


IN HIM,
HOPE
IS
NEVER LOST



MAULANA
ABDUL SATTAR *حفظ الله*



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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ!

يا أيها الذين آمنوا توبوا إلى الله توبة نصوحا (التحريم).

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ

My highly respected elders, dear brothers, honorable mothers and sisters of the Muslim Ummah. Our getting together, speaking and listening in this gathering is only for our reformation, the speaker and the listener are both in need of reformation. May Allah reform our insides and outsides (Ameen).

The Obligation of Repentance:

The first step towards reformation is the completion of the obligation of repentance, just like fasting is compulsory, fulfilling of zakah for the wealthy is obligatory and earning halaal sustenance is obligatory. In the same way my dear ones! To repent is also an obligatory act.

يا أيها الذين آمنوا توبوا إلى الله توبة نصوحا (8:التحريم)

"Oh you who believe, Turn to Allah truly with a faithful repentance."





Reformation cannot be preceded unless this obligatory act is fulfilled.

Importance of Repentance for the Reformation of Soul:

If the bottom of a tank is perforated and the tap is opened to fill it with water, the tank will not fill up. If the base of a glass is not present and milk is poured therein, the glass will never be filled. Whether it is filling the glass with milk or the tank with water, all the punctures present should be fixed. Then even if the milk is dribbled, the glass will be filled and if the water drops in the tank bit by bit, even then that tank will be filled. Such is the nature of repentance; the light of guidance does not accumulate in ones heart unless he repents, so all the hard work is wasted, hence the first step towards this journey is توبة نصوحا meaning 'faithful repentance'. If this step is taken my dear! Then even if the pace is slow, one will unequivocally reach the destination. There might be a delay, but the destination will indeed be achieved; and if this first step is not taken, reaching the destination will not be possible for the entirety of life.

The first step in reformation and nurturing is repentance which is obligatory.





How to Repent:

There is an emergence (beginning) and a conclusion to repentance. The emergence is that until now whatever sins have been committed, their destruction and ruin be fully realized in the heart. Ponder over the ultimate fact that the sin which is being committed by me is “destroying my worldly life and my hereafter, moreover, my life is becoming a tool of destruction.”

This is the beginning of repentance, turning away from that sin with utmost remorse, shame and turning to Allah. Whatever I was doing so far has been a source of utmost destruction. If this is not the condition of the heart though the words of repentance have been said, then bear in mind that the obligation of repentance has not been fulfilled as yet. These were only mere words of ASTAGHFAAR and the goal of repentance has not been achieved. The emergence of repentance is to create a sense and feeling that this sin is a cause of destruction.

Tradition of Sins in the Society and Negligence Towards them:

My dear friends! As the obligation of repentance is not being fulfilled today, the words of reformation merely result in amelioration. There is no sense of shame and





destruction over sins and owing to this there are no signs of improvement in life. The tragedy is that multiple sins have inculcated in our lives such that there is no realization of sins being the cause of ruin.

Prophet ﷺ used to say:

"It is enough falsehood for someone to speak of everything he hears."

Now tell me, does anyone repent from this sin? When this sin is not regarded as one, we don't even repent from it; hence the first step of reformation is not taken. The state of our society is such that when we hear something, we tell it to others without any verification. These types of sins have inculcated in our lives. Had wine and repented – missed salaah and repented – stole something and repented; but unfortunately there is no custom of repenting from lies. Oh my dear ones! Lying is also forbidden (haram)! This evil becoming a norm among people does not make it halaal. It is obligatory to repent from this sin as well.

How is Reformation Possible?

My dear! If the first step is not taken, then how is reformation possible? Although the obligation of repentance is such that if only this duty is fulfilled and all





other obligations are missed, even then the believer will be sent to Paradise. One man repented from infidelity, he did not perform a single salaah, didn't fast even once in Ramadan, did not pay zakaah, neither performed Hajj, but only and solely repented and passed away, he will be a Jannati(sent to Heaven). On the other hand, if all the obligations are fulfilled except that of repentance, then that individual will be a Jahannumi(sent to Hell). This is so because no amount of good deeds can be compared with this obligation. Repentance is the first step towards reformation. A sense of destruction and ruin should be felt over all the sins that have been committed in life.

