



THE DAYS ARE GETTING LONGER AND HOTTER.....

The days are getting longer and hotter indicating the arrival of summer. Though most of us eager for the warmth of this season look forward to these months, some of us anticipate it with nervousness and anxiety due to the onset of exams. The majority of our younger generation won't be able to enjoy the summer until after completing their exams.

Examinations.....preceded by sleepless nights, fill us with fear, dread, hours of study and the list goes on. Those hoping to be successful in their examinations will have started revising & reviewing in preparation. Some of us may lack in motivation or commitment and may do some last minute cramming before the exams and a minority of us may not bother at all.

Which ever category we fall into in terms of our preparation, for our exams, and whether we have imminent exams or not, I request you to take a few minutes to reflect upon the final assessment process that all of us will one day face: the Grave and the Day of Judgement.

There's no exam body to publish any dates and no fixed venue but there are aids to help us succeed. Unlike the worldly exams in which the questions are kept confidential, the questions after our death have already been

published. The criteria have already been published.

If we had an exam and we were told the questions then we would confidently walk into the exam and pass with flying colours. Its ironic, however, that despite knowing the questions and despite knowing the criteria for which marks will be awarded in the Hereafter, we continue with our lives as if we are none the wiser.

As young children, we learnt the three questions, which will be posed to us in our grave: What is your Deen (religion/way of life), Who is your Lord and Who is your Prophet/the Last messenger? Whilst reading this article we can run off the answers, but will we be able to run them off in the same fashion when we are alone in our graves?

How many times in an exam does our mind go blank...we can remember the page in our notes, the colour of the note paper, the position of the text/diagram on the page and still the answer doesn't come to us because our mind goes blank. What about in a job interview, when we know the answer to a particular question which we may have rehearsed a number of times, but when the interviewer asks, our mind freezes and we lose the words

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Hadhrat Bilal ؓ and his suffering for Islam

Maulana Muhammad Zakariyyah (r.a)

Hadhrat Bilal ؓ is one of the best known of the galaxy of Sahaba as moazzin of the Prophet's ﷺ masjid. He was an Abyssinian slave of a disbeliever in Mecca. His conversion to Islām was, naturally, not liked by his master and he was, therefore, persecuted mercilessly. Umayyah bin Khalf, who was the worst enemy of Islām, would make him lie down on the burning sand at midday and would place a heavy stone on his breast, so he could not even move a limb. He would then say to him: "Renounce Islām or swelter and die." Even under these afflictions, Hadhrat Bilal ؓ would exclaim:-

"Ahad" - The One (Allah). "Ahad"— The One (Allah).

He was whipped at night and with the cuts thus received, made to lie on the burning ground during the day to either make him forsake Islām or die a lingering death from wounds. The torturers would get tired and take turns (Abu jahal, Umayyah and others) and vie with one another in afflicting more and more punishment, but Hadhrat Bilal ؓ would not yield. At last Abu Bakr ؓ bought his freedom, and he became a free Muslim. As Islām taught implicitly the oneness of the Almighty Creator, while the idolaters of Mecca believed in many gods and goddesses with minor godlings, therefore Hadhrat Bilal ؓ would exclaim:

"Ahad" - The One (Allah). "Ahad"— The One (Allah).

This shows his love and devotion to Allah ﷻ. Allah ﷻ was so dear to him that no amount of persecution could distract him from reciting His Holy name. It is said that the urchins of Mecca would drag him in the streets, with his words "Ahad, Ahad!" ringing in their wake. Look how Allah ﷻ rewarded his steadfastness! He was to have the honour of becoming the Prophet's ﷺ moazzin. He was always to remain with him at home and abroad to call out the Azaan for his Salah. After the Prophet's ﷺ demise it became very hard for him to stay in Medinah Munawwarah where he would miss him at every step and in every corner. He therefore left Medinah Munawwarah, and decided to spend the rest of his life striving in the path of Allah ﷻ. Once he beheld the Prophet ﷺ in his dream saying to him:

"O, Bilal! How come you never visit me."

No sooner did he get up than he set off for Medinah Munawwarah. On reaching there, Hadhrat Hasan and Hadhrat Husain ؓ (The Prophet's ﷺ grandsons) requested him to call out the Azaan he could not refuse them, for they were very dear to him. But as soon as the Azaan was called, the people of Medinah cried openly out of their anguish at the memory of the happy old days of the Prophet's ﷺ time. Even the women came out of their houses weeping. Hadhrat Bilal ؓ left Medinah again after a few days and died in Damascus in 20 A.H.

