

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّى يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ

WHO WILL BECOME AN INHERITOR OF THE HOLY PROPHET ﷺ?

It is the noble Prophets who brought the religion in this world and after them it is the scholars (*'ulama*) who propagated and spread that religion. For this reason, the Prophet of the End Era, the noble Messenger Muhammad ﷺ, stated: "Indeed the scholars are the inheritors of the Prophets." There is neither a pilgrim nor a martyr in the world today, neither a striving individual in the way of God nor an elder in the way of spirituality, who is not, directly or indirectly, a student of any scholar. It is the scholars who always provided guidance to the masses in every age. The status of the scholars within a community is the same as that of the spirit within a physical body. Moreover, the scholars are the eyes of the community with which it sees and they resemble the mind of the community with which it contemplates. The community in which the preparation of scholars comes to an end, its entire future becomes dark. Keeping this significance of scholars clearly in mind, consider the situation that if we do not nurture scholars in Britain, and in Europe more widely, then who will protect and preserve the faith of our coming generations? If we do not prepare scholars from our children, then who will educate our grandchildren in Islam? Will angels from the heavens descend to teach them Islam? Certainly not! Angels will not descend for this would be contrary to the divine practice, rather we are to fulfil this responsibility.

Brothers and sisters! The situation of Britain and Europe is very different to Muslim countries. Reflect deeply on the situation in your own towns. The families in which there is no male or female scholar (*alim* or *alimah*) or an individual who possesses a sound understanding of religion, some of the children in these families have entered different groups, some have become inclined towards extremism, terrorism and Daeshism, and some have altogether abandoned and left Islam. This number is increasing day by day. I receive many phone calls saying: "Pirzada Sahib! Coming to Britain has cost us dearly. We cannot sleep at night and cannot find peace during the day. We do not know what to do." When I ask them regarding what has happened, they respond: "Some of our children spend the nights away from home and they go to undesirable places. When we prohibit them saying that Islam does not permit this, they state that they are not in need of this Islam which is an obstacle in front of their freedoms."

If this is the situation today whilst we are still alive, then what will our state be tomorrow when we are dead? And on the Day of Judgement, who will be accountable for this? These are problems that many of us are experiencing and these difficulties can at any time engulf the children we have so fortunately had. Therefore, it is the need of the hour that we carefully plan today so that we do not have to witness a terrible time tomorrow. A British historian of the last century, Arnold Joseph Toynbee, stated: "Civilizations declined when their leaders stopped responding creatively." A Canadian author, Brian Tracy, stated: "Leaders think and talk about the solutions. Followers think and talk about the problems." I am a student of religion and a servant to you; as such it is my duty to present to you solutions to these problems according to my understanding. There can be many solutions to these challenges, but today let me present just two of these:

SOLUTION ONE:

The realities of the world are changing day by day. Hence, each family in Britain should produce one male and one female scholar. This is the need of the family's coming generations. To practically make this happen, the leading figure within a family should invite all children to his home. For instance, if a couple have five children (sons and daughters) and they further have three children each, the five children should be invited

and it should be suggested to them that since Allah Almighty has granted them fifteen children collectively, thirteen of these should be encouraged to pursue different careers and professions such as medicine, law, academia or any other profession, but the one son and one daughter who are the most intelligent and righteous, they should be encouraged to become inheritors of the holy Prophet ﷺ. Then all five children should collectively sponsor these two in their path towards knowledge. This solution has many benefits for you, some are mentioned as follows:

- a. Since all children would be sponsoring this pursuit, they will all be equally included in its reward.
- b. It is possible that your children who follow some worldly profession abandon you in this life, but children who become *alims* or *alimahs*, they will serve you in this life and additionally be of benefit to you in the hereafter, the life of the grave and in Paradise.
- c. On the Day of Judgement, if the holy Prophet ﷺ asks you regarding what you had brought for him. You will be able to say: "O Allah's Messenger! The son and daughter who were the most intelligent and righteous in our family, we gave them up for your religion and made them your inheritors." Reflect on the joy with which the holy Prophet ﷺ would thus intercede for you; nothing can replace that. On the other hand, the family that produced no *alim* or *alimah* and on the Day of Judgement, the holy Prophet ﷺ asked that Allah Almighty had given them fifteen children, and they could not make even one his inheritor. Reflect on the shame and regret that you would feel at that moment.
- d. In your coming generations, if any male or female child developed an inclination towards waywardness, abandonment of religion or terrorism, it would be this *alim* or *alimah* within the family that would be able to save the child. For according to my observation and knowledge, the family in which there is an *alim* or *alimah*, no member of that family has left and abandoned Islam.

Therefore, every family should make one youthful son and one youthful daughter an inheritor of the holy Prophet ﷺ. If the elders of any family are incapable of doing this, then any youthful member of that family should present himself or herself to become an inheritor of the holy Prophet ﷺ and other youthful members of the family and the elders should provide the sponsorship.

