



UTTERANCES

By Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Ibrahim Khushtar Siddiqui Qadri Razvi Rahmatullah Alaih

Part 2

Utterances is a collection of the words of wisdom uttered by Fakhru'l Islam Qutbe Mauritius Hazrat Maulana Muhammad Ibrahim Khushtar Siddiqui Qadri Razvi (Rahmatullah Alaih), in order to bring us closer to Almighty Allah and His Beloved Rasool (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), and hence closer to reality.

True Pleasure

Ever since his creation man has always been counting, said His Eminence. Very rarely, however, does he really try to count the number of days he has already spent in this temporary world. An event which occurred in the life of Hazrat Luqman (Alaihis Salaam) was then related. When his wife had told him that she was pregnant, he exclaimed, "Ah!" and immediately went into prostration. When he stood up, he stated, "True, people generally rejoice at such news, but I am despondent because when I start counting, I perceive that half of my stay in this world has already passed."

We should not lose sight of the fact that we are definitely walking towards our grave. Such being the case, we should seek sources of true pleasure, and since only spiritual activities can yield true pleasure, we should, with our heart and soul, be always engaged therein.

Fear of Allah

A man of faith should have fear of Almighty Allah alone. He would then automatically reach a stage when he would not be afraid of anybody or of anything. Hazrat Maulana Khushtar (Rahmatullah Alaih) drew the attention of the assembly to the fact that no proper journey can be undertaken if preparations are not made beforehand. In the same way, we have to prepare ourselves for the journey back to Almighty Allah with the best provisions, and the best of all provisions is the fear of Allah. Such being the case, we should seize every opportunity to participate in any activity likely to increase our fear of Allah Ta'ala.

Preparation

We should be thankful to Allah Ta'ala for the opportunity He grants us to gather every week for the Jummah prayers. On that occasion, in one way or another, the Imam pronounces some words of guidance. It is very unfortunate if we do not pay due attention to the sermon delivered, and if we do not perform our duties and shoulder our responsibilities accordingly.

On the material plane, we do prepare some plan for our daily activities and we do forecast the future. For our spiritual advancement also, His Eminence emphasized, we should organize ourselves so that the present as well as the hereafter may be fruitful to us in the real sense of the word. We should not live like animals that just eat, drink and sleep. We should do something more so that true happiness may emerge from our spiritual involvement.

True Love

Since the blessed soul of Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddiq (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh), the first Caliph of Islam, had left his body in the month of Jamadul-Akhir, Hazrat Maulana Khushtar (Rahmatullah Alaih) chose a few words on the most beloved Companion of the beloved Rasool (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam).

On one occasion, Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) and a few Companions were praying by the Ka'bah when a group of kaafirs with Abu Jahl at their head and armed to the teeth, suddenly made their appearance and started harassing them. Hazrat Ali (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh), who was present, avowed the situation was most difficult. Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddiq (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh) was also present and did not lose his composure. Collecting his forces in both hands, he stood up and said:

“Why are you causing difficulty to the beloved Rasool (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam)? Is it simply because he is speaking the truth and is inviting you to pray to ONE ALLAH?”

Losing no time, the angry mob fell upon Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddiq (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh), wounded him most atrociously and went away when they thought that he would breathe no more. With much love and devotion, the Companions took Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddiq (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh) to his home. His father was anxious and his mother wanted to give him something to drink. But when he opened his eyes and started uttering some words, the first thing he did was to enquire whether the Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) was safe and sound. At that time, a person came and announced that no harm had come to Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam), but still he was restless. He requested to be taken to the Rasoolullah's (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) place and it was only when he had seen the Prophet with his own eyes that he was satisfied. All Companions of the beloved Rasool (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) had much love for him, but that of Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddiq (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh), emphasized His Eminence, was unique and peerless. He had sacrificed his body, soul and his wealth for Allah Ta'ala and his beloved Rasool (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) and will thus always be remembered with much devotion and love.

Subhaanallah! This is an example of true love for Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam).

It is related that Hazrat Jibra'eel (Alaihis Salaam) told Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam) that Allah Ta'ala who had seen Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddiq (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh), once so rich and so respected, wearing but torn apparel, had conveyed His (Allah's) Salaam upon Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddiq (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh). When the message was conveyed to Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddiq (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh), he started shedding tears of love.

Pure Earnings

Speaking on pure earnings, Hazrat Maulana Khushtar (Rahmatullah Alaih) indicated that halaal rozi is the heart of all spiritual progress and laid stress that no impure earnings should be sought. On another occasion, he pointed out that pure earnings bring light (Noor) to the heart whereas impure earnings bring fire (naar). He also added that empty handed on the Day of Judgment would be he who, despite his wealth, his prayers, fasting, etc. would have lived on impure earnings.

