

Al Binnory

البنوري

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Named after the famous Scholar, Muhaddithul 'Asr, Shaykh Muhammad Yusuf Al Binnory رحمه الله - demise 1977

Don't just believe whatever you read!

These were the words of wisdom of the great Shaykh 'Abdullah Sirajuddin رحمه الله, the senior Teacher of the Honourable Shaykh, Al-Muhaddith Muhammad 'Awwamah (may Allah protect him).

He offered this advice to Shaykh 'Awwamah in his early days of study, after he approached his Teacher to clarify a dodgy incident about Imam Bukhari رحمه الله which he had just read the night before.

Shaykh 'Awwamah states: 'While he (Shaykh 'Abdullah) was teaching us the famous book in Hanafi Fiqh; Al-Ikhtiyar in the fifth year, I attended his (Shaykh 'Abdullah's) lesson one day; after reading a strange incident about Imam Bukhari رحمه الله that great unique Imam who had served Islam so faithfully. According to this narrative, Imam Bukhari was asked about an infant boy and girl who were fed the milk of the same goat. Can they marry each other? The narrative claimed that Imam Bukhari رحمه الله said that they will not be able to do so (due to them being foster siblings). So the 'Ulama of the town had banished him due to his extreme ignorance!

When I quoted this to Shaykh 'Abdullah رحمه الله, he addressed me with complete dignity and wisdom, calmly saying: "Don't believe everything you read."

Shaykh Muhammad 'Awwamah elaborates: 'By Allah, this statement served as an enormous lesson for me, a module for me to follow. It was an entire code of conduct that he summarised in one sentence! I heard it from him fifty years ago which I now quote for others to benefit.' (Golden Guidelines)

Lessons for us

The first lesson here is that whenever we encounter information that is questionable, or which seems odd to us, we should immediately refer it to the senior knowledgeable people that we have access to.

Unfortunately, in our era, people hardly ever bother to verify the

information they receive or pass on. This has fatal consequences. We shouldn't be so naive as to accept everything that is thrown at us, **unless the sender is a reliable authority** in the field that pertains to that piece of information...

We most definitely need to check the status of whatever we are reading, be that in a book, on a screen or on social media.

The Social Media Pitfall

Social media has undoubtedly put a world of information literally at people's fingertips. In addition to its benefits, **mass-misinformation** is just one of its many pitfalls. Many of us are gullible, and believe whatever we read. That is exactly the opposite of the purpose of this article! Some of us merely see the sender, and suffice with that. As if to mean that the one who sent it is the original source! The sender probably also thought the same when he/she received it...

The 'Copy and Paste' trend

It's no secret that people 'copy and paste' all the time without quoting their original source. This is wrong in itself. Just one evil outcome of this 'copy and paste' trend is that by the time it reaches the third or fourth hand, the original source is forgotten, thus removing real credibility from that statement. That is if the source is really credible. But how would we know that? Many messages that we receive could just be some bogus drivel...

Therefore, we are cautioned: **Do not believe everything you read!!**

That really seems difficult in our era, especially since many are in the habit of having conviction on whatever is thrown at them! May Allah Ta'ala grant us the true realisation of the above. Amin.

Shaykh Binnory رحمه الله in the eyes of Senior Scholars:

Among the signs of divine acceptance, is that Allah Ta'ala places love for an individual in the hearts [and tongues] of his fellow pious contemporaries and the generations that follow.

'Allamah Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory رحمه الله was a world renowned Scholar. His high academic rank was approved by one and all.

For our own inspiration, hereunder are a few quotations from the 'Ulama of his era – outside the Indo Pak subcontinent- who had acknowledged his excellence. Each of these were luminaries par excellence.

1. 'Allamah Kawthari رحمه الله :

Shaykh Binnory رحمه الله had a close and lengthy relationship with the Grand Hanafi Scholar, 'Allamah Muhammad Zahid Al-Kawthari رحمه الله. They had exchanged several letters over many years.

'Allamah Binnory رحمه الله was actually the student of **Shaykh Kawthari رحمه الله**. Despite this, 'Allamah Kawthari رحمه الله held Shaykh Binnory in high regard addressing him with words such as: **Mujahid** in the path of Allah Ta'ala, **Muhaqqiq** (researcher), 'Allamah (Great Scholar), unique **Muhaddith** (Hadith Master), **Genius** of the time, the coolness of the Scholar's eyes, may Allah keep you alive for the service of knowledge and the benefit of the ummah etc.

