
Ask Fatwa Weekly Advice

6th Rajab, 1440

13th March, 2019

SIMPLICITY

Nabi *Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam* has said:

ان البذاذة من الايمان

(ابو داود)

Verily, simplicity is from Iman

Islam teaches and encourages us to maintain simplicity in all our affairs. The life of Nabi (*sallallahu alaihi wasallam*) and the Sahabah (*radhiallahu anhum*) were based on simplicity. Not only did they observe simplicity in eating, but in all their affairs whether it was their conveyances, clothing, marriages or houses. Nabi (*sallallahu alaihi wasallam*) is reported to have said that verily simplicity is part of Imaan. On the other hand, we have been warned to abstain from extravagance. Our focus should always be on the supreme example laid down for us by Nabi (*sallallahu alaihi wasallam*) and the Sahabah (*radhiallahu anhum*).

This is a quality which has a direct effect on the Mizaaj of a person. When a person inclines towards luxury than ones Jubba becomes fashionable, one's lifestyle becomes luxurious. Furthermore, the Alim searches for other avenues (to acquire wealth) such as going to the Universities. The reason for this unfortunate situation is that the simple Zaahidana (ascetic) life of the Akabereen becomes distasteful, and the life of luxury becomes enticing. The end result of this is that the Alim disappears in the public and there remains no sign of Deen on such a person.

Simplicity also effects the spreading of Deen, when one is bereft of simplicity than one brings “professionalism” into ones Deeni activities. One is structure in one’s activities, this is necessary. However, when we try to mimic the way of others, wherein our programs need to match the conferences of others, then this is the start of our downfall.

Simplicity in Dress

We should adopt a simple Islamic dress. Faqeehul Ummat Hazrat Mufti Mahmood Sahib (*Rahmatullahi Alaihi*) writes, “That apparel which is proven from the Sunnat is definitely a *Shari’ Libaas* and that which is not mentioned in the Sunnat but the righteous people have made it a practice to wear and it is not a characteristic of the sinners will also be considered as a *Shari’ Libaas*”. (***Fataawa Mahmoodiyah vol. 19 Pg: 255***). Therefore, we should adopt the Islamic dress of our Akabereen (pious predecessors/Mashaikh). We will notice that generally the dress of our elders was a white Kurta with white pants. Furthermore, their topee or Imamah was simple and was not one of fashion. This dress should become our normal attire and not only specified to the Masjid, Madrasah or Islamic programs.

Simplicity in weddings

In a Hadith of Bayhaqi mentioned in Mishkaat vol.2 p.268 we learn that Rasulullah *sallallahu alaihi wa sallam* said, “The Nikah with the greatest amount of blessings is that which incurs the least expenditure.” Simplicity is a part of Imaan and we are required to practice on this quality at the time of Nikah as well.

Besides the *Israaf* (waste and unnecessary expenditure) which take place in Walimas, the other common (non-Sunnah) wedding ceremony functions wherein exorbitant amounts of money are spent in inviting large numbers of people (men and women) is not proven in Shar’iah.

Certain acts and practices that have become common and prevalent over the years do not necessarily mean that they are permissible in the Shari’ah.

The formalities which generally take place at such wedding receptions lead to a great deal of wastage and extravagance, furthermore, usually such functions transgress the bounds of Shari’ah in other matters as well, such as the intermingling of the genders which takes place and the evil of photography etc.

Undoubtedly there is much harm in perpetrating acts that are contrary to the dictates of Shariat. It is the responsibility of the Alim-e-Deen to speak openly against these heinous crimes. An Alim-e-Deen should never ever think of attending such gatherings, even though the invitation may be from ones family or friends. This is another occasion wherein one utilises the baseless “Hikmah” card and gives preference to the creation over the creator! Nabi Salallahu alai wa sallam has said:

لا طاعة في معصية الله انما الطاعة في المعروف

صحيح البخاري ج 2 ص 1078

*There is no obedience in the disobedience of Allah Ta'ala, obedience is only in good.
(Saheeh Bukhari)*

Simplicity in Tabligh

The manner in which we spread Islam should also conform to the Sunnah, the Sunnah is the most simplest of ways together with definitely being the most effective way! We can see how Allah Ta'ala has accepted the effort of Dawaat & Tabligh and how it has spread across the four corners of the globe. This *Tahreek* has been (and *inshallah* continues to be) extremely beneficial despite its method of propagation being very simple. Hadhrat Faqeehul Ummat Mufti Mahmood Hasan Gangohi *rahimahullah* has stated that if Deen is spread according to the Sunnah than the help of Allah Ta'ala will be with such a people, on the other hand, if the means is permissible, however it is not according to the Sunnah, than such people will be devoid of the help of Allah Ta'ala. There is no need to imitate an alien way in order to propagate the Deen when we have the sublime example of Nabi *Sallallahu alai wa sallam* in front of us. The first classroom of Islam was the dark cave of Hira, such a simple and humble beginning of revelation is a great example for us.

Together with this, we need to inculcate simplicity in our homes, food and gatherings as well.

The method of our Akabereen was to keep all matters simple, there was no extravagance in their Masajid and Madaris.