Seeds of Righteousness Tools for Muslim Women

to Spread Islam

Abdul Malik Bin Muhammad Ibn Abdur-Rahman Al-Qasim

> Translated by Jalal Abualrub

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بيران اخ الحفان

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

"And march forth in the way (which leads to) forgiveness from your Lord, and for Paradise as wide as the heavens and the earth, prepared for Al-Muttaqûn (the pious)." (3:133)

Introduction and as Introduction

All thanks are to Allâh, Who said, "And march forth in the way (which leads to) forgiveness from your Lord, and for Paradise as wide as the heavens and the earth, prepared for *Al-Muttaqûn* (the pious)," (3:133) and may Allâh's peace and blessings be on the most honorable Prophet and Messenger, who perfectly conveyed the Message, and performed *Jihâd* in Allâh's Cause as *Jihâd* should be performed.

Da'wah (calling mankind to Allâh) is one of the most significant duties obliged on Muslims. Da'wah to Allâh ensures ultimate success and religious benefit for individuals, as well as, the society at large. Since the job of Da'wah is also obliged on Muslim women, they (from the earliest times of Islam) called to Allâh's religion and played a major role in spreading Islam among mankind. The Muslim women's role in Da'wah was made all the more significant by their role as the mothers of young Muslim generations, who would rear future Muslim heroes, men and women. Hence, Muslim women had (and still have to some extent) a good share in the Da'wah to all that is good and righteous contained in Allâh's religion. Furthermore, and through the efforts of Muslim mothers and sisters, the sun of hope has risen on the Muslim Ummah (Nation) and its dawn of might kept overcoming the horizon.

In this book, we collected a hundred and seventy-six Seeds of Righteousness, green and fruitful, for Muslim women to sow and reap. These Seeds were sown by Muslim sisters who took care of them until they grew to produce various fruits and benefits. These are also good examples of

Da'wah to Allâh that should be practiced by Muslim women, who strive hard to acquire safety on their path to the Hereafter. This book should encourage them to work hard and revitalize their energy, since the subjects touched on by this book are many, we collected them in a summarized form to make it easy for our sisters to remember and practice them.

This is a modest attempt on our part to collect various ways and means of goodness for Muslim women; there are many other ways, which we did not mention. We should assert that there are hindrances on the path to planting and collecting the harvest of these Seeds of Righteousness, but they are hindrances that only make movement harder, not stop it altogether. Trying to overcome the hindrances on the path to Allâh carries good rewards and benefits from Him. Therefore, Dear Muslim Sister, discard the robe of laziness, trust, and rely on Allâh and fill your coming days with firmness and endurance. Indeed, you have many Seeds of the Hereafter to sow and collect their harvest, so let Allâh see only good deeds ascending to Him from you. We ask Allâh to grant us all the most righteous and sincere good deeds and award us the best and most perfect compensation from Him. May Allâh shelter us all in the shade of Paradise and forbid our faces for the Fire, so that we dwell in the Garden of Eden, beneath which rivers flow.

Abdul Malik bin Muhammad Ibn Abdur Rahman Al-Qasim

Seed of the School Year

* Whoever looks to the right and left will be amazed at the condition of the Muslim world, seeing only wounds everywhere and widespread pain and grief. Faced with this sad reality, many among us wish they could help the needy, teach the illiterate, support the widow and take care of the orphan. These will remain but wishes and hopes, until they become a reality in action and deed for those who keep asking themselves what they should do. Therefore, for those who wish they could help, but wonder how, we offer this modest step on the path of striving hard and doing the best one can do.

This is a project for Da'wah that could be implemented at the end of every school year: collecting unused pages of notebooks and binding them together using thick covers, remaking them into new notebooks to use for the next school year. Four thousand five hundred (4500) new notebooks were made using this simple project in just one school in the Dammam area, in only one school year! The expenses to accomplish this beneficial endeavor were minimal; just one stapler and labels placed on the outer cover of each notebook, where the student could write the name of his school, his name and grade, needed. Also strong paper was used as covers for these notebooks. which later on shipped to needy Muslim students through a charity organization. We call this project, 'Notebooks for Students of Knowledge,' and aim to save Muslim wealth (the aim was to save Muslim wealth by blank papers) from waste and being thrown in garbage cans. We can also collect other school items that were not completely used, such as pencils and rulers, and start another good project to benefit needy Muslim students. We should not forget that whenever a Muslim starts a good *Sunnah*, established by Islam, and spreads it between Muslims, then he or she will gain a reward similar to that earned by all those who practice this *Sunnah*, without decreasing their own reward.

Dear Sister, extend your hand and help in this yearly project that takes only a few days of work, but Allâh willing, will have a good share in the effort of spreading knowledge between Muslims. Only a few precious days are needed to accomplish a good action, so do not waste this time in wishing and wondering how you could help other Muslims!

A Shining Seed

* Eleven years ago, there was an unforgettable night during which we talked about wastefulness in our life, which is noticeable and rampant in our society. We waste Bounties and Favors from Allâh that we care little about. During that night, we, the three women present at the time, discussed the wound that bleeds Muslim wealth, that is, wastefulness. We decided that we should play our role to help and support our mighty religion any way we could, starting with helping putting an end to wastefulness. Another sister and I decided to implement this wish and hope, while the third sat idle.

We started collecting small amounts of money every month that made little change in our income, and paid it to a charity organization. Over a period of time, many other sisters, friends, neighbors and relatives started saving money monthly like us, and the amount collected became significant. We also started buying books on the correct Islamic creed, and other major books on various subjects in the religion, and shipping them to various parts of the world. We continued this project for the past eleven years and helped spread the correct creed and true Islamic knowledge to all parts of the world. On monthly average, we were sending around two hundred small parcels and fifty large parcels containing major references of Islamic knowledge.

