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First Edition March. 1998

الطبعة الأولى ذي القعدة ١٤١٨ هـ

Supervised by:
ABDUL MALIK MUJAHID

Published by:

DARUSSALAM
Publishers & Distributors

P.O.Box 22743, Riyadh 11416 K.S.A

Tel: (00 966 1) 4033962

Fax: (00 966 1) 4021659

دار السلام

للنشر والتوزيع

ص.ب: ٢٢٧٤٣ - الرياض ١١٤١٦

ت ٤٠٣٩٦٢ (٠٠ ٩٦٦ ١) فاكس ٤٠٢١٦٥٩

المملكة العربية السعودية

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الدعوة في ضوء القرآن والسنة

DA'WAH

**ACCORDING TO
THE QUR'ÂN AND
THE SUNNAH**

By

Dr. Norlain Dindang Mababaya



Published by

DARUSSALAM
Publishers & Distributors
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



*In the Name of Allâh, Most Gracious,
Most Merciful*

THIS IS FOR YOU, O ALLÂH

*“Truly my prayer and my service
of sacrifice, my life and my death, are
(all) for Allâh, the Rabb (Only God,
Cherisher and Sustainer)
of the Worlds.” (6:162)*

*“Our Rabb! Accept (this service) from
us. Verily, You are the All-Hearing,
the All-knowing.” (2:127)*

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A Note from the Publisher

We Muslims are happy with Islam as our religion, with Muhammad ﷺ as our Prophet and with Allâh as our Lord. We believe in the Truth which is a source of contentment and success.

It is incumbent upon everyone to propagate the knowledge he possesses and spread the philosophies and principles he has found reasonable, rational and beneficial, so that all the human beings may adopt it for their good.

The same act of inviting others to the Truth has been enjoined upon the Muslims so that the whole mankind may become aware of all the goodness Islam offers for this life and the life afterwards.

Now, it becomes the responsibility of the inviters to represent the Divine Message in such a favourable and acceptable manner that every recipient gets attracted to it.

In this regard, Dr. Norlain Dindang Mababaya has written this book to point out the characters and manners of the callers to Islam, so that the persons who are engaged in the preaching of Islam, may observe themselves about any shortcoming in their conduct, and mend the ways accordingly.

It is needless to say that such a book was long awaited because literature on this topic was scarcely available before.

I hope that all the concerned people will get benefited from this book which is a contribution from the Author towards the propagation of Islam.

May Allâh accept her efforts in this regard.

Abdul Malik Mujahid

General Manager, Darussalam

Preface

All praise be to Allâh, the *Rabb* (the Only God, Cherisher and Sustainer) of the Worlds. May the peace and blessings of Allâh be upon our Prophet, Muhammad ﷺ, upon his followers and companions and upon all who follow his *Sunnah* until the Day of Judgment.

Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful has blessed all mankind with the perfect and complete religion and the best way of life, Islâm. He has sent down His Qur'ân as His Book of Divine Guidance and has chosen Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as His Messenger and the best example to all humanity. Both the Qur'ân and the *Sunnah* (the Traditions and Practices, which include the *Ahâdîth* or teachings and sayings of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ) constitute Allâh's mercy to all people of the world. The Muslims who sincerely adhere to the Qur'ân and the *Sunnah* are on the Right Path. Allâh assures them of success especially in the eternal Paradise. However, those who disbelieve, those who make *Bid'ah* (innovation or fabrication) in the Religion are doomed to suffer in the Hell-Fire, if Allâh will not forgive them.

It is part of Allâh's mercy that He enjoins us Muslims to invite all to Islâm. We, the *Du'ât* (those who invite or call people to Islâm), must excel in our noble task. We have to do *Da'wah* sincerely for the pleasure of Allâh. We can only succeed and earn Allâh's reward if we do it based on the Qur'ân and *Sunnah*. The reason is plain and simple: what we are going to convey is Islâm, the divine Message that is complete and perfect. It is the divine guidance to all mankind that applies to all people, in all generations, and at all times. It guides us how to develop our character as *Du'ât* that makes us closer to Allâh and subsequently earn His Pleasure. It teaches us how to do *Da'wah* with *Hikmah* (wisdom) and beautiful preaching in the most humane, professional and diplomatic approach possible that opens the minds and hearts of the non-practicing Muslims and the non-Muslims who sincerely seek for the Truth.

