

Prohibition of smoking and advice to Muslims to fear Allaah and seek Halaal sustenance

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The Muhaddith of The Era

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Article taken and slightly adapted from: [immamalbani.blogspot.co.uk](http://immamalbani.blogspot.co.uk)

Tape 4 of Silsilat al Huda wan Noor

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Shaykh clarifies the prohibition of smoking, and his advice to the Muslims to fear Allaah and seek Halaal sustenance, and noting the main reason which led to the weakness of the Muslims and the greed of the Non-Muslims over them.

**Shaykh al-Albaanee** (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ):<sup>1</sup> Smoking [...] and harmful in this aspect and in the community relations. When you ride a bus or a train and you are someone whom Allaah has saved from smoking, and you are afflicted with a person who smokes, he fills the bus and the room with this foul odour -the smoke- and he causes discomfort to the people around him while showing no concern for them. This foul habit has become such that if any of the people of knowledge speak about it in detail -and this may take half an hour or an hour sometimes- to establish proof after proof and evidence after evidence that smoking is forbidden you will hear people from the gathering who are indifferent say: O my brother, if smoking was forbidden we would burn it, and if it was permissible we would smoke it. You hear that a lot.

**Those present:** Yes Indeed!

**Shaykh al-Albaanee** (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ): This saying portrays the current state of the Islaamic world except those who Allaah wills and few are they. Most of them don't fear Allaah in regards to acquiring their sustenance and livelihood even though the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)<sup>2</sup> has said: ("O people, indeed one of you will not die until he completely acquires his sustenance and completes his term, so beautify your means"). Meaning: pursue the beautiful path and way, meaning: the permissible way in obtaining sustenance because none of you will die until he collects his sustenance, he will not leave behind a single cent as he will also fulfil his term [...]. As Allaah the Most High has said: [and if their term comes they will not be delayed an hour or forwarded]. The hour in the Ayah is not the hour that we know (24). No, the hour in the Ayah means a moment. Meaning: they will not be delayed a moment nor forwarded. With all of these commands from the Sharee'ah and divine guarantees from Allaah that mankind will collect his sustenance whether he wills or refuses, we still become so concerned with this sustenance to a degree that we don't ask if it is a forbidden or permissible way. As for

<sup>1</sup> (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

<sup>2</sup> (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

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the purpose for which we were created, and that is to worship our Lord, we have made that purpose forgotten. So you find the Muslims like the non-Muslims working day and night for the sake of acquiring that which is guaranteed and they neglect the reason for which they were created and that is to worship Allaah the Most High. And because of this many Muslims are ignorant of the true reason which made them fall into degradation and being dispersed and colonised by the non-Muslims especially the Jews who settled in our lands. They don't know the reason except that it is the decree of Allaah. They say: "Allaah has written this upon us". Also many of them show criticism and objection towards Allaah and say: "Are the Jews better than us? Aren't we Muslims? How have the Jews settled in our place, in our land?" This is from their ignorance because Allaah has in this world rules and laws and regulations, whoever abides by them will reach their objectives and whoever turns away from them will be delayed in regards to his religion and in the worldly life. It has been authentically narrated that the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) has said: ("**The nations will gather and team up against you as the predators team up against their prey**"). A questioner asked: Is it because we are few in numbers that day? The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) replied: ("**No, rather you will be great in numbers that day but you will be as powerless as the foam on the surface of the river and Allaah will remove any fear from your enemies and he will put in your hearts a corruption**") A questioner asked: O Prophet of Allaah what is the corruption? The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) replied: ("**The love of the worldly life and the fear of death**").

**A man from the gathering:** Is this hadeeth implemented?

**Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ):** Yes.

**The man:** Is it implemented these days?

**Shaykh al-Albaanee (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ):** Yes, it has already been implemented, and this reassures for you the second hadeeth where the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) has said: ("**When you take part in 'eenah, (unlawful transactions such as usury), and take hold of the tails of cows, and become satisfied with cultivation, and abandon Jihaad in the path of Allaah...**") [The tape cuts off here]. We see that the Jews have settled in our land, what more disgrace do the Muslims want than to be degraded by the most degrading of people who were covered with humiliation and misery and drew upon themselves the wrath of Allaah? Then these people come and humiliate us Muslims! Have we been humiliated by the most degrading of people because we have honour? - As Allaah the Mighty has said in the Qur'aan: [**And honour, power and glory belong to Allaah and to his messenger and to the believers**]. No, the promise of Allaah is not delayed. [**And honour, power and glory belong to Allaah and to his messenger and to the believers**]. But who are these believers?? They are the ones who fear Allaah the Most High and follow his legislations. Our problem today is that we have turned away from the main reason for which we were created and that is to worship Allaah the Most High. Many people don't even worship Allaah and the few that do worship Allaah don't know how to worship Him. Allaah has bestowed upon us a preserved Qur'aan where he has said: [**Verily it is We**

