



# HAVING THE COURAGE TO BE DIFFERENT

written by

**MIR HABEEBULLAH QUADRI**

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Under the guidance of

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## PREFACE

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الحمد لله رب العالمين، والصلاة والسلام على سيدنا محمد وعلى آله وصحبه أجمعين

Being a believer is being different. It is simple but not easy. One may undergo many trials on his/her way to being different in a society that ostracizes a believer. But the believer will always have the last laugh.

In this book of encouragement, Shaikh Mir Habeebullah Quadri provides valuable insight on how to be different and succeed.

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## SALUTATIONS

We begin in the name of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), the compassionate, most merciful. It is he who created us, and to him is our ultimate return.

It is in Quran -

هُوَ اللَّهُ الْخَالِقُ الْبَارِئُ الْمُصَوِّرُ لَهُ الْأَسْمَاءُ الْحُسْنَىٰ ۗ يُسَبِّحُ لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ  
وَالْأَرْضِ ۗ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ

**Meaning** - He is Allah , the Creator, the Inventor, the Fashioner; to Him belong the best names. Whatever is in the heavens and earth is exalting Him. And He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise. (Chapter 59, Verse 24)

May the peace and blessings of our Lord be on our Holy Master, the beloved Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) and the holy family of the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم).

It is in Quran -

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يُبَايِعُونَكَ إِنَّمَا يُبَايِعُونَ اللَّهَ يَدُ اللَّهِ فَوْقَ أَيْدِيهِمْ ۗ فَمَنْ نَكَثَ فَإِنَّمَا يَنْكُثُ عَلَىٰ  
نَفْسِهِ ۗ وَمَنْ أَوْفَىٰ بِمَا عَاهَدَ عَلَيْهُ اللَّهُ فَسَيُؤْتِيهِ أَجْرًا عَظِيمًا

**Meaning** - Indeed, those who pledge allegiance to you, [O Muhammad] - they are actually pledging allegiance to Allah . The hand of Allah is over their hands. So he who breaks his word only breaks it to the detriment of himself. And he who fulfills that which he has promised Allah - He will give him a great reward. (Chapter 48, Verse 10)

We thank you all for taking some time out today and reading this article. Our hope is always to deliver you with good news and we want you to know that our prayers are always with you no matter what. We believe that Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) has great things in store

for every single human being on earth, all we need to do is to realize the mercy and beneficence of our Lord and let it into our lives. If you like what's being discussed in our articles, please share it with your friends and family so that everyone you know, benefits and gets a chance to bring positive changes in their lives.

## INTRODUCTION

We would like to discuss with you today about having the courage to be different.

As we all know and realize, time keeps on changing and it doesn't wait for anyone. And along with time, so does the trend. And as the trend changes, it brings along with itself, new challenges for the believers every time. But here's the key, no matter what era in time, you belong to, there is only one way to win over the challenges, moral or otherwise, that life brings at your doorstep every day. You need to have the courage to stand out of the crowd! You need to have the courage to be different! The only other alternative to this is to give in to the societal and peer pressure and become a victim of the trend.

We're not saying to you that the age that you live in today is quite simply, bad or that everything that is trending is bad or immoral. But you know just as well as we do that 'bad', sells faster than 'good', when it comes to setting the trend.

One popular guy in your class begins to smoke and before you know it, all your friends are smoking. One of your colleagues begins to misuse the benefits given to you by your office and before you know it, the entire office is misusing the benefits in the same way. One of your friends uses a unique profanity or swear word at college and before you know it, that word is the most trending hash tag on the social media. Your favorite actor in the movie misbehaves with the police officers or shows no regard for the law, before you know it, you're doing the same thing.

We're not saying that everything your friends or colleagues do or that everything that's shown in the movies and music is bad or harmful for you, but the stuff that is bad or harmful attracts us more quickly than the stuff that is good. And this is what forms trends. Trends, that our family and peers, indirectly or directly, force us to follow. You can either give in to it or you can choose the way God wants you to deal with it and stand out of the crowd.

