listener of the distressed.

✓ “Is not HE WHO responds to the distressed one, when he calls on HIM, and removes the evil, and makes you inheritors of earth, generation after generation? —

Sura Naml-V: 62

✓ HE is our **Only ‘DAATA’** ---- (The Bestower) ---- (in Urdu language)

✓ He is our **Only ‘GAREEB NAWAZ’** — (saver of the Poor – in Urdu language)

✓ “O mankind! It is you who stand in need of Allah. But Allah is Rich, Worthy of all Praise.” — Al- Fathir: V. 15

✓ HE is our **Only ‘MUSHKIL KUSHA’** ---The Eliminator of all obstacles- “And if Allah touches you with harm, none can remove it but HE, and if HE touches you with good, then HE can do all things.”- Surah An’am: 6: 17

✓ HE is our **Only GANJ BAKSH** –The Provider of Treasure. “And to Allah belong the treasures of the Heavens and the Earth.”—Surah Munafiqoon V. 7.

✓ HE is our **Only DASTAGIR**—The Protector during trials. “And when harm touches man, he invokes US, lying on his side, or sitting or standing. --Surah Yunus—V. 12

Through many such Quranic evidences, it is clear that ALLAH AND ONLY ALLAH (GOD) IS THE ONLY: BESTOWER, PROPITIOUS OF THE NEEDY, THE OPENER, THE PROTECTOR, AND THE OWNER OF UNBOUNDED BLESSINGS.

By calling others who are buried in the graves with these names, we are attributing the Sifat (attributes) of Allah to others. we are committing **shirk**: the very Shirk that our dear Prophet ﷺ prohibited.

“Do not take as lords, other than Allah, the angels or prophets, do you invite us to disbelief after we have been guided”: Surah Al-Imran: 3: 80

So whenever one supplicates or asks for the unseen help, we should address **ONLY HIM** through **HIS** Attributes. And we are asked to **SAY**:

- **“ONLY YOU WE WORSHIP AND ONLY FROM YOU WE SEEK HELP”**

- إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ - Surah Fatiha—V. 5

○ “...SUFFICIENT FOR ME IS ALLAH; IN HIM THOSE WHO TRUST MUST PUT THEIR TRUST.” 39: 38

- قُلْ حَسْبِيَ اللَّهُ - عَلَيْهِ يَتَوَكَّلُ الْمُتَوَكِّلُونَ

○ “Therefore, establish prayer and give zakat and hold fast to Allah. He is your Protector, ‘ENOUGH IS ALLAHU, AS THE DISPOSER OF AFFAIRS, THE BEST OF PROTECTOR, AND THE BEST OF HELPERS” — 22: 78

- فَأَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَاعْتَصِمُوا بِاللَّهِ هُوَ مَوْلَاكُمْ - فَبِعَمِّ الْمُؤَلَى وَنِعْمَ النَّصِيرُ -

DO WE HAVE STAUNCH FAITH IN THIS DOCTRINE?

Today who call themselves Sunni have termed our dear Prophet ﷺ: "**AALIMUL GAYIB**" (the knower of the unseen) -- a title belonging only to Allah :(Sura Jummah: V. 8). It is these false assumptions that led all other previous generations into the unforgivable SIN: Shirk

And, the Prophet ﷺ has himself declared that whatever he declared of the unseen was conveyed from Allah Alone, through Jibrael (al),

In the Quran, Allah orders the Prophet ﷺ to "Say: The knowledge of the Last Day is **only** with Allah, and I am only a Warner, and I convey only what has been conveyed to me by Allah." (Sura Mulk, V.26)

Allah declares in the Quran that **ONLY HE IS** the "AALIMUL GAIB"--Knower of all things- seen and unseen- in several Ayaat: 6: 73// 13: 9// 32: 6// 59: 22// 64: 18// 72: 26

"He is Allah, other than whom there is no deity, **Knower of the unseen** and the witnessed. He is the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful." - 59:22

هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ عَالِمُ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ - هُوَ الرَّحْمَنُ الرَّحِيمُ -

We cannot term any other with that name. And, our Prophet ﷺ took pride in calling himself a slave of Allah!

