

ASK FATWA WEEKLY ADVICE

29th Rajab 1440

5th April 2019

FITNA

The word *Fitna* is generally translated as a test, trial, strife or sometimes as corruption. However, it is mentioned in the gigantic 45 Volume book *Al-Mawsoo'a-tul-Fiqh'heyya-tul-Kuwaitiyyah* that the word *Fitna* is derived from the following sentence:

فتنت الفضة والذهب اذا اذبتهما بالنار لتمييز الردى من الجيد (ص 18-ج 32)

The above sentence mentions that the Arabs would utilise the word *Fitna* whenever gold and silver was melted in fire in order to differentiate the useless elements from the good elements. Similarly, this *Ummah* will face many trials and tribulations which will be a means of distinguishing the real believers from the others. Nabi *Sallallahu alai wa sallam* has said:

"There shall come upon the people a time in which the one who is steadfast upon his religion will be like the one holding onto a burning ember."

[Chapters on Al-Fitan: Jami At-Tirmidhi]

We are definitely experiencing such times; therefore, we should not use the flimsy excuse that times have changed therefore we cannot practice on *Deen*, but rather we should endure even more in these times of *Fitan*.

Moreover, the end times of *Fitna* leading to the emergence of *Maseeh-ud-Dajjal* will be an era which will be very murky and many things will remain unclear. There will be more questions than answers and people will struggle to identify the truth from falsehood. For this reason, one of the meanings of *Dajal* is to conceal, as *Maseeh-ud-Dajjal* will cover the *Haq* (truth) with *Batil* (falsehood), whereby man will be deceived in following the *Batil*.

One of the tests which the *Ummah* is presently facing is the test of identity. Many Muslims are reacting to their emotions and engaging in certain actions which will gradually lead Muslims to believe that all religions are one and everlasting salvation lies in all *Adyaan*. Islam has a clear distinction, our belief is that success and salvation only lies in Islam. As Muslims we are taught to be kind to the creation of Allah Ta'ala, but this does not mean at the expense of losing our Islamic values and disobeying Allah Ta'ala and his Rasul *Sallallahu alai wa sallam*.

During the times of *Fitna* we should not be like a flock of sheep, whereby we do not carefully ponder over the final outcome and we do not revert back to the teachings of the Noble Qur'an and Ahadeeth as understood by the illustrious *Fuqaha* (Islamic Jurists). In these times we need to be extremely careful and we should consult with the *Ahlullillah* (the pious *Masha'ikh*) before we do anything as Allah Ta'ala has bestowed them with great foresight.

(اتقوا فِرَاسَةَ الْمُؤْمِنِ فَإِنَّهُ يَنْظُرُ بِنُورِ اللَّهِ) رواه البخارى فى التاريخ و الترمذى

We should not just believe in everything we see or hear from the Media, but we should utilise the *Aql* (intelligence) which Allah Ta'ala has bestowed us with. On many occasions we feel that the solution for a certain tribulation is such and such, however the pious slaves of Allah Ta'ala are aware that the solution is elsewhere.

Faqeehul Asr Hadhrat Mufti Rashid Ahmad Ludhyanwi *rahimahullah* mentions the following incident in his *Ahsanul Fatawa* (VL 8, pg. 308). In the year 1990, 30th September there was widespread killings, the properties of Muslims were burnt and women were being abused. Hadhrat *rahimahullah* mentions that on the 31st of October I had made *Istikhara* and went to sleep. In my dream a pious saint came to me, I asked him " Hadhrat! There is widespread killings of Muslims, their properties are being set alight and women are being abused, Muslims are distressed and troubled, please inform me of an action which will remove the distress of the Muslims!". The pious saint replied

کو ٹھوں پر سے چھتريوں اترادو

Remove the Umbrellas i.e. Antennas from the tops of the houses (the difficult conditions are due to the Haram which is taking place in the homes via the Television)

Therefore, in order for us to experience good conditions, we need to abandon all sin and adopt the sublime example of Hadhrat Nabi *Sallallahu alai wa sallam*. How will we be able to draw the help of Allah Ta'ala by conducting gatherings in which the Qur'anic laws of *Parda* are abandoned?