### It is in Quran -

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا ۗ إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ

**Meaning** - O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted. (Chapter 49, Verse 13)

We do realize that standing out of the crowd can be a daunting and sometimes, even a risky option. It might not sit well with your friends, your family might not appreciate it. It might not sit well with your career path either. But friends, until you don't take that risk, you are not living your life the way you were meant to. You can never truly accomplish your goals or be truly happy, free and content with yourselves as long as you let the societal pressure to do the wrong things get to you.

People say that the path of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) is burdensome or restrictive. But friends, in truth, its actually the opposite! The path of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) is actually the path towards free will! The society, likes to keep us in their molds, forces us to follow its ways, culture, traditions. But the religion of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), teaches you to live life on your terms! It cleanses the ideology of 'following what sells' and instills the ideology of 'following what works'. Friends, sooner or later, every wrong thing you do in life or every sinful act that you develop a habit to tolerate will catch up to you someday and hurt you in a really bad way! You see, doing a bad deed or tolerating it will always have consequences. But friends, if you develop the courage to follow the path of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), the only consequences you will have are good! What you sow, shall you reap!

### It is in Quran -

إِنَّ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ وَالْقَانِتِينَ وَالْقَانِتَاتِ وَالصَّادِقِينَ وَالصَّادِقَاتِ وَالصَّابِرِينَ وَالصَّابِرَاتِ وَالْخَاشِعِينَ وَالْخَاشِعَاتِ وَالْمُتَصَدِّقِينَ وَالْمُتَصَدِّقَاتِ وَالصَّانِعِينَ وَالصَّانِعَاتِ وَالْحَافِظِينَ وَالْحَافِظَاتِ وَالذَّاكِرِينَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا وَالذَّاكِرَاتِ أَعَدَّ اللَّهُ لَهُمْ مَغْفِرَةً وَأَجْرًا عَظِيمًا

**Meaning** - Indeed, the Muslim men and Muslim women, the believing men and believing women, the obedient men and obedient women, the truthful men and truthful women, the patient men and patient women, the humble men and humble women, the charitable men and charitable women,



the fasting men and fasting women, the men who guard their private parts and the women who do so, and the men who remember Allah often and the women who do so - for them Allah has prepared forgiveness and a great reward.(Chapter 33, Verse 35)

## STANDING UP FOR YOUR MORALS

At this point you must be saying, " *Okay, alright....its really nothing we haven't heard before in childish books or stories with a moral...this policy cannot work in real life*". Well, are you sure about that? Look around you, every single person, who has ever achieved something truly great in life and is remembered as a legend, has been a person, who has had the courage to stand up for his/her morals and be different. Look at the lives of all the beloved Prophets of Allah (Alayhum Wasalaatau Wasalaam). They were all people, who decided to stand different from their cultures or the religions that their people followed. They knew that what was evil could never be from Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and they turned towards Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) for guidance and not towards humans or the idols that the people in their time worshiped.

Now here's the real trick, Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) help is always with the people who have put their faith and their destiny in the hands of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). But, you won't be able to witness Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) help until you decide to stand up for yourself.

Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) had been sold into slavery. The man who bought Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام), Aziz, was a wealthy and reputable business man in Egypt. He was famously known as 'Aziz al Misr' or the 'Mighty one of Egypt'. He saw potential in Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) and brought him (عليه صلاة وسلام) into his home and told his wife to keep Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) with honor and respect. As Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) grew older, he started to entrust him (عليه صلاة وسلام) with more duties and responsibilities. Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) had the radiance of the light (noor) of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) on his holy face and a personality, whose handsomeness was unfathomable!

When Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) reached adulthood, he was sentenced to prison for a crime, for which he was proven to be not guilty. But due to societal pressure and the urge to protect his honor, Aziz al Misr, punished Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) anyway, for a crime, he knew Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) had never committed. And so, Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) stayed

in prison for 10 years! But here's an interesting fact, even though Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) had suffered for being honest and having integrity, his entire life. Never once, did that stop him (عليه صلاة وسلام), from walking on the path of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). Even in prison, Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) spent all the years, teaching prisoners about the path of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and urging them to become righteous in their deeds!

And how great was the reward of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), in return for the honesty and integrity of Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) and his will to stand out of the crowd!