A few months before passing away, 'Allamah Kawthari رحمه الله ended his last letter to Moulana Binnory with the following words: **'Every beginning has its end** [referring to his own life coming to an end, thus the end of their long relationship in this temporary abode]. **May my soul be with you, I make du'a that all good accompany you, Wassalam...**

This collection of letters have recently been published. The many words of praise and heaps of du'as that 'Allamah Kawthari رحمه الله had for Shaykh Binnory رحمه الله are too many to be quoted in this brief article.

2. Shaykh 'Abdul Halim Mahmud رحمه الله -The rector of Al Azhar University at that time:

'I was fortunate to meet my honourable brother, Shaykh Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory. In Egypt we view him as a high ranking senior 'Alim of the Muslim world, and as a Muhaddith (Hadith Master) in an era when there are so few Hadith Masters.'

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Hadith Questions and Answers

Q. Is the following Hadith authentic?

Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) informed us that whenever people become unjust in their commercial transactions, and refuse to pay Zakah, they will be afflicted with drought.

A. Sayyiduna 'Abdullah ibn 'Umar (radiyallahu 'anhuma) reports that Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) said: "...[Whenever a nation] lessens weights and measures [i.e. be deceitful in business transactions as you have stated], they will be afflicted with famine, price hikes and an oppressive leader. When they refuse to pay Zakah, they will be deprived of rain. Were it not for the animals, it will not rain [at all]..."

(Mustadrak Hakim, vol. 4 pg. 540. Declared Authentic by Imam Hakim and 'Allamah Dhahabi concurs. Also see Sunan Ibn Majah, Hadith: 4019 and Targhib, vol. 1 pg. 546/544 for similar narrations)

Q. Sayyiduna Abu Bakr (radiyallahu 'anhu) brought all of his wealth to Nabi (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam). Nabi (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) asked him, "What have you kept for your family?" he replied, "I have kept Allah and His Rasul"

What is the authenticity of this?

A. This Hadith has been declared authentic by Imam Tirmidhi and Imam Hakim (rahimahumallah). Hafiz Dhahabi concurs.

The full narration is as follows. Sayyiduna 'Umar ibn Al Khattab (radiyallahu 'anhu) reports:

Nabi (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) commanded us to give sadaqah. It so happened that at that time I had some wealth. I said to myself, 'Today, I have an opportunity to surpass Abu Bakr', so I brought half of my wealth. Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) asked: 'What have you left for your family?' I replied: 'The like of what I have brought'. Sayyiduna Abu Bakr (radiyallahu 'anhu) then came with his wealth. Nabi (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) asked him, 'What have you left for your family?' He replied: 'I have left Allah and his Messenger for them (i.e., Sayyiduna Abu Bakr -radiyallahu 'anhu- had brought all of his wealth). Sayyiduna 'Umar (radiyallahu 'anhu) said, 'I will never be able to surpass Abu Bakr ever'.

(Sunan Tirmidhi, Hadith: 3675, Sunan Abi Dawud, Hadith: 1675 and Mustadrak Hakim, vol. 1 pg. 414)

Q. Is there an authentic Hadith in Abu Dawud which states:

A sign of the hour will be people claiming to follow Quran but reject Hadith and Sunnah.

A. You are probably looking for the following Hadith:

Sayyiduna Al-Miqdam Ibn Ma'dy Karib (radiyallahu 'anhu) reports that Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) said:

'Soon a time will come when a man sitting on his couch will be made aware of my Hadith, to which he will respond: 'we have the Quran with us. Whatever we find [only] therein as halal we will consider halal, and we will consider haram what we find as haram in the Quran [only].

After this, Nabi (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) said: 'Whatever the messenger of Allah declares haram is same as what Allah declares as such.'

(Sunan Tirmidhi, Hadith: 2664 and Sunan Abi Dawud, Hadith: 4595)

Imam Tirmidhi (rahimahullah) has declared this Hadith as sound (hasan gharib).

Imam Bayhaqi (rahimahullah) has graded it as authentic (sahih). (Al-Madkhal, Hadith: 138)

This Hadith serves as a warning against the Hadith rejectors.