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Who have sent down the Dhikr (the Qur'aan) and surely, We will guard it (from corruption)]. From the things which we have forgotten that are written in the preserved Qur'aan is His saying: **[And whosoever fears Allaah and keeps his duty to Him, He will make a way out for him (from every difficulty), And He will provide him from (sources) he never could imagine]**. This Ayah has become as if it has been abrogated from the Qur'aan, isn't it written in the Qur'aan and the people read it day and night? However what is the benefit of the Qur'aan that is recorded on pages and used to decorate the walls? As for the hearts they lie in ruins! Has the Qur'aan been revealed to decorate our homes and to be recited over our dead and we distance it from awakening us? No, Allaah the Most High has said: **[That it (the Qur'aan) may give warning to him who is living (a healthy minded believer) and that word may be justified against the disbelievers]**. So the Qur'aan has been revealed for the living and not for the dead, and it has been revealed for the living to act upon it, not to decorate their homes and their walls. So this is an ayah which has come in the Qur'aan, but many Muslims - especially those whom Allaah has given wealth - are concerned with protecting it and they fear losing it or that it might be stolen from them, and they are the ones who have forgotten the saying of Allaah: **[And whosoever fears Allaah and keeps his duty to Him, He will make a way out for him (from every difficulty), And He will provide him from (sources) he never could imagine]**. This ayah gives two very important points to those who fear Allaah: the first point; if the person falls into difficulty Allaah will make a way out for him, and if his sustenance becomes constricted Allaah will provide for him from sources he could never imagine. Today if we fall into difficulties maybe some of us will disbelieve in Allaah and we will not return to Him nor will we supplicate to Him nor will we invoke Him with that which He loves and is pleased with.

Similar to this is what happened to those before us whom the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) has told us about, A story which happened to some people before the sending of the Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم). The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) informed us of the story so that we may take a lesson from it and not forget it like the previous ayah: **[And whosoever fears Allaah and keeps his duty to Him, He will make a way out for him (from every difficulty)]**. The Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said about them: **"While three people from those who were before you were walking they were overcome by rain, so they took shelter in a cave in a mountain and suddenly a boulder fell from the mountain in front of the cave entrance and trapped them..."** they were faced with a problem and they were afraid the heavy rains will become floods and they will be carried away by the floods so they took shelter in the mountain for protection. Suddenly from the top of the mountain came a large boulder which could not be moved even by today's modern machinery. Allaah placed it at the entrance of the cave they were in and they were three individuals. **"One of them said: "Look to your righteous deeds which you have done and intended with it the pleasure of Allaah and use it as a means of nearness to Allaah, and maybe Allaah will move this boulder from the cave entrance- so one of them got up and said: "O Allaah you are aware that I had two elder parents and a wife and small children for whose sake I used to work as a shepherd. When I would return to them I would milk the sheep and start providing for my parents before my children, and one day I went far away in search of a grazing place for my**

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sheep and I didn't return home until late in the evening. I milked the sheep as usual and I brought the milk to my parents and I found them sleeping. I disliked waking them from their sleep and I disliked giving the milk to my children before my parents even though the children were crying from hunger at my feet." What is this man saying? He is saying that he had two parents and a wife and children. Every day early in the morning he would take the sheep and go in search of what? Pasture and plants so that the sheep could graze. It seems he crossed a great distance because he could not find a pasture and when he returned home it was late in the evening. As his usual practice, which shows his obedience towards his parents, he would take the vessel which he used for milking and fill it with milk and he would begin giving his parents before his family. So the first thing he did when he returned home in the evening was milk the sheep and when he entered into his parents he found them sleeping. So what did this man do? He had a custom, he starts providing for his parents before his wife and children, and now he has a problem, his mother and father are asleep and his children are crying from hunger. So he said "I stood at their heads disliking to wake them from their sleep and disliking to give my children before them, and the children were crying from hunger at my feet, I remained this way until the day dawned...").