Avoid Pictures!

Lewd photos and pictures of na-mehram are becoming a part of our lives without even realizing that it will cause dilapidation; become the reason of ruin. The type of programs that are being watched on television screens and the lewd pictures printed in newspapers; do we even consider them to be a source of adversity and misfortune? We do not regard these to be the reason of ruin hence we do not repent from it. Hence the obligation of repentance is not fulfilled.





Guaranteed Success for whom? :

My dear friends! Unless this obligation is fulfilled one cannot proceed to Paradise. Just as salaah, fasting and zakaah is obligatory; in the same way it is essential for a believer to repent as well:

يا أيها الذين آمنوا توبوا الي الله توبة نصوحا (8;التحريم)

"Oh you who believe! Turn to Allah with a faithful repentance."

توبوا الي الله جميعاً أيها المؤمنون لعلكم تفلحون

"Repent to Allah O believers, all of you, so that you may achieve success."

The achievement of success was not mentioned for any other obligation, not for salaah, zakaah or hajj, but repentance is that obligation with regards to which it has been stated; "oh you who believe repent so that you achieve success". Today the obligation that is being neglected the most is that of repentance. The result is that all other obligations are being fulfilled; nonetheless, repentance is not being carried out. This is equivalent to pouring milk in a jug which is void of its base hence the jug remains empty. If repentance is not carried out how can the heart be filled with faith. The first step towards reformation is repentance. Owing to this, when a man wants to reform his life he fulfills this obligation. When





he goes to a pious man, the first and foremost thing that he would be instructed to do is to repent. Allah swt has stated in the Qur'an:

و ذرُوا ظَاهِرَ الْإِثْمِ وَ بَاطِنَهُ

"Leave outward sin and inward sin."

Repentance from Every Sin is Obligatory:

It is obligatory to repent from all sins; whether these sins have become a norm or not. If lying, obscenity, pictures of na-mehram or other filth has become common amongst people; it does not make these sins permissible. Interest and bribery are customary in every house; lying is considered as an art and ingenuity, fake news has become a part of journalism, so is it permissible? These are all forbidden. Unless these sins are not repented from, the first step towards reformation cannot be taken. Likewise, backbiting is also common, yet it is a sin we ought to repent from.

Deprivation from the Blessings of Good Deeds:

My dear! Good deeds are being carried out, there's participation in religious gatherings, few obligatory





prayers are being offered and some charity is also being given, however when it comes to abandoning the desires within oneself, it is perceived as if these sins have nothing to do with religiosity. Just as it is a common practice in weddings and many other joyous occasions. Many other customs which are contrary to Shari'ah are executed in several aspects of life, for instance, the upbringing and education of children or matters involving monetary benefits. When it comes to one's personal interest or delight of the nafs then there will be no differentiation between the person who prays and the one who doesn't, the person who fasts and the one who doesn't, there is no difference between the children of a Haji and that of the other, because sins are being committed and one does not repent. Those good deeds could not develop in him the strength to abandon the desires of his nafs and be consistent in these deeds. Backbiting has become habitual, someone or the other is being discussed behind their backs, though there is no gain in doing so, still our gatherings are incomplete without it.

Standards of Good Deeds and Nobility:

My dear! There are some people who do not perform any good deeds at all; while some who are exhausted of carrying out good deeds, it is stated about such people





in a verse of Qur'an:

عاملة ناصبة تصلى نارا حامية. (4, 3 الغاشية)

"Laboring, exhausted. They will enter into the scorching fire."

They got tired committing good deeds, yet they achieved nothing since they did not fulfil the obligation of repentance. Good deeds are being executed alongside the commitment of sins, despite that he is considered pious and innocent. Have you seen how the ones playing with the modesty of our women and destroying our homes are being taken as the noble ones?

My dear friends! Piety and nobility is the fulfilment of the obligation of repentance. That man is the pious and noble one.