Q. Is the following authentic?

"When a woman is pregnant, she deserves the reward of a fasting person who is steadfast, humble and obedient and is fighting in the path of Allah. When she experiences labour pains, none knows how [huge] her reward is and when she gives birth, for every push she gets the reward of freeing a slave"

A. This has been transmitted with an extremely weak chain. Imam Ibn 'Adi (rahimahullah) has declared this Hadith extremely weak (munkar). Hafiz 'Ibn 'Arq (rahimahullah) states that he has no doubt that this Hadith is a fabrication.

This statement should therefore not be quoted.

(Tanzihush Shari'ah, vol. 2 pg. 211. Also see Kitabul Majruhin Minal Muhaddithin of Imam Ibn Hibban, vol. 1 pg. 288 and Al Fawaidul Majmu'ah, pg.114/115)

And Allah Ta'ala Knows best.

You may ask your Hadith Question on HadithAnswers.com

Refer Fiqh queries to a reliable Mufti or Darul Ifta.

Announcements

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No Sahabi ever forged a Hadith!

- Q. 1. Is it ever possible, that maybe certain Sahabah  forged Hadiths?
2. Someone recently accused Sayyiduna Mu'awiyah  to have done so.

A. 1. No! this is impossible. To accuse any Sahabi  of such a deed, is a serious and completely false allegation against the Companions of our Beloved Nabi  Accusing the Sahabah  of such a deed is against the Quran, Hadith and the consensus of the Scholars, in addition to it being completely irrational!

The Sahabah  were selected by Allah Ta'ala to accompany Nabi  to learn from him and to pass on Islam to the rest of the world. Allah Ta'ala will never choose people who would end up forging Hadiths against our Master, .

Hafiz Ibn Taymiyyah  states: 'It is not known [or ever proven] that any Sahabi  lied about Rasulullah ... Allah Ta'ala had protected them from forging anything about their Nabi 

This is further understood from the Hadith in which Nabi  unconditionally instructed every Sahabi  to convey his message to those who were not present. This Hadith proves the suitability of every Sahabi  for this task.

Based on the above [any many more proofs] all the 'Ulama of Islam have a united stance; that every Sahabi  was reliable. They can therefore never be suspected of such a sin. **One who believes differently will be sinful.** (For more, see Lamahat min Tarikhis sunnah of Shaykh 'Abdul Fattah , pgs. 40-73 and Shaykh 'Awwamah's recent booklet; Khutuwaat manhajiyah fi ithbati 'adalatis Sahabah)

2. As far as the specific accusation against Sayyiduna Mu'awiyah , this too is baseless.
As clearly proven above, no Sahabi  ever forged a Hadith. Sayyiduna Mu'awiyah  is no different.

Imam Bukhari  has recorded that Sayyiduna 'Abdullah ibn 'Abbas  said regarding Sayyiduna Mu'awiyah :
'He is a faqih.' [a Jurist]. (Sahih Bukhari, Hadith: 3765. Also see Hadith: 3764)
One who is a faqih -especially in that golden era- will never commit such a sin.

Imam Ibn Sirin  is authentically reported to have said: 'Sayyiduna Mu'awiyah was not a suspect of fabricating Hadith of Nabi 

This allegation against Sayyiduna Mu'awiyah  is therefore baseless. Furthermore, some contemporaries have cited an unreliable narration to support this allegation. A narration of this kind cannot match up to and never be used against the authentic ones quoted above!

Imam Nasai  said the following when he was asked about certain allegations that were levelled against Sayyiduna Mu'awiyah :
'Whoever attacks Sayyiduna Mu'awiyah, in reality seeks to attack the Sahabah in general... Whoever attacks the Sahabah, actually has the motive of attacking Islam'. (Tahdhibul Kamal, vol.1 pg.45, Lamahat min Tarikhis sunnah, pg.43)

Ten proofs for offering sunnah/nafl salah before Jumu'ah

Q. Is there any proof for sunnah salah before Jumu'ah?

A. The issue of praying Nafl Salah before the Fard of Jumu'ah is well established and soundly backed by substantial proofs.

Hafiz Ibn Rajab  has written two booklets to substantiate it. Similarly Hafiz Ibnul Mulaqqin  also has a booklet in favour of it.

