

As the day of Ashura nears the fervor of *matam* and *buka* increases, the hope of forgiveness and mercy strengthens. Rasul Allah (SA) states that the indication of *hajj maqbool* is that the person performing his *hajj* changes for the better. Mumineen, who have traveled to the *hazrat* of their Maula (TUS) certainly look forward, before these days come to an end, for the forgiveness of their sins, the realization of their hopes and the fulfilment of their desires.

Today we beseech Allah with the intercession of Aqa Maula (TUS) for *ikhlaas*, because the value of every deed is determined by *ikhlaas*. It was *ikhlaas* that attracted the *barakat* of Dawat from Yemen to Hindustan. We are the descendants of these mukhleseem people of Hindustan who held steadfastly to *deen*, even in the face of fierce atrocities.

Aqa Maula (TUS) did tasbeeh of Duat Mutlaqeen (RA) drawing parallels from Surat-e-Shura. Syedna Hatim (RA), a true *aashiq* of Maulana Ali (SA), wrote several volumes in his praise. Aqa Maula (TUS) recently built the Qubba Mubarakah of Syedna Hatim (RA) as a miniature Raudat Tahera, because Syedna Taher Saifuddin had earnestly desired his *ziyarat*.

Syedna Dawood bin Ajabshah Burhanuddin (RA), the 26<sup>th</sup> Dai, travelled from Kaparwanj to Hasanfir along with 300 mumineen for *ziyarat*. At that time there was no provision for water at Hasanfir. Syedna (RA) stood near a deep chasm and ordered mumineen to dig at that spot. Water gushed out after digging only two feet.

After the *shahadat* of Syedna Qutbuddin Shaheed (RA), Syedna Feerkhan Shujaiddin was kept captive in a stable. A huge fire engulfed the stables except Syedna's (RA). When Aurangzeb came to inspect the disaster, he was astounded by the miracle. Further, he was amazed by the respect given to him by Syedna (RA) (When Aurangzeb approached the stable of Syedna Feerkhan Shujaiddin (RA), Syedna along with the other *Hudood* stood up as a mark of respect), knowing the fact that he himself was responsible for the slaying of Syedna Qutbuddin Shaheed (RA) and the brutality that followed. He felt a sense of deep reverence for Syedna (RA) and ordered his release and provided his personal carriage for Syedna (RA) to return to Ahmedabad in safety.

Syedna Abdeali Saifuddin (RA) organized the activities and affairs of Dawat. He did not allow anyone, except *mashaikh*, to wear *kasbi dupatta*. Once, Al-had Wali bhai who was not entitled to wear *kasbi dupatta* attended Eid *majlis* wearing one. Syedna (RA) did not permit him to sit and through his *hawalchi* informed him about the transgression. Wali bhai apologized stating that he had put on his father's *dupatta* in haste and did not realize it until pointed out by Syedna (RA).

Aqa Maula (TUS) narrated the *shahadat* of Imam Hasan (SA) and concluded the waaz mubarak urging mumineen to prepare for Ashura. Emphasizing the importance of attending Ashura waaz, Aqa Maula (TUS) said, "Tomorrow the entire universe will be immersed in the *gham* and *matam* of Husain: the earth, the skies, the seas, the Sun, the moon and the stars. Tomorrow Anbiya, Panjatan, Aimmat, Duat, *Hudood*, and all those mumineen who have passed away will perform *matam* of Imam Husain (SA) Maula (TUS) urged mumineen and their children not to remain absent from the *majlis* for an exam or a job obligation. Aqa Maula (TUS) added, "You worry about passing an exam, but do you not worry about your fate after death?"