Repent over and over Again, Even if it Breaks a Thousand Times:

If a sin is committed, repent; if it is committed again, repent again. Whoever keeps repenting this way has not failed this obligation.

Allah swt says:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ التَّوَّابِينَ

(Baqarah,222)

"Surely Allah loves those who are most repenting."





A person breaks his tauba over and over again, but he is consistently repenting, then it is said: he is My beloved, he sins ten times a day and seeks forgiveness ten times with remorse, this man is not at loss. Repentance is that obligation with regards to which it is said:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ التَّوَّابِينَ

"Surely Allah loves those who are most repenting."

This person has not been called a "taib" (the one who repents) instead he is called a "tawab" (the one who repents a lot) means that he repents and it breaks, he repents again and it breaks again. A person who has achieved consistency in repenting; remorse, guilt and grief have developed inside him; he is worried and distressed that, why did it happen? If this worry and distress is arising repeatedly, then this person is beloved to Allah.

Blessings of Repentance:

There are amazing blessings associated with repentance. A person has committed so many sins that the amount has exceeded the number of particles on earth; the space between the land and the skies was not enough to compensate his sins; the filth stretched to the height of skies, the sins summed up to be more than the number





of drops in the rivers and seas, or the leaves on trees, but Allah bestowed His mercy upon him and that man took his sins to be a source of destruction; this sentiment revived in him, remorse and sorrow originated. As Allah swt says in a Hadith-e-Qudsi:

يا ابن آدم لو بلغت ذنوبك عنان السماء ثم استغفرتني غفرت لك

"O son of Adam, were your sins to reach the clouds of the sky and were you then to ask forgiveness of Me, I would forgive you."

He brought so many sins, but also brought tears of remorsefulness and shame hence all his sins were forgiven. This obligation carries so much strength. Be it a man fifty years or eighty years of age, void of good deeds; his youth and old age are all packed with wrongdoings, and is drowned in sins from head to toe.

How wise of a poet to say:

الهي! عبدك العاصي قد أتاك
مقرا بجنوب قد دعاك
فإن تغفر فأنك لذاك أهل
فإن لم تغفر فمن يغفر سواك

Oh Allah I am at Your doorstep—confessing my sins—I plead guilty—if You forgive me, You are capable of doing so—if You will not forgive me then who will?(Whose doorstep will I knock at?)





An elderly man whose back is crooked, knees have gotten so weak that he can't even walk, he has become grey-headed and his pockets are empty. Everyone has abandoned him. But when this man approaches Allah's court leaning over his stick, with the feeling of remorse and the burden of sins and says O Lord! The entire world has forsaken me; however I am here, guilty over my sins. There is no other support but Yours. I am ashamed and regretful. At that moment Allah says: O My slave! There's a delay in you approaching, but there is no delay in Me forgiving. Since this man came with penitence, I have forgiven everything.

Please the Gracious Lord through Repentance:

Repentance is that obligation which purifies one's life like that of a baby who has just come to the world from his mother's womb hence he has never sinned. Even if an eighty year old fulfils this obligation properly, Allah SWT forgives. This obligation has a lot of blessings. There is a delay in man's turning back to Allah, but there is no delay in His forgiveness. An unhappy mother does not forgive as quickly as Allah does. Even she complains that 'you have come to me when the whole world has abandoned you', but Allah SWT says "O my servant! Everyone has abandoned you because you've grown





old, your pocket is empty and your career has ended, you have come to Me with a mound of filth, but I will not avert My gaze, My mercy is much greater than your sins, and there is no shame in approaching Me”.

It has been stated in a Hadith: Not only does Allah forgive His slave, but also washes off all the sins that the person has committed, the body parts with which the sin was committed, the angels who recorded it and the registers where it was noted are all cleared up so that the slave is not ashamed to see his sins.

All the courts in the world keep a record even after forgiving. Allah the Most Compassionate not only forgives but erases the record as well so that His slave is not regretful, because he has fulfilled a great obligation. The Merciful Lord will not make him feel ashamed once he has fulfilled this obligation.