Acknowledgments

I thank Allâh for making this work possible through the support, trust and opportunity extended to me by many *Da'wah* Institutions and by wonderful fellow Muslims. I am sincerely grateful to the following *Da'wah* Institutions in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: the Islâmic Propagation Center in Dammam for inviting me to give a lecture on Islâm to a group of Muslim and non-Muslim women from different countries in December, 1989; the Daar Adh-Dhikr Department of *Da'wah* and Islâmic Education for Non-Arabic Speaking Women in Riyadh for giving me the opportunity to do *Da'wah* since 1992 to the present; the World Assembly of Muslim Youth (WAMY) Women's Branch in Riyadh for their trust and confidence and allowing me to teach the Short-Term Course in Islâmic Studies for Women in 1996 and to organize the lecture series on Islâm for women from various countries working in the Kingdom; the Cooperative Office for Call and Guidance at Albadiyah; the Umm Salamah Support Group, an Affiliate of the WAMY Women's Branch as well as the Religious Affairs Committee of the various Hospitals in Riyadh (namely: the Dallah Hospital, the Children Maternity Hospital, and the Riyadh Central Hospital) for inviting me to give lectures on Islâm; and the Ministry of Defense Religious Department, Community Office for Call and Guidance for assigning me and sister Mariam Nasser to plan, organize and conduct the International Women Lecture Series on Islâm since January 1997 to the present. The lectures on Islâm have given me the opportunity to do more research and write articles about Islâm. All in all, my lectures and *Da'wah* experiences with various women from different countries in the Kingdom have helped me organize this work.

Special acknowledgment goes to the International Council for Islâmic Information (ICII), United Kingdom, for electing me and my husband as members of its Board of Trustees. The ICII's plan to organize the "*Training the Trainers' Course for Du'ât*"

in Australia in July 1997 has encouraged me to improve the article and lecture on "*Da'wah According to the Qur'ân and the Sunnah*", which I presented during the Second International Women Lecture Series on Islâm in May 1997, held at the Ministry of Defense Religious Department, Community Office for Call and Guidance Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. I submitted the first draft of this book to the ICII Director, for distribution to the participants during the Training Course in Australia. I hope that this book in its final form will benefit all Muslims who are doing *Da'wah* (the noble work of inviting people to Islâm) for the sole pleasure of Allâh.

Special thanks also to my sisters in Islâm: Rasheedah Muslim and Saleha Khan for sparing their precious time and efforts in proofreading this work. Their very intelligent and inspiring comments helped a lot in improving this book.

Likewise, I am grateful to the following sisters in Islâm from various countries: Mariam Nasser, Iman Lapuz, Jemila Saleh, Dr. Jamila Mantawil, Dr. Samia Benito, Normila Sultan, Ameena Arceo, Mariam Velasco, Zainab Lucero, (all from Philippines), Faten Muhaseb (Egypt), Maten Mateo, Sabah Ahmad, Amatullah Mo'omin (India), Prof. Rohany Nayan (Malaysia), Sadaf Zaen, Shaghuftha Ammer, Kishwar Parveen, Dra. Tanjum Abdul Latif Abdul Jabar (Pakistan), Atty. Shaikah Bint Silva (Brazil), Nasreen Jhuboo (Mauritius), Adama Bangura (Seirra Leone), Dr. Fatimah Bayouk (Palestine), Dr. Shahadia Sheikh, Zainab and Laila Tarjuman, Norah Al Obeikan, Luluh Ali Alkhalaf, (Saudi Arabia), 'Âishah Ghazzy, Alia Abdur Rahman, Zainab Ubaidullah, Umm Muhammad, 'Âishah Mosher (United States of America), Dr. Anis Mathew (UK), most especially to Sister Arwa Ghalayine (Syria) and Sister Rasheedah Muslim (USA) for their kind words of encouragement.