1. Sayyiduna Ali  reports that Rasulullah  would offer four rak'ats of Salah before and after Jumu'ah. (Fawa'idul Khula'i)

Hafiz 'Iraqi  has classified the chain for this narration as good. (Tarhut Tathrib and Faydul Qadir)

2. Hafiz Ibn Hajar  states: 'The strongest proof for the two rak'ats before Jumu'ah is the Hadith that Ibn Hibban  declared sahih (authentic) in which Rasulullah  said:

'There should be 2 rak'ats (nafl) offered before every Fard Salah'. (Sahih Ibn Hibban; Fathul Bari of Ibn Hajar, Hadith: 937)

3. Hafiz Ibn Hajar writes further: similar to this is the following Hadith: 'There is (nafl) salah between every Adhan and iqamah'. (Bukhari)

4. Some Muhaddithun have used the following Hadith of Sayyiduna Abu Ayyub Al-Ansari  to prove these four rak'ats at that time.

He states that Rasulullah  would offer four rak'ats daily after Zawal. Rasulullah  also said: 'This is a time in which the doors of the heavens are opened'. (Musnad Ahmad and others)

The Scholars elaborate that: the doors of the heaven obviously open on a Friday too. (Halabi Kabiri and Takhrijul Ikhtiyar)

Practice of the Sahabah 

5. Sayyiduna Ibn 'Umar  would punctually offer lengthy rak'ats of salah before Jumu'ah. He also stated this as the practice of Nabi 

(Abu Dawud, 'Allamah 'Iraqi  has considered it as authentic)

6. Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Mas'ud  would instruct the people to offer four rak'ats before Jumu'ah, and he would also do so himself. (Musannaf Abdur Razzaq and Musannaf Ibn Abi Shaybah)

7,8. Sayyiduna Abdullah bin 'Abbas  and Sayyidatuna Safiyah  are also reported to have offered these four rak'ats before Jumu'ah. (Fathul Bari – Ibn Rajab)

9. In fact the great Tabi'i, Ibrahim An Nakha'i  states that this was the unified practice of the Sahabah .

(Musannaf Ibn Abi Shaybah and Fathul Bari – Ibn Rajab)

10. Imam Bukhari  has also supported this in his Sahih by including the chapter: 'Chapter on Salah after and before Jumu'ah'

Lastly, 'Allamah Al 'Iraqi  has clearly stated: "To reject all the various proofs (only some of which are provided in this answer) is a feeble standpoint. (Tarhut Tathrib).

Shaykh Yusuf Ad-Dijwi  a recent renown Maliki scholar of Egypt (who is also the teacher of 'Allamah Al-Kawthari , has also written an article on this issue at the end of which he states that one is forced by the proofs that exist to accept this, just as the great leaders of the ummah had done .

(Maqalat Dijwi)

Anecdotes

The popular Hadith Master, Al-Muhaddith Shaykh Muhammad 'Awwamah (may Allah protect him) once mentioned the following anecdote about his senior teacher, Shaykh 'Abdul Fattah Abu Ghuddah رحمته الله which has a profound message and immense inspiration:

There was an instigator in Aleppo (may Allah Ta'ala alleviate the suffering therein currently).

This person falsely reported Shaykh 'Abdul Fattah رحمته الله to the authorities for which Shaykh رحمته الله was imprisoned.

A year later when Shaykh 'Abdul Fattah رحمته الله was released, the locals came to visit, congratulate and welcome him at his residence.

Among those that came was the initial trouble maker too. Realising his mistake he probably came to plead for forgiveness. He was however, scared to face Shaykh 'Abdul Fattah.

When people told Shaykh رحمته الله, he responded, Allow him in:

نحن نعامل الناس بأخلاقنا لا بأخلاقهم

We display our own character to the people, not theirs.
-end of incident.

Subhanallah! In other words, despite his disrespect and lack of akhlaq, I will display to him my akhlaq by being better to him.

Moral

People have different standards in their conduct. Don't let others set your standard!

May Allah Ta'ala inspire us to implement this sublime moral code. Amin.