Woe to the One who Belittles:

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

"Whoever taunts a brother (Muslim) with a sin (which the Muslim has committed), will not die until he (the taunter) commits the same sin."

A woman in Madinah Munawwarah was punished on the account of committing adultery (zina), and she had repented, but since this punishment is as per the law





of Shariah, therefore she was stoned to death. Some drops of her blood spurted over a Muslim. This Muslim uttered harsh words about the woman who was being stoned owing to the commitment of adultery. When this incident was narrated to Prophet ﷺ, he said: “do not utter such words, her repentance is such that if it were to be distributed among the sinners of Madinah they would all enter Jannah(Paradise)”.

Abstaining from Sins after True Repentance.

When realization of the destruction caused by sins is developed, that such lies will destroy my life, these obscene and nasty pictures will ruin my life, these morsels of Haraam(unlawful earning) is like embers of fire in my home, these words of backbiting will waste all the good deeds I committed in months and years, gossiping is Haraam; henceforth my life will be destroyed. Then this is the beginning of repentance. Turn away from these sin after repenting truly.

Gear up and take the Step of Repentance:

My dear friends! This is the first step towards reformation. Be courageous for the sake of Allah and take this step.





Satin makes this path appear very dangerous; how life will move on, how modesty will be executed, how parda (veil) can be observed? Who will ask for our daughters hands in marriage? My status, how can I alter my lifestyle and quit Haraam? How will my life advance? Satin portrays such a frightening scenario, however my friends!

Get up and grid your lions, why are you scared?

Then witness what Allah does

Allah is the Lord; He will make you self-sufficient in this world. He will open ways for you, but for that the obligation of repentance needs to be fulfilled.

When does Allah's Help Arrive? :

Once Hazrat Ameer Muawiyah رضي الله عنه wrote a letter to Ummul mu'mineen Hazrat Aa'ishah رضي الله عنها

“O mother! Give me a small advice”, thereafter Hazrat Aa'ishah رضي الله عنها wrote a few advices for Hazrat Muawiyah رضي الله عنه, she wrote:

من التمس رضي الله بسخط الناس كفاه الله مؤونة الناس ومن التمس رضي الناس و كله إلى الناس (سنن ترمذی)

Whoever takes upon himself the anger of people to walk on the path of Allah's pleasure, Allah will suffice for the needs of people—and whoever goes on the path of pleasing people then Allah hands him over to the people.





Whoever walks on the path of pleasing Allah, decides to please Allah and grids his lions, this will surely jeopardize many of his interests; many people who seem to be an important asset of life start turning away too, however when one firmly decides to please Allah, then Ummul mu'mineen Hazrat Aa'ishah (R.A) has written and she would have definitely heard this from Rasulallah ﷺ that whatever benefit he or she used to gain from people, Allah takes that exclusively upon Himself:

أَلَا لَهُ الْحُكْمُ

(الأنعام: 62)

"His is the judgment."

وَاللَّهُ يَحْكُمُ لَا مُعَقِّبَ لِحُكْمِهِ وَهُوَ سَرِيعُ الْحِسَابِ ﴿٤١﴾

(الرعد: 41)

"Allah judges; there is none to repel His judgment. And He is swift at reckoning."

When He decides to fix the damage then who can spoil it?

مَا يَفْتَحِ اللَّهُ لِلنَّاسِ مِنْ رَحْمَةٍ فَلَا مُمْسِكَ لَهَا ۗ

(فاطر: 2)

"Whatever blessing Allah opens for the people, there is none to hold it back."





When He takes it upon Himself to open the door then who else can open it? He is Al-Qahhaar(The Subduer),
The Magnificent.

وَلِلَّهِ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ ۖ

(آل; عمران: 189)

"To Allah belongs the Kingdom of the heavens and the earth."

Allah has the solution to all the problems of the heavens and the earth

وَإِنْ يُرِيدْكَ بِخَيْرٍ فَلَا رَادَّ لِفَضْلِهِ

(يونس: 107)

"And if He intends to bring some good to you, there is none to turn His grace back."