Course of Studies

The following incident gives us a glimpse into the knowledge and spiritual status of Hazrat Maulana Khushtar (Rahmatullah Alaih).

A student who had applied for a medical scholarship spoke of his problem of choosing a course. "Whether it is engineering or medicine the main thing is to walk on the right path," stated Hazrat Maulana Khushtar (Rahmatullah Alaih). "And when you go to Delhi, do not forget to visit the Jummah Masjid." As it turned out, the student did not get the medical scholarship although he had the best academic qualification, and the scholarships were granted to three other students in that field. He then proceeded to India to study engineering and had the opportunity of going to Delhi and visiting the Jummah Mosque there.

Subhaanallah! Hazrat Maulana Khushtar (Rahmatullah Alaih) already knew that the student would not get the scholarship and would study engineering in Delhi, and hence told him before hand to visit the Jummah Masjid there.

The Fakir and the Hidden Treasure

Once there was a Fakir who prayed to Allah Ta'ala that he might be fed without being obliged to work. One day in a dream the Fakir was told that his prayers had been granted and that he would find hidden treasure. He was directed to travel out of the city where there stood a shrine of a Saint. He was to go to the shrine and turn his face towards Makkah. He was then to place an arrow in a bow and where the arrow fell there he should dig for the treasure.

The Fakir was delighted and followed the directions given to him in the dream, but after shooting many arrows and digging in various directions the Fakir failed to find the treasure. Having failed to hit the spot where the treasure was buried and despairing of success by his own unaided efforts, the Fakir invoked the assistance of Allah Ta'ala in the location of the treasure. That night in a dream the Fakir was told:

"You were directed merely to fix an arrow in your bow and let it drop. You have instead drawn the bow with all your might and overshot. See that the arrow falls close to where you stand." The following day the Fakir complied with the instructions and succeeded in discovering the treasure.

By narrating this incident from the writings of Hazrat Jalaaluddin Rumi (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh), Maulana Khushtar (Rahmatullah Alaih) brings out the point that men are apt to overlook the spiritual treasures close to them, and that is why Prophets are not honoured in their own lands.

The moral is that in order to find Allah Ta'ala we undertake long journeys and pilgrimages while Almighty Allah is nearer to us than our own jugular veins. Instead of looking far beyond horizons one should first look inward, for there alone one can have the brightest vision - the vision of Allah.

It is said that faith lies between fear and hope. One person worships Allah with the desire of the delights of Paradise and in fear of the torments of Hell. This is a degree of faith, but an inferior one. The lofty degree of faith is that of the person who is desirous of Allah Ta'ala's Pleasure; this degree is unattainable without love, in fact it is synonymous with love.

Self-annihilation

Love plays an important role to bring us closer to Almighty Allah. Here His Eminence quoted the following couplet from A'la Hazrat Imam Ahmad Raza Khan (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh):

Main to Maalik hi kahoonga ke ho Maalik ke Habeeb
Yani Mahboob-o-Mohib main naheen mera tera

I will call you the owner because you are the Beloved of the owner
In love mine and thine does not apply between the Lover and the Beloved

Somebody who wants to understand the Attributes of Allah has to erase himself completely and eradicate himself totally. A seed, added His Eminence, placed upon a rock will not yield anything. But when it is placed in the earth, it loses its identity and finally bears fruits. In the same way, Huzoor Ghaus-e-Azam Shaikh Abdul Qadir Jilani (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh) annihilated himself in the love of Allah. His heart was then illuminated by the Majesty of Allah. It was at that time that he could understand Allah Ta'ala's Attributes.

A person came to Huzoor Ghaus-e-Azam (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh) and related that a person called Noorul Hassan, overpowered by ecstasy, was continually in a state of exhilaration. Huzoor Ghaus-e-Azam enquired whether Noorul Hassan was performing the compulsory prayers. In the affirmative was the answer, for at the time of the compulsory prayers he would come back to his normal state. Huzoor Ghaus-e-Azam (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh) then concluded that the intoxication of love of Noorul Hassan is genuine and authentic.

Hazrat Maulana Khushtar (Rahmatullah Alaih) also related that Hazrat Shaikh Abdul Qadir Jilani (Radiallahu Ta'ala Anh) was once asked about the secret of his becoming Ghaus-e-Azam and achieving such greatness. His reply was simple; he NEVER uttered a word of falsehood in his life.

May Allah Ta'ala grant us the Taufeeq and Hidayat to act upon these beautiful gems of wisdom so that we may bring ourselves closer to Almighty Allah and further away from this materialistic world, Ameen.