And Allah has not guaranteed the intercession of the Prophet ﷺ for those who disobey him or those who deviate from his way of life.

Say, "Obey Allah and obey the Messenger; but if you turn away - then upon him is only that [duty] with which he has been charged, and upon you is that with which you have been charged. And if you obey him, you will be [rightly] guided. And there is not upon the Messenger except the [responsibility for] clear notification." 24: 54

قُلْ أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ فَإِن تَوَلَّوْا فَإِنَّمَا عَلَيْهِ مَا حُمِّلَ وَعَلَيْكُمْ مَا حُمِّلْتُمْ
وَإِن تُطِيعُوهُ تَهْتَدُوا وَمَا عَلَى الرَّسُولِ إِلَّا الْبَلَاغُ الْمُبِينُ

And the Messenger will say when he sees those who turned away from his path: "O my Lord, indeed my people have taken this Qur'an as [a thing] abandoned." - 25: 30

وَقَالَ الرَّسُولُ يَا رَبِّ إِنَّ قَوْمِي اتَّخَذُوا هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ مَهْجُورًا

CONCLUSION

Many have the wrong opinion that when Allah says; there is no compulsion in religion, what is wrong if we do what we wish in it. But they forget that Allah also says that, if any turns away and invents new things in religion, of which they have no authority, then HIS punishment is justified for them.

“There is no compulsion in religion! Verily, the right path has become distinct from the wrong Path. Whoever disbelieves in Tagoot and believes in Allah, and then he has grasped the most trustworthy handhold that will never break. And Allah is All-Hearer and All-Knower.”—2:256

And Allah says in the Quran that, until we Muslims stand together in the matter of religion and hold all together to the Rope of Allah, there will continue to be mischief and Fitnah and destruction which we are witnessing all around us.

Hence, let us understand each other and instead of stubbornly refusing to see reason, let us ponder over what the real Truth is?

Is it to worship and put your whole trust in only the ONE Creator, as our dear prophet ﷺ has shown us,

OR,

Is it by innovating new and newer matters in religion, according to our desire, thus leading to shirk, which Allah has vehemently forbidden in the Quran?

Allah says: You are the Best of people evolved for mankind, enjoining what is right, forbidding what is wrong, and believing in Allah. -3: 110

And, that the Jews “never used to forbid one another from Munkar, which they committed. Vile is indeed what they used to do.” - 5:79

Similarly, if we do not endeavor to forbid what our People are doing of the wrong and Bid'ah, then we are no better than those Jews.

I keep repeating these words, just as Allah mentions them in the Quran, to instill into the true believers the great wrong they are doing.

For, Allah says in Surah Al-Asr (103), “Indeed, man is in loss, except those who believe (in Islamic Monotheism) and do righteous deeds, and *recommend one another to the truth (about Islamic righteousness) and recommend one another to patience and constancy.*”

That is why we keep warning the people who tend to go even a wee bit astray, to beware of Allah's wrath and keep to the straight path.

This we do with the good intention that our brothers in Islam do not fall prey to Shai'tan, and may keep away from all the Bid'ah, and save the future generation of Muslims from being among the losers. Let us all hold to the rope of Allah together and be not of those who are divided.

Prophet ﷺ said:

“A Muslim is the one who forbids any wrong done,

- by his hand.

- If that is not possible, with his tongue,

- If he cannot do even that, he should at least feel that it is wrong, in his heart.

But that is the weakest of Imaan!” — (Muslim H. No. 186)

Hence, propagating by tongue is better, and that is what we are doing.

I conclude with the Quranic words (Al-Quran: 28:55):

“We are responsible for our deeds and you yours —we have no ill will against you. We only wish you well and hope you will see the true path. Peace be on you” ---- *May Allah Show Us All the Right Path. Ameen*

وَقَالُوا لَنَا أَعْمَالُنَا وَلَكُمْ أَعْمَالُكُمْ سَلَامٌ عَلَيْكُمْ لَا نَبْتَغِي الْجَاهِلِينَ

Glory is to Allah, and all Praise is for Allah. None has the right to be worshipped except Allah, and Allah is the greatest, and there is no power except with Allah.