If he decides to bless someone then who can hinder those blessings? If He wants to grant someone then who can ruin that person? If He wants to honor someone then who can disrespect that person? If He wants to give peace and contentment to someone then who can make that person restless? If He wants to make someone successful then who can make that person a failure? If He lifts His help from someone then who can make that person successful? All the plans of life are left useless:



وَأَن يَّمْسَسَكَ اللَّهُ بِضُرٍّ فَلَا كَاشِفَ لَهُ إِلَّا هُوَ ۗ

(يونس: 107)

"If Allah brings some harm to you, there is none to remove it except He."

Who can turn away adversities other than Him, if Allah wants to disgrace someone then who can honor that person?

وَمَنْ يُهِنِ اللَّهُ فَمَا لَهُ مِنْ مُّكْرِمٍ ۗ

(الحج: 18)

"And the one whom Allah puts to disgrace, there is none to give him respect."

Hazrat Aa'ishah رضي الله عنها wrote to Hadhrat Muawiyah رضي الله عنه :

من التمس رضي الله بسخط الناس كفاه الله مؤونة الناس

(Tirmizi)

"Whoever takes upon himself the anger of people to walk on the path of Allah's pleasure, Allah will suffice for the needs of people."

Lift this step with courage, grid your lions. Take your eyes off all your interests and turn to Allah, and the aim should be only to please Allah. Allah takes the responsibility of the affairs of that person on Himself. The first step towards Allah's pleasure is the completion of the obligation of



repentance. Without this the step towards this journey cannot be lifted. And it is stated:

رضي الناس و كله إلى الناس (سنن ترمذی)

"And whoever goes on the path of pleasing people then Allah hands him over to the people."

He, who cares about the entire community and the whole family, is scared of the society and cares about the ridicule of people, always tries to please everyone. He only displeases his Allah. Then Allah's honor is such that He hands this person over to the people who have a control over nothing so that you may ease your lives yourselves and sort out your problems yourself. Alas! No one's predicaments have ever been solved. They kept on getting stuck in troubles and they were unable to resolve them. They got ruined. Can your community and society sort out your problems? Can your friends and dear ones resolve your issues because of whom you are now on the path of destruction? Who can approach you when devastation comes from Allah?

Stay Away from Satanic Whispers:

My dear friends! Lift the step towards the obligation of repentance. Repent sincerely with guilt and be firm with it. Satan builds up a scary perspective, how will this happen? How is it possible to wear the cloak of modesty?





How to observe veil (pardah) according to Shariah? How can the Halaal morsel be earned? How is it possible to be consistent in offering Fajr Salaah(morning prayer)? How is it possible to watch my mouth? Satan creates the fear.

My dear people! Shake these thoughts off. Take this first step towards repentance with trust in Allah and say to your Lord that we did what was in our capacity and we are dependent on Your help and assistance". Improving lives is in Allah's power, but we need to make a commitment that we will repent truly. We will not distribute our religion in a way that a part of it is for Allah and some is for Satan, some is for Allah and some is for nafs (desires), some is for friends and some for the society. Do not distribute it; in fact the entire life is for Allah:

قُلْ إِنَّ صَلَاتِي وَنُسُكِي وَمَحْيَايَ وَمَمَاتِي لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿١٦٢﴾
(الأنعام: 162)

Say, "My prayer, my offering, my life and my death are for Allah, the Lord of all the worlds".

Only Servitude is Not Enough.

Salaah(obligatory prayer) is a great act of worship and so is Qurbani(sacrificing as per the Sunnah of Hazrat Ibrahim A.S) but Allah asks us to live and die for Him and Him only. The reservations we have fabricated in the matters of religion, that this cannot happen, this sin cannot be forsaken, how can we quit committing this sin; has brought about ruin such that these sins start to poison





slowly and then comes a times when they bring about negative impact to our entire lives.. The poison caused by sins does not come to an end, but keeps on escalating. Seemingly the hands are fine, the eyes and ears are functioning properly however, when cancer spreads, every body part loses its being. Similarly when the poison of sin spreads, all worships are liberated from their true essence, desolated and lifeless worships, because of the poison caused by sins.

