

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

ILM UL MUKARRAM “DARSUL HADITH”

LESSONS FROM AHÂDEETH SHAREEF

commentary on

40 ahâdeeth | arba'een | of Imaam Nawawi

رحمة الله عليه

with emphasis on perfecting one's character

Notes by Maulana Naeem Motala

Hadith 7

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عَنْ أَبِي رُقَيْبَةَ تَمِيمِ بْنِ أَوْسِ الدَّارِيِّ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ
الدِّينُ النَّصِيحَةُ
قُلْنَا لِمَنْ؟

قَالَ: لِلَّهِ، وَلِكِتَابِهِ، وَلِرَسُولِهِ، وَلِأَيِّمَّةِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَعَامَّتِهِمْ

Abi Ruqayyah Tameem ibn Aus ad-Daaree Radiallahu Anhu narrates that:

Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam said:

“The Deen (religion) is sincerity/good counsel”.

We said: “To whom?”.

He (Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam) said: “To Allah, His Book, His Messenger, and to the leaders of the Muslims and their common folk”.

Hadith 7 - **The Deen (Religion) is Sincerity/good counsel**

In this Hadith, the words ‘Ad-Deen An-Naseehah’, is used, which mean “Deen (religion) is sincerity and good counsel”.

The word النَّصِيحَةُ *Naseehah* has a very deep and broad meaning.

The linguistic meaning of *Naseehah* means to purify.

The word *Naseehah* could also mean:

- Sincerity
- Good counsel
- Well-wishing

The word *Naseehah* has different meanings when used in different contexts.

When referred to, with regard to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta’ala* and Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam* the word has a different meaning, from when it is referred to with regard to leaders and the general public.

لِلَّهِ | **Naseehah to Allah**

In this Hadith, Ulema explain النَّصِيحَةُ لِلَّهِ ‘*Naseehah to Allah*’ sincerity towards Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta’ala*) means:

- Believing in the Oneness (Tauheed) of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'ala* with all His excellent names and qualities
- to love and obey Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'ala*
- to do those actions that will please Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'ala*
- to praise Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'ala*
- to deem Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'ala* as being perfect and free from anything that is opposite to His perfect attributes
- to intend only Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'ala* when worshipping Him.

Imaam Ahmed bin Hanbal *Rahmatullahi Alayh* narrates a Hadith of Hazrat Abu Umaamah *Radiallahu Anhu* that Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam* said,

Allah Ta'ala says:

“The most beloved act, with which My servant worships Me is sincerity for My sake”.

، وَلِكِتَابِهِ | **His Book**

Sincerity towards the *Qur'aan-e-Majeed* (the book of Allah) means:

- to believe in the Qur'aan being the *Kalaam of Allah* (the speech of Allah).
 - One has to honour and respect and love the Qur'aan
 - recite it with *Tajweed*.
 - One has to strive to understand the Qur'aan
 - obey the injunctions found within the Qur'aan
 - One has to give *Da'wah* (pass on the message) of the Qur'aan.
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، وَلِرَسُولِهِ | **His Messenger (Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam)**

Sincerity towards the Messenger of Allah means:

- to believe in Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam*.
- After Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'ala*, one must love Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam* most dearly.

Regarding this, Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam* has mentioned:

“None of you has true Imaan, until I (Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam) become more beloved to him than his own parents, family, children and the entire mankind”.

- One has to exert one's fullest effort to obey Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam* and absorb in one's life the Sunnah of Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam*.
- One has to follow the footsteps of Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam* and develop the beautiful *Akhlaaq* (character) of Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam*.
- One has to send abundant *Salawaat* (Durood and Salaam) upon Rasullullah *Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam*.

وَلِأَيِّمَّةِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ، *and to the leaders of the Muslims*

Sincerity towards the Leaders of the Muslims *means*:

- to obey the leaders of the Muslim community
- to want good for them
- to make Du'aa for them
- to advise them
- appropriately counsel them when required
- being patient with them if they do anything we may dislike and avoiding rising against them ... so that the Ummah is united

Also...

- showing love and respect for the Ulema/Scholars and not searching for their mistakes
- to have trust and confidence in the Ulema
- helping the Ulema in whatever is good and beneficial
- obeying the Ulema in what is right and reminding them should they err or forget

، وَعَامَّتِهِمْ ، *and their common folk*

Sincerity towards the common folk (the general masses/public) *means*:

- to direct people towards what is of benefit for them
- to teach people the affairs of Deen
- to veil and conceal the people faults
- to help them in times of distress and calamity
- to fulfil their needs
- to help them against their enemy
- to defend them and protect them
- to avoid deceiving them and being jealous of them
- to love for them what one loves for oneself
- to dislike for them what one dislikes for oneself
- to observe all their rights
- to attend their Salaatul Janazah
- to visit them when they are sick
- to command them with good and forbid them from evil
- to advise and offer them sincere good counselling when asked.

Rasullullah Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam has mentioned:

"When one asks his brother for sincere good counsel, then he should advise him".

Ulema and scholars have also mentioned (that this Hadith), '*Ad-Deenu Naseehah*' is *one-quarter of the Deen*.

It is a beautiful Hadith and it applies to each one of us.

Let us all make every effort to understand this Hadith and apply this Hadith to our lives.