Shaykh Binnory رحمته الله in the eyes of Senior Scholars:

(continued from Page 1)

3. Shaykh Tantawi رحمته الله:

When 'Allamah Binnory رحمته الله expressed his critical, yet constructive views on the tafsir (commentary of Quran) of Shaykh Tantawi رحمته الله, he responded: 'O Shaykh! you are not just any Indian Scholar. Rather You are an Angel from the sky that Allah has sent to correct me.' (Khususi Number, pg. 498)

4. Shaykh Muhammad Abu Zuhrah رحمته الله - a leading Scholar of Al-Azhar in his time:

Shaykh Abu Zuhrah رحمته الله was a great admirer of 'Allamah Binnory's in-depth knowledge and exemplary character. He would give special attention to 'Allamah Binnory's students who studied at Al-Azhar university. (Khususi Number, pg. 499)

5. Shaykh Hasan Mashat رحمته الله - Hadith teacher in Makkah Mukarramah in his lifetime: '[Shaykh Binnory is] our very learned Shaykh, the Muhaddith (Hadith Master) of India and a serious researcher in all branches of knowledge, especially Hadith and poetry.' (Muqaddimah: Rasailul Kawthari, pg. 28)

6. Shaykh 'Abdul Fattah Abu Ghuddah رحمته الله:

'[Shaykh Binnory] was a treasure of knowledge and a virtue for every questioner. His opinion was incisive and his pondering was vast, illuminating the path for the one seeking knowledge and guidance. As for his wealth of knowledge and his strong memory, it was a sweet, pure ocean and a clear pond...The Yusuf of this era...' (Muqaddimah: Rasailul Kawthari, pg. 29)

When Shaykh 'Abdul Fattah رحمته الله annotated and prepared his work on: 'Mabadi 'ilmil Hadith' (which is the book of 'Allamah Shabbir Ahmad 'Uthmani - رحمته الله), He dedicated it to Shaykh Binnory رحمته الله with the following words:

'To the soul of my teacher [I dedicate the rewards of this work]; the great scholar ('Allamah), Hadith Master, meticulous intelligent researcher, the genius well grounded faqih (Jurist), one who invited to Allah Ta'ala by his words and actions, Shaykh Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory, the founder of [the madrasah] Jami'atul 'Ulumil Islamiyyah in Karachi. May Allah Ta'ala raise his stages and repay him most generously in the Hereafter.' (Introduction to Mabadi 'ilmil Hadith, pg.7)

7. Shaykh Muhammad 'Awwamah (hafizahullah) - Among the Great Hadith Masters of our era :

'I have immense love for Shaykh Binnory, despite not seeing him even.'

Shaykh 'Awwamah (hafizahullah) always listens to anecdotes about 'Allamah Binnory's life with immense enthusiasm, often asking for them to be repeated to him. This demonstrates further, the love that he had for Shaykh Binnory رحمته الله.

As stated at the beginning of this article; among the signs of divine acceptance, is that Allah Ta'ala puts love for an individual in the hearts [and tongues] of his fellow pious contemporaries and the generations that follow.

May Allah Ta'ala bless the soul of Shaykh Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory رحمته الله, and may Allah allow us to appreciate his efforts (and the efforts of all our senior 'Ulama). May Allah Ta'ala also allow us to follow in their footsteps and to uphold their legacy, which is -sadly- being ignored in our era. Amin.

Sublime Sunnats

How often have we purchased items from vendors on the streets and sidewalks? Some of us who do so, also have the habit of bargaining with these poor vendors. The following Hadith is a source of guidance and inspiration on this topic:

A Profound Deed

Sayyiduna Jabir رضي الله عنه reports that Nabi ﷺ had purchased a camel from me. Rasulallah ﷺ paid me the price, and gave me a little extra. As I departed, He ﷺ called me back. I thought perhaps Nabi ﷺ was unhappy with the camel and wanted to return it. When I went to him, he said: 'You may keep the money and the camel'. (Sahih Bukhari, #2097 and Sahih Muslim, #3626)

Morals

1. When paying our dues, it's good to give a little extra too.

2. Sayyiduna Jabir رضي الله عنه had lots of overheads which included the expenses of his seven sisters as well. This was a way in which Nabi ﷺ offered his support to him.

3. Let us also revive this practice, especially when we are purchasing goods from poor vendors on the sidewalks. [on condition they are not exploiting foreign tourists!] Instead of bargaining with such people, who are in conditions of much need, we ought to be paying the full price. In some instances we should pay extra with the intention of charity. At least once in a while, pay the price, take the item and then return it without taking back the money either.

See the joy that this blessed Sunnah of Nabi ﷺ brings to their faces. In fact, the doer too feels a sense of satisfaction in this.



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