

Fruits for the Week

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PATIENCE (SABR)

Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h) said :” *Patience is a light.*” (Muslim). This Hadith indicates that in the intricate paths of life when difficulties and hardships confront a man, and the darkness of adversities and suffering becomes long, it is patience only that acts like a light for a Muslim, that keeps him safe from wandering here and there, and saves him from the muddy mire of disappointment, desperation and frustration. Patience is such a basic quality that a Muslim needs it to shape his life in this world and in the next. On this basis only he should attend to all his work. He should make it a torchlight for guiding his way. He should not sit waiting for the results however late that may take. He should run away from the responsibilities, whatever they may be.

Allah has stressed this point sufficiently in Surah Muhammad : 31 that no man can escape tests and trials, so that man may be alert and ready at the time when these hardships and difficulties descend on him, and he should not be frightened by these heavenly and earthly tribulations, and need not to be disappointed and disheartened.

Patience relies on two important realities: The first reality is concerned with the nature of this worldly life. Allah made this world a house of trials. The time that a man spends in this world is really a time for unending experiences. He comes out of one trial in order to undergo another trial which is harder and different from the one through which he has already passed, that is, man is tested once by one thing and again by its opposite. When Allah blessed Hazrat Sulaiman with a grand and magnificent empire, he knew about these natural laws of the world. He had said:” *This is of the bounty of my Lord, that He may try me whether I give thanks or am grateful. Whoever gives thanks, he only gives thanks for (the good of) his own soul; and whoever is ungrateful (is ungrateful only to his own soul’s hurt). For surely, my Lord is Absolute in independence, Bountiful.*” (Nahl:40).

The second reality is concerned with the nature and temperament of faith. Faith is the name of the

relationship between man and his Lord. As in the relationship of men, the true friendship and sincerity can only be judged when it is confronted with unfavourable and bitter conditions, when they have to deal with the hardships brought about by the vagaries of time, and when they are surrounded by various kinds of problems. At such a time a man’s real worth and sincerity is known. To find out the truth and sincerity about faith it is necessary that a Muslim be tried, he should be put in the crucible of fire to see whether he comes out glowing like the gold. Allah said : “*Do men imagine that they will be left (at ease) because they say, we believe and will not be tested with affliction? Verily, We tested those who were before you. Thus Allah knows those who are sincere, and knows those who feign.*” (Ankabut:2-3).

On these two bases the foundation of patience has been kept. And for this reason, religion demands it, but he who shuts his eyes from realities by force of his nature is dumbfounded when he has to face hardships and his hands and feet become inactive when he has to fight difficulties. His rashness dislikes waiting and patience and he is unable to tolerate it. Therefore, when anything untoward happens, or he has to suffer some kind of failure, or when he meets with an accident, the earth with all its great vastness becomes narrow for him, and the conditions become exasperating for him. He wants to come out of these conditions in the twinkling of an eye, but it obvious that in this effort he will not be successful for it is against the temperament of the world and the religion. It is proper for a Muslim to earn to be patient and to wait and to wait for long. Allah said : “*Man is made of haste. I shall show you my signs, but ask Me not to hasten.*” (Al-Ambiya’:37)

May Allah guide us to the right path. Amin

Prepared by Br. Muhaemin
April 23, 2004

Observance of the Birthday of Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.)

Assalaamu Alaikum Warahmatullaahi Wabarakaatuh

On the occasion of the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.) on May 2, 2004 (12 Rabi-ul-Awwal 1425A.H.), talks about the blessed Prophet (s.a.w.) will be held at the Masjid Ammar and Osman Ramju Sadick Islamic Centre, 40 Oi Kwan Road, Hong Kong. The programme is as followings:

Date	Time	Talk (choice of language)	Location
May 1, 2004 (Sat)	3:00 – 4:30 pm	Cantonese	6/F
May 2, 2004 (Sun)	11 :00 am– 12:00 noon	English	6/F
May 2, 2004 (Sun)	3:00 – 4:00 pm	Indonesian	6/F

In addition, a Maulood Recital will be held in the evening of May 1, 2004 in the Prayer Hall of the same center. Details are as followings:

May 1, 2004 (Saturday)

Time	Programme
6:55 - 7:20 pm	Maghrib Prayer
7:20 - 7:25pm	Recitation of verses from the Holy Quran by Hafiz Muhammad Asif
7:25 - 7:45 pm	Short Lecture in Urdu by Hafiz Muhammad Asif
7:45 - 8:00 pm	Short Lecture in Cantonese by Imam Uthman Yang Xing Ben
8:00 - 8:15 pm	Maulood Recital
8:15 - 8:20pm	Fatihah and Dua
8:20 - 8:40pm	Isha Prayer

Light refreshment will be served on the fifth floor of the center after the Isha Prayer.

All brothers and sisters are cordially invited to attend.

Dawah Committee
The Islamic Union of Hong Kong
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