

## MUHARRAM 1435 LECTURE SUMMARIES

### TOPIC: SPIRITUAL JIHAD VS SPIRITUAL SUICIDE

NIGHT 7 - 10TH NOVEMBER 2013

#### MAIN VERSE 4:100

#### Recap of last lecture:

- Next stage of nafs, moving from Muta'fakkirah to Mulhama.
- Mulhama from verse 8 of Surat Al-Shams; *the inspired soul*.
- Here the soul increases in strength and moves from evil to good, remaining more so in good.
- Hence the concept of Amr bil Ma'ruf where Ma'ruf is that which is well known ie goodness.
- The clean soul naturally knows that which is good and bad through persistence in purification.

#### Characteristics of the Mulhama soul:

- Increase in peace/ tranquility of mind ("*Oh God, you are peace and from you is peace*").
- Experience of sparks of Divine illumination, glimpses from the spiritual realm.
- Enlightened souls woken up by angels for Night Prayers.
- Quranic verses on the tongue at all times even unlearned verses.
- Enjoyment in and anticipation of acts of worship which were previously disliked; (Holy Prophet would instruct Bilal to give Adhan by saying "*put us at ease*").
- Hardship becomes pleasurable as Imam Ali said, "*if two things that were equal in the eyes of God but one was more difficult, I would choose the more difficult one*".

## Main Content:

- Continue looking at the true nature of worship through Hadith of Unwan al Basri.
- Not every mind is ready for everything, there are different answers for different people according to the state of their soul, hence the 6th Imam kept Unwan waiting till he was ready to take his teachings.
- Knowledge not gained through studying but a light placed by God in the hearts.
- In order to gain this true knowledge, the Imam advises the following 3 things:
  1. One must know that he's not the owner of anything he possesses, rather it belongs to God (servants do not own anything).
  2. Not to make long ambitious plans - everything is in the hands of God and although God's will will always be done, we must keep this in mind.
  3. Spend more time in being concerned with what pleases and displeases God, rather than wasting time with useless actions.
- 6th weapon of a believer: in order to bring inner peace and devotion to God, recite 7 times after Fajr and Maghrib prayers with attention to its meaning :

***“La Hawla Wala Quwwata Illa Billahil aliyyil adheem”.***  
***“There is no power and no strength, except through God, the Most High, the Greatest.”***
- We are always chasing after the world in order to find happiness and substitute God with false gods, becoming diverted from Him so it becomes difficult to obey Him.
- Human beings are naturally inclined towards perfection and this becomes a social norm.
- Superiority complex based on worldly possessions and social status causes us to be judgemental of others.

- The Holy Prophet attracted the lowest level of social strata as seen in his closest companions (Bilal, Salman, Ammar) and taught us that piety is the only criterion by which people can be judged.

إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ

***Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you, (49:13)***

- When Abu Dhar was exiled to Syria, Muawiya was worried and looking for a way to get rid off him. One of his advisors took on the task of bribing Abu Dhar with a sack of gold. Once Abu Dhar was assured that the gold was his and he could spend it however he wanted, he distributed it amongst the poor, at the dismay of Muawiya's advisor. Abu Dhar explained he had another sack of gold, which in reality only contained 2 pieces of bread, just enough to feed him for that day.
- The principles that can be taken from this incident :
  - \* not to give importance to wealth.
  - \* to survive on little.
  - \* to live humbly and according to our means.
- Mahatma Gandhi said: "Be the change you want to see in the world".