Later, the King of Egypt himself ordered the release of Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) and through the power granted to him by Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) drove Egypt out of drought and suffering into prosperity and might. He (عليه صلاة وسلام) became one of the most, prosperous and honored noblemen of Egypt whom, even the King himself greatly admired and respected. Yusuf (عليه صلاة وسلام) was reunited with his family and with his holy father Prophet Yaqub (عليه صلاة وسلام), who got his eye sight back at the sight of his son (عليه صلاة وسلام).

Another great example of standing up for what is right is Prophet Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام). After having reached adulthood, Prophet Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) was once passing by the city and saw an Egyptian and an Israelite fighting. On being over powered by the Egyptian, the Israelite called on Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) for help. Keep in mind that at this point in time, Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) had not formally been declared as a 'Prophet' of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) had not yet been given the commandment to take the word of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), to the Pharaoh. On the face of it, Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) had no cause to intervene in this injustice. In fact, going against an Egyptian to save an Israeli's life could cause trouble for Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) as his loyalty could have been questioned in front of the Pharaoh. But no, when Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) saw an injustice happening, he put his own life at risk and got involved in the dispute and struck down the Egyptian. As it so happened, the Egyptian died on impact. Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) was horrified by the incident and asked for Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) forgiveness as this had happened by accident. The next day when Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) went to the city again, he saw the same Israelite fighting against another Egyptian this time. On being overpowered by the Egyptian, he called upon Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) for help once again. Now notice, that the hotheadedness of this Israelite had been very well established in the eyes of Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام). And even though because of the same Israelite, Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) had already been implicated in murder, he (عليه صلاة وسلام) realized, what was being done to the Israeli in the hands of the Pharaoh's man was unjust. As a result, Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) once again put his life at risk and intervened and put an end to the fight. Due to the incident that had occurred the previous day however, Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) was compelled to leave the city and wander into the desert.

You see, on the face of it, Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) lost his home, his position in the Egyptian society, all the comforts of being an adopted son of the Pharaoh. Instead, he (عليه صلاة وسلام)

(وسلام) was forced into leaving the city without any aid and wander into the desert hoping for refuge. Even though Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) risked and lost so much in his life, he never once turned from doing the right thing! He (عليه صلاة وسلام) had the courage to be different! He stood up against what was wrong not just once, but twice, risking his life both the times.

And wasn't Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) reward explosive in return? Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) became the Prophet of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and leader of a nation of Israelis. He converted them to the religion of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and brought them out of slavery and put an end to the tyranny of the Pharaoh. Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) is a legend whose stories of bravery and miracles of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) that followed, have traveled through thousands of years. All because Musa (عليه صلاة وسلام) made a conscious decision, never to support what was wrong, moral or otherwise. He (عليه صلاة وسلام) had the courage to be different and Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) rewarded this courage by empowering him over all his enemies and making his life, a living example for generations to come.

Such are the examples that Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) has presented in front of us through the Quran and the Sunnah of the Prophets of Allah (عليهم وصلات وسلام). Because the Prophets of Allah (عليهم وصلات وسلام), consciously made a decision to be on the right path and not divert from it, Allah changed their lives of slavery, imprisonment and torture into a life of leadership, prosperity and true accomplishment, which is their closeness to Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ).

#### It is in Quran -

وَسَلَامٌ عَلَى الْمُرْسَلِينَ

Meaning - And peace upon the messengers. (Chapter 48, Verse 10)

When the holy Prophets of Allah (عليهم وصلات وسلام) decided to take a stand for what was right and pious, Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) help came to their rescue and Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) made them living legends and examples for people to follow until the day of resurrection.

Friends, we don't ask you and do not even expect you, or ourselves, to ever be able to live up to the standards of the Prophets of Allah (عليهم وصلات وسلام), but we will definitely ask you to motivate yourselves from these exemplary examples that we presented and start bringing small changes in your lives. Remember, that it is the small differences that brings huge differences in your lives.