Allah Ta'ala says in the Holy Quran:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّى يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ

Trans: Allah (Ta'ala) will never change the condition of the people as long as they do not change what is within themselves. (30:11)

ظَهَرَ الْفَسَادُ فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ بِمَا كَسَبَتْ أَيْدِي النَّاسِ لِيُذِيقَهُمْ بَعْضَ الَّذِي عَمِلُوا
لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْجِعُونَ

Trans: *Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea by [reason of] what the hands of people have earned so He may let them taste part of [the consequence of] what they have done that perhaps they will return [to righteousness]. (30:41)*

If we continue to break the commandments of Allah Ta'ala than undoubtedly we are inviting the wrath of Allah Ta'ala. May Allah Ta'ala protect us all.

Importance of *Ibaadat* in the times of *Fitna*

The monumental masterpiece *Riyaadus Saleheen* of Imam Nawawi *rahimahullah* contains a chapter called:

باب فضل العبادة في الهرج و هو الاختلاط والفتن و نحوها

Imam Nawawi *rahimahullah* mentions under the above chapter the following Hadeeth:

عن معقل بن يسار رضى الله عنه قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه و سلم: العبادة
في الهرج كهجرة الى

(رواه مسلم)

Nabi Sallallahu alai wa sallam has said: Ibaadat during the times of Harj is like migrating towards me. (Saheeh Muslim)

Hadhrat Mufti Ahmad Khanpoori *damat barakatuhu* mentions that Allama Anwar Shah

Kashmiri *rahimahullah* translates *Harj* as گڑبڑ. This means that the tranquil nature

which was supposed to be in man no longer remains due to the problematic conditions and the appearance of new *Fitnas* (*Hadeeth Ke Islaahi Mazaameen: VL 12, Pg. 132*).

This Hadeeth clearly teaches us the great virtue of making *Ibadah* in the times of *Fitna*.

Hadhrat Mufti Ahmad Khanpoori *damat barakatuhu* mentions that when people come to him and mention their difficulties than he asks them whether they are completing their *Ma'moolaat* (*Azkaar*) or not. Hadhrat mentions that the general reply is that due to them drowning in their problems they are unable to complete their *Ma'moolaat*.

Hadhrat mentions that I reply by saying that the cure for your difficult condition is your *Ma'moolat*. He further says that this is similar to a person who is ill and is advised to take medication and he replies by saying "Maulana Sahib! What to do? The illness has become very severe, for this reason I have left the medication!" The obvious reply to

such a person will be that the medication should be increased if the sickness has become more severe. In the same way, we should increase in our spiritual medication by turning even more to Allah Ta'ala in difficult conditions.

We should also make the following *dua* in abundance:

اللَّهُمَّ ارْنَا الْحَقَّ حَقًّا وَ ارْزُقْنَا اتِّبَاعَهُ وَ ارْنَا الْبَاطِلَ بَاطِلًا وَ ارْزُقْنَا اجْتِنَابَهُ

Allahumma Arenal Haqqa Haqqa War Zuq'nat tibiaa'ahu Wa Arenal Baatila Baatila War Zuq'naj Tinaabahu

O Allah Ta'ala show us the truth as the truth and make us follow it, and O Allah Ta'ala show us the falsehood as falsehood and grant us the ability to avoid it.

May Allah Ta'ala grant us all correct understanding and practice,

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2/36 Stoddard Road, Mt Roskill, Auckland 1041, New Zealand

P: +64 9 390 5759 | M: +64 22 3548741 | W: www.aucklandislamictrust.co.nz | E: info@aucklandislamictrust.co.nz