Maulana Yasir (Chorley)

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ISLAMIC POEM ABOUT THE TREASURE

TREASURES NOT ALWAYS A GOLD
AS WE OFTEN BEEN TOLD.
THIS ISN'T FROM A CAVE,
OR FROM A SAFE.
THIS ISN'T AN ORDINARY BOOK,
THAT WE GIVE IT ONE LOOK.
THIS IS THE HOLY BOOK,
THIS IS SENT FROM ALLAH TO OUR PROPHET ﷺ
THIS HOLY BOOK IS THE QUR'AN
Abdullah

LIFE

Life is a thing that spins on a wheel

Death is a thing that everyone feels

If life was something money could buy

Then the rich would live

And the poor would die

*Julfa Tanzim
11 years old*

(Continued from page 1)

or stumble finding the right words.

Deep down we are all aware that our ability to answer those questions in the grave depends upon the manner in which we lead our lives...our way of life. If Islam played a role only on Fridays or only in Ramadhan or only when performing ceremonies such as Nikah, we are deluding ourselves if we think we can answer these questions easily.

If Islam played a role in our lives in the way that we dressed, with regular visits to the masjid and daily recitation of the Quran...then do we think that we can be successful? If Islam is in every aspect of our life, our actions, our intentions, our thoughts, our character... and all these are modelled on ways shown to us by Our Noble Beloved Prophet ﷺ then may be, may be we have a chance. But lets not be complacent about the type of Muslim that many of us profess to be.

Whilst preparing for your exams or watching other family members/friends prepare for their exams, let us pause and reflect upon our final exam of the grave Do some serious soul searching, do some Muhasabah, be honest to yourself...which category of Muslim are you? How pleased is Allah ﷻ with you?

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Talwar



3rd Khatme-
Bukhari Shareef



Deceitful Glitters
Of The World

In Shaykh's Company.....

Parents

Our friends generally do not want to give us enjoyment; they want to derive enjoyment from us. A girlfriend (or boyfriend) does not want to give us (unconditional) love, they want us to love them. Our parents, however, want us whether we bring benefit to us or not. It is our parents who are in reality our first friends. If we do not become a means of peace and happiness for our parents, our children will treat us worse than how we have treated our parents.

A person only realises the value of what his parents did for him when he himself becomes a parent.

Our parents sacrifice their youth in bringing us into our youth. And then we repay them by utilising this youth in causing them pain and hurt.

Small Good Deeds

'We do not know which act Allah Ta'ala will accept and grants us the gardens of jannah (gardens of paradise) in the hereafter; therefore we must never shun or see a small 'amaal (deeds) as insignificant. These insignificant acts have less Riya (show & ostentation) in them, and more ikhlaas (sincerity), so whenever an opportunity arises to perform a good deed or to abstain from any type of sin, we must carry it out.

Do Not Look at Others with Contempt

Another advice that I would like to convey to you is don't look at another, to see whether they are praying or not. Assess yourself, until we don't assess ourselves, how then will we ever see our faults. Should a flood pass in our street, then would we stick around looking at others' houses or would we go to assess the damage in our house! We should stick to a schedule, and not look at others with contempt.

In Shaykh's Company is a blog maintained by Shaykh Muhammad Saleem Dhorat hafizahullah students recording Shaykh's teachings, discourses and advices.

LEARN

40

HADEETH

OF RASOOLULLAH ﷺ

HADEETH NO 5

اتَّقِ اللَّهَ حَيْثُ مَا كُنْتَ (الترمذی)

Adopt the taqwā of Allah ﷻ wherever you may be

EXPLANATION

Taqwā is to abstain from disobeying Allah ﷻ. Allah ﷻ is All-Seeing, All-Knowing and All-Aware. Whether alone or in public, in the darkness of the night or in daylight, nothing remains hidden from Him. Therefore wherever we are we should always be mindful of this fact and not do anything that displeases Allah ﷻ. Those who adopt taqwā and safe-guard themselves from every minor and major sin, Allah ﷻ will honour them with His special friendship and save him from fear and grief in both worlds.

The Virtue of 40 Hadeeth

"Whosoever will learn and convey forty hadeeth to my Ummah concerning religion, Allah ﷻ will raise him a great scholar (of Islām) and will intercede for him and will be his witness on the Day of Judgement."

HADEETH NO 6

الْحَيَاءُ شُعْبَةٌ مِنَ الْإِيمَانِ (البخارى)

Modesty (hayā) is an important branch of faith

EXPLANATION

The tree of Imān has many branches which all go towards making it beautiful. Modesty, or hayā, is a very important one of these branches. Modesty is that quality which stops a person from doing bad things in front of others, like lying, stealing, swearing etc. Modesty also stops a person from doing evil in solitude, when only Allah ﷻ is watching him. If a person has the excellent quality of modesty, it will prevent him from disobeying Allah ﷻ and from committing sins.

