



## In the Name of Allaah The Most Kind The Most Merciful

All praise is due to Allaah the One we seek His assistance and forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allaah from the evil of ourselves and our actions. Whomsoever Allaah guides there is none that can lead him astray. Whoever He deems astray there is none that can guide him. And I testify that no deity deserves to be worshiped in reality except Allaah, who is One with no partners at all. And I testify that Muhammad is his slave and Messenger.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ

O you who believe! Fear Allaah (by doing all that He has ordered and by abstaining from all that He has forbidden) as He should be feared. [Obey Him, be thankful to Him, and remember Him always], and die not except in a state of Islaam (as Muslims) with complete submission to Allaah.<sup>5</sup>

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَجِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا

O mankind! Be dutiful to your Lord, Who created you from a single person (Adam), and from him

(Adam) He created his wife [Hawwa (Eve)], and from them both He created many men and women and fear Allaah through Whom you demand your mutual (rights), and (do not cut the relations of) the wombs (kinship). Surely, Allaah is Ever an All-Watcher over you.<sup>6</sup>

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا ﴿٧٠﴾ يُصْلِحْ لَكُمْ أَعْمَالَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ  
لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا ﴿٧١﴾

O you who believe! Keep your duty to Allaah and fear Him, and speak (always) the truth. He will direct you to do righteous good deeds and will forgive you your sins. And whosoever obeys Allaah and His Messenger, he has indeed achieved a great achievement (i.e. he will be saved from the Hell-fire and will be admitted to Paradise).<sup>7</sup>

To proceed, I remind all my brothers that the religion cannot be established except through knowledge. And the destruction of this nation is by knowledge being neglected. The firmness and steadfastness of this nation upon Islaam is through knowledge and the deviation of this nation is due to the absence and scarcity of knowledge and the scholars.

<sup>6</sup> An-Nisa:1.

<sup>7</sup> Al-Ahzaab: 70-71.



## Allaah Encouraged Learning Knowledge & Praised the People of Knowledge

Verily Allaah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** encouraged the attainment of knowledge and praised its people the scholars. He **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** clarified the rank of these scholars with Him (Exalted is He). He connected their testification along with His testification and the testification of the angels. This is a proof of the lofty rank of knowledge and its people. The scholars intended here are the scholars of the Book of Allaah and the Sunnah of His Messenger **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ**. They implement the Book of Allaah and the Sunnah of His Messenger **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ**. If one studies and propagates this knowledge but does not act upon it then woe be unto him.

From the texts that deal with virtues of knowledge and its people is Allaah's **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** statement:

يَرْفَعُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ دَرَجَاتٍ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ خَبِيرٌ

**Allaah will exalt in degree those of you who believe and those who have been granted knowledge. And Allaah is Well Acquainted with what you do.<sup>8</sup>**

Allaah raises people's rank with Him, and raises their station in Paradise because of their knowledge and belief. The scholar is more

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<sup>8</sup> Al-Mujadilah: 11.

virtuous than the one who fights in the battlefield, the *Mujahid* in Allaah's Path, for whom there are one hundred levels in paradise prepared for him; the span of each level is like that which separates the heavens and the earth<sup>9</sup>. Even after this virtue for the *Mujahid*, the rank of the scholars to Allaah is more superior. So understand this and strive to be from the scholars who implement (i.e. act upon their knowledge) and deserve these lofty stations with Allaah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى**.

Allaah **سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى** says:

أَمَّنْ هُوَ قَنِينَتْ عَائِدَاتُ الْإِبِلِ سَاجِدًا وَقَائِمًا يَحْذَرُ الْآخِرَةَ وَرَجُوا رَحْمَةً رَبِّي قُلْ هَلْ  
يَسْتَوِي الَّذِينَ يَعْمَلُونَ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ إِنَّمَا يَتَذَكَّرُ أُولُو الْأَلْبَابِ

**Is one who is obedient to Allaah, prostrating himself or standing (in prayer) during the hours of the night, fearing the Hereafter and hoping for the Mercy of His Lord (like one who disbelieves)? Say: 'Are those who know equal to those who know not?' It is only**

<sup>9</sup> As is established from the Prophet **صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ** in that which is reported by Ahmad (2/335 {8402}) and Al-Bukharae (hadeeth 2790) from the hadeeth of Abi Hurairah: 'Verily in paradise there are one hundred levels prepared for those who fight in path of Allaah. The span between each level is like the distance between the heavens and the earth. If you ask (invoke) Allaah then ask for *Firdaus* because it is the best and highest level in paradise. Above it is the throne of the most Merciful and from it spurts the fountains of paradise'.



**men of understanding who will remember (i.e. get  
a lesson from Allaah's Signs and Verses)<sup>10</sup>**

There is a vast difference between one who has knowledge and the one who is ignorant. There is no comparison between the two. This is because there is a clear difference between the one who has knowledge of Allaah's Names, Attributes, greatness and exaltedness; and knows the rights that Allaah has over his slaves and thus fulfils these rights; the one who knows the rights of mankind and knows the permissible and impermissible things; knows the correct belief and creed; commanding good and forbidding evil, because this is considered to be acting upon this knowledge; there is an immense difference between him and the people of ignorance. Ignorance is destructive. Allaah's refuge is sought from ignorance.



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<sup>10</sup> Az-Zumar: 9.