Very special thanks to my parents and relatives for their sincere prayers; and above all, to my husband, Mamarinta Omar Mababaya, for his priceless support in many ways. I pray to

Allâh that our children: Abdur Rahman, Ahmad and Mariam will always remain on the path of Islâm. I pray that when they grow up, *Insha Allâh*, they will spend their lives for the Cause of Allâh, particularly to continue our sincere efforts of conveying Islâm to others.

I would like to express my thanks also to the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its people for providing the Islâmîc environment, which is very conducive to writing. To all my Qur'ân, Arabic and Islâmîc Studies teachers, the Publishers of this book, and all those who in one way or the other have contributed in making this work a reality, my sincere thanks and gratitude.

This work, just like my other published books, articles and other undertakings, is done purely for the pleasure of Allâh. May Allâh accept it and bless it as a source of information and guidance to all *Du'ât* as well as those who intend to do the noble task of inviting others to the Truth. I pray to Allâh to reward the workers in all the above mentioned *Da'wah* institutions, fellow Muslims, my parents, family and myself the ultimate and eternal success in Paradise without being held in account. May He guide many Muslims to be successful *Du'ât* according to the Qur'ân and the *Sunnah*. Indeed, it is only through the Qur'ân and the *Sunnah* that we can best serve the whole humanity. It is only through strict adherence to these divine scriptures that we can please Allâh and thus, attain ultimate success both in this world and in the Life Hereafter. Verily, true guidance comes from Him Alone. May He guide us all to Islâm — to enter into Islâm wholeheartedly. May we live and die for Allâh. Ameen.

N. D. Mababaya
November 3, 1997 (Rajab 3, 1418)
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

DA'WAH: ITS RATIONALE AND BENEFITS

Islâm is the perfect and complete religion for all mankind (5:3). Truly, it is the religion before Allâh (3:19) — the only religion acceptable to Him (3:85). It is the right religion, but most men do not know it (12:40; 30:30). Allâh, by His Grace, has guided the believers to the truth (2:213).

Indeed, we, Muslims, are very fortunate that Allâh has guided us to the right path. It is imperative that we should do *Da'wah* (call or invite people to Islâm) as a way to show our gratitude to Allâh for guiding us to Islâm. We should do *Da'wah* purely for Allâh's pleasure for the following reasons:

First, to do *Da'wah* is a divine commandment from Allâh, the Creator (2:21). Allâh enjoins the Muslim believers to invite all mankind to Islâm. He commands:

﴿ادْعُ إِلَى سَبِيلِ رَبِّكَ بِالْحُكْمِ وَالْمَوْعِظَةِ الْحَسَنَةِ وَجَدِ لَهُم بِآلَتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ إِنَّ رَبَّكَ هُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِمَنْ ضَلَّ عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ بِالْمُنْهَكِينَ﴾ [النحل: ١٢٥]

“Invite (all) to the Way of your *Rabb*¹ (Only God, Cherisher and Sustainer) with wisdom and beautiful

¹ Note: I retain the original Arabic word “*Rabb*” to mean “the Only God, Cherisher and Sustainer” because the word “Lord” has human connotations. Christians not only use the term “Lord” to refer to Jesus Christ but also to other human beings. It refers to “a person having great power and authority; ruler and master.” In Great Britain “Lord” refers to: “a) a nobleman holding the rank of baron, viscount, earl, or marquis, member of the House of Lords; (and) b) a man who by courtesy or because of his office is given the title of Lord, as a bishop, the son of a duke, or a lord mayor.” This is to avoid associating partners with Allâh. Verily, Allâh the Creator of all (2:29, 117; 6:73) and the Only God, Cherisher and Sustainer of the Worlds (1:2; 39:75) has no partner (6:163). There is nothing whatever like unto Him (42:12). Allâh is the One, the Eternal, Absolute; He begets not, nor is He begotten; and there is none like unto Him (112:1-4).