(Courtesy of Riyadul Jannah)

Children's CLASS THREE

'COZ Islam is
for everyone'

The children in class three were all pleasant, polite, and respectful. They were all very obedient and hard-working. Class three was the pride of the school. Well, all except one student. He was known as Mean Yusuf.

Yusuf was a lot taller and stronger than the rest of his class. Everyone in the class was scared of him and he would often use his strength in bullying his classmates. Hardly a day would pass without Mean Yusuf fighting with one of the boys in his class or teasing one of the girls until they cried.

At lunch time the children would eat their food and snacks very quickly as Mean Yusuf would take their goodies away after finishing his own. No matter how much his parents or teachers told him off or warned him, Mean Yusuf would not mend his ways.

Day by day he became more and more of a problem child. The children were becoming more and more scared of him.

After returning from one bank holiday, the children found that a new student had joined the class. His name was Ridwan. Ridwan was a very cheerful, intelligent boy. He had a very quiet nature and like the rest of the class was very polite and well mannered. He, unlike Mean Yusuf, was a lot shorter than the rest of the class and like most of them did not seem to have much strength at all.

That lunchtime, the kids surrounded him and warned him about Mean Yusuf. 'Keep away from him!' One of them said, "He is very evil and bad mannered. Don't bring any of your toys to school, or else he will break them or take them away.' Ridwan thanked them for their kind advice and told them not to worry.

For the first few days Mean Yusuf hardly said a word to Ridwan, but this was not going to last for long. One day when Ridwan had brought his football to school and the boys were enjoying themselves, Mean Yusuf entered the playground. Everyone suddenly stopped and waited to see what would happen. 'Give me the ball!', he demanded. Ridwan paid no attention to him and began walking away. Mean Yusuf was very much angered by this and lunged forward to hit Ridwan. Ridwan ducked, and to everyone's surprise, responded with a punch which knocked Yusuf to the ground.

Everyone on the playground started applauding as Mean Yusuf laid still on the ground. He had finally met his match. Mean Yusuf was in tears as he felt extremely embarrassed. Brushing away his tears he hurried back to his classroom and never bullied anyone again.



Moral

Like we learn from the story, we should never underestimate anyone. Allah ﷻ does not like that person who is proud and who uses his strength to oppress and harm people who are weaker. One day or another such a person will meet his match and Allah will disgrace him. Therefore we should learn to be polite, kind and caring. We should show respect to everyone and act humble at all times. Allah ﷻ by us being humble will give us respect in this world and the ever-lasting hereafter.

**WIN A
PRIZE!**

**FIND OUT THE KEYWORD BELOW
FOR THE CHANCE TO WIN**

A MYSTERY PRIZE

Write your answers on a piece of paper and send them to reach us no later than Saturday 28th July 2007. The first correct entry drawn will win. All entrants must be under 15.

WORD JUMBLE

- 1) _ _ _
UDWHU
- 2) _ _ _
NAUQR
- 3) _ _ _ _ _
MMUTYAAM
- 4) _ _ _
SIMAKW
- 5) _ _ _ _
AKZAT

KEYWORD



Unscramble the letters, then put the encircled letters in the empty box. After that, unscramble those letters to reveal the keyword.

(Courtesy of Al Jame'ah)

Hint:

In the Battle of Uhud this great Sahabi was martyred...

Aboo Hurayrah



Open any book of Hadeeth and one name you are sure to find is the great name of this companion and devoted student of the Prophet ﷺ. Given the name Aboo Hurayrah ﷺ (due to his love for a kitten which he always kept with him), his actual name was Abdur Rahman. After accepting Islām he began acquiring knowledge from the Prophet ﷺ. Once he complained to the Prophet ﷺ of a weak memory. The Prophet ﷺ asked for his garment and placed his blessed hands over it, and thereafter ordered him to wear it. Aboo Hurayrah ﷺ explains that after this he never forgot a word his beloved Prophet ﷺ said to him. Aboo Hurayrah ﷺ accepted Islām in 7AH and the Prophet ﷺ passed away in 11AH, so he only stayed in the company of the Prophet ﷺ for four years. But due to his special memory and by devoting all his time acquiring knowledge from the Prophet ﷺ, he has narrated an amazing 5,374 ahādeeth!

Last Issue's Results

Masha'Allah we received many entries from our young and eager readers!!

The lucky winners of the last issue's competition were:-

1st Hafsah Sarwar from London, 2nd Yusuf Hussain from Leeds,

WELL DONE! Since there were so many runners-up we can't mention all of their names here. However, all those who took part have been sent Al-Huda's bookmark or a booklet containing Forty Sayings of the Messenger of Mercy ﷺ compiled by Shaykh Muhammad Saleem Dhorat hafizahullah in the post.