Repentance from the Sin of Mistreating Others:

My dear friends! Fulfill the obligation of repentance, feel the filth caused by sins, that this is destruction for me and a disgrace for my life, especially the sins that have embedded in our lives. Hazrat Thanwi (R.A) used to say: "if someone comes to me and says that my daily rituals are not being completed and my azkaar (remembrance of Allah) are not being completed I feel very upset. If someone says that so and so was distressed because of me or I had taken away someone's right, I feel abhorrent." This sin of causing agony to someone has become a part of our social life. This is why Hazrat رحمۃ اللہ علیہ has written a book named 'Adaabul Mu'ashrat' on this topic. Hurting someone does not necessarily mean striking them with hands, hitting them with a shoe, kicking them with legs or pushing them; but stinging someone with the tongue





also causes misery. A statement is uttered that pierces someone's heart. To whom it was uttered for, his night is spent as if it was spent on embers of flame. Such a taunt was uttered that someone's honor was tarnished. Repent from sins like these which have become a part of our everyday life.

Do not Delay Asking Allah for Forgiveness:

My dear friends! The first step of improvement is only true repentance, moreover, repent meaningfully while having complete trust on Allah, and do not delay asking Him for forgiveness. We should not procrastinate in repenting as Allah does not get tired of forgiving sins, do not be careless in repenting. Have you ever seen a person who does not drink water out of the fear that he will feel thirsty again, he does not eat that he will become hungry again, does not change clothes because they will become dirty again? My friends! Drink water now and if you feel thirsty later then you can drink again. Eat now and you can eat again when you feel hungry. Wear clothes and change them once they get dirty. My dear friends! Repent truly! If a sin is committed, we can repent again. These whispers that Satan murmurs that how will we keep the repentance from breaching? How will we fulfill the conditions of repentance? How our life will be spent after repentance? Satan fills our minds





with such frightening thoughts. O my dear friends! Gather your courage and repent. If a sin is committed, you can repent again.

Benefits of Repentance:

Hazrat Thanwi رحمته الله used to say: "The person who is not lazy in repenting, he repents every night before sleeping, Allah swt will unequivocally grant him one blessing out of two, either his life will be cleansed from the filth of sins or if he dies only one day's sins will remain in his book of deeds. Allah will forgive him with His mercy.

There cannot be an easier and more achievable way of amelioration than this, a more approachable way to Allah. Repent everyday with remorse and shame, not with mere words but with guilt and sorrow. If one repents every day, then either Allah will cleanse him from sins or if he repents and sins again and dies, then only a day's sins will be left which Allah will forgive.

My dear friends! The first step in this path is true repentance. Repentance means that remorse is developed keeping Allah's greatness and power in mind. Turn towards Allah and have hope in Allah's mercy.

May Allah grant you and me the potential to repent truly and fulfill this obligation.

Ameen!

" وآخر دعوانا أن الحمد لله رب العالمين "





BAITUSSALAM BOOK SHOPS

Baitussalam Book Shop Phase 4

Near Baitussalam Masjid, Defence Phase 4, Karachi.
Contact: +92-21-35313229

Baitussalam Book Shop Phase 6

32-C, Rahat Lane-1, Defence Phase 6, Karachi.
Contact: 0334-3093500, +92-21-35341805

Baitussalam Book Shop Phase 8

Shop No 1, C-9-0, Al-Murtaza Comm, Lane 1, phase VIII, DHA Karachi.
Contact: 0300-0508172

Baitussalam Book Shop phase 6










Shop No 4, Building No 34-C, Bukhari Lane 1 phase 6 near Tee-Emm Mart DHA, Karachi.
Contact: 021-5848264-5

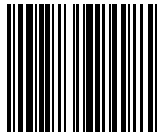
Baitussalam Book Shop Lahore

K-64, Ground floor commercial Area, main Ghazi Road phase 1, DHA, Lahore.
Contact: 0300-0508176

Baitussalam Book Shop Islamabad

Garden City, Phase 7, Near Baitussalam Masjid Bahria Town, Islamabad.
Contact: 0300-0508177

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