An African proverb states: "If you educate a man you have educated an individual, but if you educate a woman you have educated a family." This proverb is regarding common worldly education, but if it is considered regarding religious knowledge, then I think it would read as follows: "If you educate a woman you have educated a family, but if you educate a man as an Imam you have educated thousands of families." For example, a mosque that is attended on Fridays by three to four thousand men and women, then that Imam saves the faith of hundreds of families. A scholar does not only protect the faith in this world, but a scholar also intercedes in the hereafter. The holy Prophet ﷺ stated: "On the Day of Judgement, when a worshipper and a scholar will reach the bridge, it will be said to the worshipper: 'Enter Paradise and enjoy the blessings due to your worship.' And it will be said to the scholar: 'Wait here and intercede for whoever you wish, verily for whosoever you intercede, your intercession will be accepted.'" (*Kanz al-'Ummal*, Hadith 28688) This is one solution that each family nurtures and produces one male and one female scholar.

SOLUTION TWO:

A community which establishes schools for its coming generations, running those schools and preparing teachers for them is also the responsibility of that community. A community which establishes hospitals to protect the health of its people, producing doctors for those hospitals is also the responsibility of that community. Similarly, the community which establishes mosques, producing Imams for those mosques is also the responsibility of that community. A point to note here is that a non-Muslim can teach in a school and a non-Muslim doctor can serve the health needs, but a non-Muslim can certainly not be an Imam in a mosque. Therefore, each mosque committee should search for intelligent and righteous individuals from amongst its worshippers and then encourage them and their parents that they pursue the path of an *alim* and *alimahs* and become inheritors of the holy Prophet ﷺ. The mosque committee should sponsor these individuals from its education funds. If mosque committees do not take this step today, then tomorrow when scholars who came from India or Pakistan are no longer alive, where will the Imams for these mosques come from?

Therefore, mosque committees should announce on Fridays that whosoever wants to make their son or daughter an inheritor of the holy Prophet ﷺ and enrol them in some institution of the *Ahl al-Sunnah wa'l-Jama'ah*, the mosque committee will sponsor them.

Regarding the two solutions that I have provided, I will now present the steps to put them into practice. Each mosque committee and each family should prepare one 18+ year old son to become an *alim* and one 18+ year old daughter to become an *alimah*. A distinguished panel of scholars and spiritual leaders of the *Ahl al-Sunnah wa'l-Jama'ah* accompanied by this servant of yours will be live on Friday 12 August 2016 on Noor TV (Sky 812) from 7 pm, on Saturday 13 August 2016 on Takbeer TV (Sky 834) from 4 pm and on Sunday 14 August 2016 on Ummah Channel (Sky 820) from 6 pm. We will not be appealing for donations, rather we will appeal for your son or daughter who will be returned to you becoming inheritors of the holy Prophet ﷺ. There are numerous scholars and spiritual leaders educating, nurturing and training scholars at present in the United Kingdom including Al-Jamia Suffa-Tul-Islam (Bradford), Hazrat Sultan Bahu Trust (Birmingham), Jamia Muhiyul Islam Siddiquia (Bradford), City Hasanat College (Birmingham), Faizan-e-Rasool Education Centre (Birmingham), Jamia Islamia Rizvia (Bradford), Hijaz College (Coventry), Darul Qurra (Birmingham), Kanzul Iman (Dewsbury), Jamia Rasoolia (Manchester), Oldham Islamic College (Oldham) Jamia-Al-Furqan (Birmingham), Jamia Alavia (Bolton), etc.

You should enrol your children into any one of these establishments. I am, however, able to accommodate 300 male and 300 female students at Jamia Al-Karam. There are approximately 800 mosques of the *Ahl al-Sunnah wa'l-Jama'ah* today in Britain. I request just 300 mosques from these to enrol one male and one female student into Jamia Al-Karam and the other mosques to enrol them in any other establishment of their choice. If I have 600 male and female students, then the Jamia Al-Karam fees can be reduced to £1500 per year. One reason for the fee being higher is the shortage of students, but the other greater reason is that most of the other establishments of the *Ahl al-Sunnah wa'l-Jama'ah* are set up within mosques, where the costs of electricity, gas, heating, water, etc. are covered by the mosque. Building insurance and teacher salaries are too covered by the mosque. If the roof of the mosque leaks, boiler breaks down, carpet needs changing, kitchen and ablution facilities require upgrade; then all these costs are paid for by the mosque. Whereas, all these expenses at Jamia Al-Karam are covered by the fees which results in the fees increasing.

Nonetheless, today my appeal is only that you register the names of those children who you wish to become *alims* and *alimahs*, thereby inheritors of the holy Prophet ﷺ, on Noor TV (7 pm on Friday 12 August), on Takbeer TV (4 pm on Saturday 13 August), on Ummah Channel (6 pm on Sunday 14 August).

In the end, I specifically request the respectable scholars and honourable spiritual leaders that they prepare one male and one female student from their circles of influence in order that they become inheritors of the holy Prophet ﷺ and gain the reward of both worlds by registering their names during the appeals. May Allah Almighty be the Helper and Protector of us and our coming generations. *Amin*.

Your servant,

Muhammad Imdad Hussain Pirzada

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