Even though we expanded our effort through the years, we still had excess amounts of money that we spent on other goodly projects through reliable charity organizations. This project started with a little amount of money saved by two people, but expanded to reap this fertile harvest. Using the money we collected, we also helped dig nineteen wells, built five Mosques and shipped thousands of Islamic books. We also sent financial assistance to many of our Muslims brothers and sisters in Somalia, Bosnia and other areas of the world. A small project that Allâh blessed became a major charity establishment.

A Blessed Seed

* She is only seventeen, youthful and full of life, frequently thinking about the role she could play in spreading the Da'wah of Islam. She is eager to defend her Ummah and raise high the flag of Islam, as much as she can. She attends Islamic lectures frequently and is very active in memorizing the Qur'ân by heart. She gives good advice to her sisters in Islam, encourages them to read and learn the Qur'ân when she meets them at the school's mosque and forbids evil whenever she confronts it using the best methods. Her good efforts and sincere advice also reach her teachers. She is truly a good worshipper of Allâh.

One day, she realized that the school principal was not wearing socks and she was concerned because of the effect this might have on the students. She went to the principal and greeted her politely. She praised her efforts in managing the school and said to her, "We ask Allâh for you when you are not present with us, for you are our example at school who advises and leads us. I would like to tell you that I realized that you did not wear socks today and you know that a woman's feet are not to be shown to men. You pass by men whenever you go in or out of the school." The principal lowered her head and knew that what the young student was telling her was true. The principal accepted her advice with a good heart and thanked her for it, saying to herself that truthful words have am amazing effect on the heart. The student became very happy when the principal accepted the call of Allâh and His Messenger and thanked and praised Allâh for succeeding in convincing her. Of course, she studies in girl's school.

- * She thought of a righteous action that she wanted fulfilled and was unsure to whom she should talk to about it. She said to her Islamic Studies teacher, "Dear teacher, there are workers who serve the school, so where can they receive their share of learning the Qur'ân and attending religious lectures? Let us start teaching them." She and her teacher agreed that they should teach the workers some short Surah (chapters) from the Qur'ân and invite them to attend Islamic lectures held at the school. They appointed a knowledgeable sister at school to take care of the mission of Da'wah among the school workers. They said to her that there are workers who take care of the school and who are just like their mothers; they need to be taken care of and taught.
- * She is a blessed girl wherever she goes and in whatever good action she participates.

The Seed of Friendship

- * Friendship has an amazing and lasting effect on people. When she died, her friend started invoking Allâh frequently to grant His Mercy and Forgiveness on her.
- * We were three relatives who started to firmly adhere by the religion when we were attending girl's college together. We were bonded by our relation to each other, being fellow students and loving each other for Allâh's Sake. We started collecting a little amount of money from the stipend we used to get from the college and bought Islamic books and tapes with the money. Even though the amounts we collected were not substantial, Allâh blessed that money and we were able to give books as gift to our relatives and friends. Some of our female relatives also donated money, and we had no difficulty buying whatever books and tapes we wanted to use for charity purposes.
- * She worships Allâh frequently and makes sure to perform voluntary acts of worship often. She advises her fellow students at her girl's high school and encourages them to worship and obey Allâh. She tells them, "Let us pray. If we do not pray now, when will we pray, when we are old and standing, bowing and prostrations become hard for us? We are in the time of our life when we have youth and energy. Let us work hard and use our vitality in acts of obedience before death strikes us or we become ill and feeble. Let us work before our responsibilities increase and we become wives and mothers."
- * Three friends in girls college agreed to start learning the entire Qur'ân by heart and would get in touch with each other every night to review what they had learned that day. During the weekend, they would read what they memorized to each other, starting in the beginning or the

middle of the *Surah* so that they could be sure of the correctness of their memory. This good method helped these three Muslim girls learn *Surat Al-Baqarah* in only one and a half month.

* She passes on that road for around fifteen minutes every day on her way to and from the girl's college, so she decided to use that time to read beneficial books and revise what she has memorized the Book of Allâh (the Qur'ân). Many girls have passed on that road over the years, yet few of them gained the benefit that this girl has gained.

Seed of the Granddaughter

* There are many schools containing good teachers who strive hard to fulfill their duty regarding Da'wah to Allâh. She was appointed a teacher, and was sent to a school full of teachers who had succumbed to sleep! There were no Islamic lectures at school or active Da'wah activities. She began to draw close to her fellow teachers saying that starting with Da'wah with the teachers is more beneficial than with the students, since the teachers are responsible for teaching the students and conveying the Message to them.

She started her good effort of waking them up by first giving them gifts of books, tapes and other gifts. In a short time, the school became active and a center for *Da'wah* among its staff and students. One of the teachers thanked Allâh and remembered how she wasted five full years standing before her students, without calling them to Allâh or trying to rear them on the better Islamic ideals. She acknowledged that what she did was heedlessness that she will be asked about on the Day of Reckoning.

- * The teacher talked about the harmful effects of immorality and sin that are rampant in disbelieving countries and asked Allâh sincerely to never let her enter or visit those countries. Even before she finished her speech, one of her students said, "Unless we enter it as an invading army!" Yes, indeed, we ask Allâh to bless your words and make you and your children among that invading Muslim army.
- * She works hard for her Hereafter, attending Islamic lectures, giving sincere advice to her sisters and engaging in every act of righteousness, as much as she can. At the end of every month, one of her fellow teachers came to know, she sends her entire salary to a charity organization. She pays all of her salary to the orphans, to support