SUBHANAKA ALLAHUMMA WA BIHAMDHKA WA NASH HADU, AN LAAILAAHA ILLAA ANTHA WA NASTHAGFIRUKA, WA NA THOUBU ILAIKA. WA SALAATU WA ASLAAMU ALA RASOOLULLAH

Glory to you, O Allah, and ALL Praises to YOU and

We bear witness that there is no other god

Worthy of worship other than YOU,

And we ask YOUR forgiveness, and we turn to YOU in repentance.

**ALLAH TAUGHT US TO CALL ONLY TO HIM IN ADVERSITY
AND BE HUMBLE AND NOT EXULT IN PROSPERITY.
WHATEVER HAPPENS, DO NOT DESPAIR.
ONLY HE WILL BESTOW FOR US WHAT IS FAIR.**

Subject: Beautiful Poem by a Hindu to open the eyes of Muslims:
Pundit Shankar Dayal Sharma has spoken those words that were in my heart.

Quran.

Amal ki kitab thee,
Dua ki kitab Bana Diya

Samajne ki kitab thee

Padne ka kitab Bana Diya

Zindon ka Dastoor thaa

Murdhon ka monshood Bana Diya

Jo ilm ki kitab thi

Usey la ilmon Ke hath thama Diya

Thaskheer—e—Kaynath ka dhars dene aayi thee

Sirf madarason ka Nisaab Bana Diya

Murda Qoumon ko Zinda karne aayi thee

Murdhon ko bakhsh wane per Laga Diya

Aye Musalmanon ye thum ne Kya kia

Zara Sochiye.

(meaning)

It Was a Book
 Teaching Good Deeds
 It is made into just a Prayer Book
 and Counting of Beads,
 It Was Meant to Be Understood
 and implemented,
 But it Is Used Only to Be Recited,
 It Was a Way of Life for The Living.
 But it Is Used for The Dead.
 The Book Which Was for Knowledge,
 In Madrasas, As A Parrot Is Read,
 It Had Come to inform us,
 To Believe in the Unseen,
 But None Bothers What It Means.
 It Had Come to bring Alive;
 The community that was Dead
 As our Prophet ﷺ Said,
 But it Is Used to Intercede for
 The Redemption of the Dead.
 O Muslims! What Have You Done?
 Will You Not Ponder

**I WISH TO ADD TO THE FAMOUS WORDS OF SHEIKH AYUB,
THE FOUNDER OF TABLEEQ JAMAAT:**

"اے مسلمانو! مسلمان بنو"

JO MAANGNAA HAI, ALLAH HI SE MAANGO, AUR HAMARE PYARE

NABI KE BATHAAYE HUWEY RAASTEY PER CHALO

Meaning:

O MUSLIMS, BECOME MUSLIMS,

WHAT YOU WANT TO ASK, ASK ONLY FROM ALLAH AND

FOLLOW THE FOOTSTEPS OF OUR PROPHET (ﷺ).

WHAT THIS BOOK HOLDS?

- ⤴ We look like Muslims (poetry)
- ⤴ What is Bid'ah?
- ⤴ There is no authenticity in innovations.
- ⤴ Was the Quran sent to be recited only when calamities rise?
- ⤴ Who are the greatest losers in the sight of Allah?
- ⤴ What is wrong if we deviate from Sunnah and innovate in religion?
- ⤴ Does it mean we should not at all ask the clerics / Muftis?
- ⤴ The different types of Bid'ah
- ⤴ Proof from the Quran.
- ⤴ Is it wrong to lay wreath or chador of flowers on the grave?
- ⤴ Is it wrong to hold URS for the Dead Saints (Oulyas)
- ⤴ If our fathers have willed it how can we go against it?
- ⤴ Why has our Prophet forbidden building structures upon Graves?
- ⤴ What is wrong in whitewashing the Graves or building structures over them?
- ⤴ Do we really worship the graves?
- ⤴ Why is going to Medina and visit the Mazaar of prophet ﷺ, allowed?
- ⤴ Many names of Allah have been attributed to men
- ⤴ Counter Questions