If your friends are participating in something that you know in your heart is wrong, have the courage to say, " *Sorry guys, but that's just wrong and I cannot take part in*

*it*". If your colleagues are misusing office property, or showing late at work and yet being paid for a full time job, don't go on following in their footsteps. Instead, show up five minutes early to work and leave five minutes late. If your siblings have a habit of lying to your parents in front of them and they get away with it every time, don't just follow in their footsteps and start lying to your parents. Instead, have the courage to speak the truth. You might end up getting more punished by your parents than your siblings, but in the long run, your parents will always know that you were the most honest among all their kids. Make your mark! Let people know that you're not just one of those guys, let them see that you are different! Let them see that you are a man/women of dignity and honor. Let them see that you are a man/woman of faith!

You might say, "*Yes, that's all great but what if I stand out and my friends hate me for it*?". Well, if your friends hate you for doing the right thing, then they were never really your friends to begin with. They were just being friends with you as long as you were in agreement with everything they did. That is not friendship. True friends acknowledge their mistakes and appreciate it when a friend points it out to them. If your friends hate you for your honesty, then we believe, that's Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) way of telling you to let go of such so called friends! Believe that Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) will provide you with the right friends who that motivate you to the right things and appreciate you for it. If your friends leave you or break ties with you for doing the right thing, take it as a sign of blessings from Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) is removing the wrong friends from your path who will let you down and disappoint you at every turn and instead, Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) is making room for the right friends who shall uplift you and appreciate you for who you are.

You might say, "*If I don't follow my colleagues and misuse the office's property, be tardy on purpose or play politics like them, I might get alienated and ultimately fired because of it*". Well, it was never really your employer who was paying you, it was Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) who was paying you through him. And if your employer or colleagues cannot appreciate your sincerity, then maybe getting fired is the best thing for you. It would mean that Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) has better things in store for you. Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) will get you a better job with a bigger pay check where people will appreciate and admire you for who you are. You might say, "*But I was lucky enough the first time to get this job and with my qualification or experience, I would be surprised if I ever got a job like this one again*". Well, look around you, most owners of multi-national businesses are college dropouts! Some of them have never even been to college! If Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) can gift them with such great positions in their respective fields, why don't you believe that Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) can do the same for you? You might ask, "***Well, what if it doesn't happen?***". We ask you, "***What if it does happen?***".

We are not instilling false hope into your hearts. We have seen the examples of all the great people in the world whom Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) turned into legends so we could learn from them. At some point in their lives, they all had to take a risky step. They had to

think beyond their families and paychecks and sure enough, Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) did reward them for having the courage to be different.

Friends, place your lives in the hands of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). Show the courage to be different and then sit back, relax and watch how Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) paves the way for your success both in this life and hereafter. We are not saying that being different is piece of cake. No, there are difficulties and persecution in the path of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ). But at the end, you end up winning both in this world and hereafter and Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) will turn your life into a legend for generations to follow.

## STANDING UP FOR YOUR IMAAN (FAITH)

We have discussed about how we need to stand up for the morals that Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) has taught us through his commandments in the Holy Quran and the lives of his beloved holy Prophets (عليهم وصلات وسلام) and about how the help and victory from Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) follows, the moment we decide to show courage. Similarly, we need to show the courage to stand up for our Imaan in order to protect our interests in the hereafter.

As you already know, the Muslim community, in today's day, has been divided into many sects and each sect has then further been divided into innumerable sub-sects.

**It is in Hadith** - It is narrated on the authority of Abd Allah Ibn Amr (رضي الله تعالى عنه) that the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله) (وسلم) said that the (Muslim) Ummah will divide into seventy-three groups; all of them will enter Hell except one, namely, the one that follows the way of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله) (وسلم), and that of his companions. **(Tirmidhi)**.

**It is in Hadith** - Prophet Mohammad (صلى الله عليه و آله) (وسلم) said: "Jews got divided into seventy one groups and Christians got divided into seventy two groups and my nation will get divided into seventy three groups. All the groups will enter the Hell except one". They asked: "Allah's Messenger (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) which one is it"? He replied: "Those who will remain on the path on which I and my

companions are today". (Abu Dawood, Ibn Majah, Ahmad).

This division, as has been foretold by the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم), is based on the divide in fundamental belief of Islam. This is the reason why the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) said that only one sect shall be saved and the rest shall enter Hell. Hence, it is crucial for our salvation in hereafter, that we hold fast to the fundamental belief system of Islam.

The Salafis and their sub-sects have changed their fundamentals on Islam by making an Imaginary Sky Idol Monster and calling it 'Allah' (نَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ ذَلِكَ) and prostrating to this imaginary monster five times a day.

The Shias and their sub-sects have strayed from the path of Islam by disrespecting the Khulafa-e-Rashideen (عنهم أجمعين رضي الله) and Sahaba-e-Karam (عنهم أجمعين رضي الله).

The Ammanis or Sullah-Kullis have taken it a step further and have completely diminished the Islamic fundamentals and values by acknowledging all the religions and their sects as the right path of Allah (نَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ ذَلِكَ). The most common excuse, that the Ammanis and their like minded give, in order to support this hazardous and Imaan destroying ideology, is that they are trying to achieve peace in the world by believing and worshiping all the Idols of all the religions and winning over everyone's trust and confidence. This kind of ideology is not new to the human society and has always existed since the beginning of time and every Prophet of Allah (عليهم وصلات وسلام) has denounced, refuted and cleansed their people from this ideology. You can find people with this kind of ideology in everyday life. Look close and you will see that many of your friends and colleagues at the office follow this ideology in order to get ahead. Most of the media celebrities such as movie actors or public speakers, so called Islamic Scholars and politicians openly take part in the worship of Idols of all religions or the religious festivities of all religions in the name of unity and brotherhood, when in fact, all they are achieving out of this, is the loss of their own identity, a complete surrender to societal pressure and eternal damnation.

Friends, by worshiping all religions, you are once again, giving into societal pressure and losing your own identity as a Muslim that Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) has blessed you with! If this ideology was the path to achieving peace, then the Ammanis would have achieved peace in the world during the time of Nuh (عليه صلاة وسلام) itself! No, the beauty of this world itself is in the fact that we all have the right to be who we are! There are innumerable religions in the world and they have innumerable amount of sub-sects each. But we can all live together and prosper for generations by cooperating with each other on the basis of humanity! We are all humans, equal in front of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and

our problems are all the same. If we learn to accept our differences and cooperate with each other on the basis humanity, only then can true world peace be truly achieved.

But we need to make sure that we don't lose our grip of the word of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and the word of his beloved Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم). We need to stay steadfast on Sahih Imaan. We cannot sacrifice it for anything!

**It is in Quran -**

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا ۗ إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ

**Meaning -** O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted. (Chapter 49, Verse 13)

**It is in Quran -**

وَتَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَىٰ ۖ وَلَا تَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْإِثْمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ

**Meaning -** And cooperate in righteousness and piety, but do not cooperate in sin and aggression. (Chapter 5, Verse 2)

In the first three years of the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم)'s mission, forty people accepted Islam. He (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) then began to preach Islam in public. The leaders of the Quraish did not accept the new religion. Some of them tried to bribe the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) with money and power, including an offer to make him (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) a king. But the honorable Seal of Prophets, the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) refused to abandon Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) message. When this did not work, they tried to convince the uncle of the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم), Hadhrat Abu Talib (رضى الله تعالى عنه), to allow them to kill the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم).

Hadhrat Abu Talib (رضى الله تعالى عنه) informed the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) of their intentions. But the Holy Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) said, **"O uncle, if they were to put the sun in my right hand and the moon in my left hand to stop me from preaching Islam, I would never stop. I will keep on preaching until Allah makes Islam prevail or I die"**.

You might say, “ *Well, staunchly holding on to one’s religious beliefs is the reason why religious extremism still exists and people get killed every day because of it*”. No, if you look close enough, you will realize that religious extremism and fanaticism has nothing to do with the religion itself to begin with. Its generally a politically motivated action taken by criminals in the society who use religion as an excuse for killing innocents. Politicians play hate politics on the basis of religion all the time. The criminal minds in our society kill people in thousands in the name of religion everyday but none of it has anything at all whatsoever to do with holding on to the faith of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) in your hearts. We ask you to be a person of dignity and honor. Take pride in being a person of unwavering faith. You don’t have to go and worship an idol from a different religion, just to prove to your friends, family and colleagues that you are a person of peace. You don’t have to prove yourself to anyone! If you are a sincere friend and peace loving person, people will notice it themselves. If someone’s unnecessarily taking up an issue with you, spreading malice about you just because you don’t participate in his Ammani activities, then that means, that person is a bully and he is trying to get you under his thumb. He is only pretending to be righteous, but in truth, he just wants people to follow him into Ammanism. Don’t bow down to the whims and wishes of such people! Keep your head held high and stride along your own path, the path of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), the path of true peace and prosperity!

You can keep brotherhood with people of all religions without having to sacrifice your own Imaan for it! But of course, as we have discussed earlier, you are going to have to show courage! For instance, if you work in a company that basically has a majority of non-Muslims and they invite you to join in their religious festivities, show the courage to say, “*Thank you for the invite guys but I can’t make it, you guys go ahead, I will catch up with y’all later*”. They might not like the fact that you avoid their religious festivities and the fact that you don’t invite them in your own religious festivities. Some of them might even take offense and try to hurt you by spreading a false rumor about you at the workplace or backbite you. But let us tell you, if you are truly courageous and sincere in your efforts, in time they will all realize that you are a person of unwavering faith in your God and that you are a sincere person and you didn’t mean any offense. After a while, if not all, most will start respecting you in the society for who you are.



The Holy Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) was popularly known as 'Al-Ameen' (the trustworthy) and 'Al-Sadiq' (the truthful) for his good deeds. His Holy name, "Muhammad" (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) means "the praised one".

Note that even though the Arabs were pagans who worshiped over 360 Idols, they always knew in their hearts, that the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم), was a man of utmost sincerity. They knew that his (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) judgment in any matter whatsoever, was honest and just!

Friends, instill the teachings of the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) in your lives. If the Islamic scholar you follow or the scholar that your friends follow, shows any symptoms of Ammanism or directly/indirectly promotes the Ammani ideology in anyway, in the false pretense of peace, you best stay away from him and even advise your friends and family to stay away from him and his teachings. No matter how pious he might seem outwardly or how huge, his following might be. Such scholars might seem to hold a lot of love and respect for the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) and the Sahaba e Karam (عنهم أجمعين رضي الله), but all they are really doing is praising your Prophet and your religion like they praise the dignitaries of all other religions! They might condemn the wrong ideologies like Salafism/Shiaism on your faces, but know that its is just for your satisfaction. They would do the same with Salafis/Shias and criticize your beliefs when they are talking in front of them just for their satisfaction. Such scholars will not help you become a better person, instead, because of the seed of their teachings that has been sowed into your heart, you will turn into an Ammani yourself eventually and become a victim of the trend and a slave to the will of the society! That would lead you to both disappointment in this life and eternal damnation in hereafter! This is not who Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) created us to be! Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) created us not to be victims of societal pressure, but victors, free of any bondage! We are supposed to stand out of the crowd and create our own trend, the trend of righteousness and morality, the trend of Sahih Imaan!

## CONCLUSION

Friends, we would like to conclude this article by urging you to stop trusting how the world makes things work and start trusting how Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) makes things work! Get yourself up, dust yourself off all the doubts you have about yourself. Proclaim that your Lord is your savior and in the name of the Prophet of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) he shall reward your courage to stand out from the crowd for the greater good and his help shall always be there for you no matter what!

If you are in agreement with following the path of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and not the path of the world, we have prepared a short, 4 point message called the "CAMS (Co-operation Among Muslim Sects) Message" " that guides you into doing just that! We sincerely urge everyone reading this article, irrespective of which sect they belong to, to go through this message at least once and try to get a grasp of how easy and uncomplicated the path of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) truly is!

Friends, put your utmost faith and trust in Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ)! The light is being shown at the end of the tunnel and its not too far to reach! Just make sure you hold on tightly to the rope of Sahih Imaan!

***Evil Period is over. Its time for Sahih Imaan now!***

***Ameen! Summa Ameen! Bi Rahmatika Ya Ar'Hamarrahimeen!***

