

The image shows the interior of a mosque, likely the Prophet's Mosque in Medina. In the center, there is a large, ornate mihrab (prayer niche) with intricate golden and blue Islamic calligraphy. Above the mihrab, a tall, conical minaret with similar decorative patterns rises towards the ceiling. The walls are light-colored with subtle architectural details. The floor is covered with a dark, patterned carpet. The lighting is warm and focused on the central area, creating a serene atmosphere.

**Necessity of Loving Allah and
His Messenger ﷺ more than anyone else**

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All thanks and praises are due to Allâh, and all aggression is against the wrongdoers. May Allâh's peace and blessings be on the Final and Last Prophet and Messenger. I thank and praise Allâh the Exalted and bear witness that none has the right to be worshipped except Him Alone without partners and that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger. O Allâh! Bestow Your best peace and blessings on Your slave and Messenger, our Prophet Muhammad, and on his progeny and Companions until the Day of Resurrection.

Dear Muslims! It is not a secret to those who have sound comprehension that Allâh the Exalted has admonished those who dislike what He likes and like what He dislikes.

﴿ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ كَرِهُوا مَا أُنزِلَ اللَّهُ فَاحْبَطَ أَعْمَالَهُمْ﴾

“That is because they hate that which Allâh has sent down (this Qur’ân and Islâmîc laws); so He has made their deeds fruitless.”
(47:9)

And:

﴿ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ اتَّبَعُوا مَا آسَخَطَ اللَّهُ وَكَرِهُوا رِضْوَانَهُ فَاحْبَطَ أَعْمَالَهُمْ﴾

“That is because they followed that which angered Allâh and hated that which pleased Him. So He made their deeds fruitless.” (47:28)

It is required from every responsible Muslim to love what Allâh and His Messenger love and hate what Allâh and His Messenger ﷺ hate, so that he or she acquires success, happiness and the greatest win – Paradise. There is no doubt that none will acquire the grade of the Faithful Believers until and unless he or she loves what Allâh and His Messenger love and hates what Allâh and His Messenger ﷺ hate. None will earn Faith until he loves the Messenger of Allâh more than any other among mankind, including one's family, offspring and all other

men and women. In the Two *Sahihs* it is narrated that the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:

قَالَ ﷺ: «لَا يُؤْمِنُ أَحَدُكُمْ حَتَّىٰ أَكُونَ أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ نَفْسِهِ وَوَلَدِهِ وَوَالِدِهِ
وَالنَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ» .

“None among you shall attain Faith until I become dearer to him than his own self, his offspring, his parents and all other people.”

Moreover, true love requires true following and adherence, and this is why Allāh the Exalted said:

﴿ قُلْ إِنْ كَانَ آبَاؤُكُمْ وَأَبْنَاؤُكُمْ وَإِخْوَانُكُمْ وَأَزْوَاجُكُمْ وَعَشِيرَتُكُمْ وَأَمْوَالٌ اقْتَرَفْتُمُوهَا
وَبُيُوتٌ تَحْسَبُونَ كَسَادَهَا وَمَسَلِكُنْ تَرْضَوْنَهَا أَحَبَّ إِلَيْكُمْ مِنْ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ
وَجِهَادٍ فِي سَبِيلِهِ فَتَرَبَّصُوا حَتَّىٰ يَأْتِيَ اللَّهُ بِأَمْرٍ ﴾

“Say: If your fathers, your sons, your brothers, your wives, your kindred, the wealth that you have gained, the commerce in which you fear a decline, and the dwellings in which you delight are dearer to you than Allāh and His Messenger, and striving hard and fighting in His Cause, then wait until Allāh brings about His Decision (torment).” (9:24)

And:

﴿ قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ ﴾

“Say (O Muhammad ﷺ to mankind): If you (really) love Allāh, then follow me (i.e., accept Islāmic Monotheism, follow the Qur’ān and the *Sunnah*), Allāh will love you and forgive you your sins.” (3:31)

The reason behind the revelation of this Noble *Āyah* is that the Prophet’s Companions said, “We love our Lord very dearly.” So Allāh declared to them that there is a sign that one really loves Him, then He revealed this *Āyah* in the Qur’ān. In the Two *Sahihs* it is narrated that the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:

«ثَلَاثٌ مَنْ كُنَّ فِيهِ وَجَدَ بِهِنَّ حَلَاوَةَ الْإِيمَانِ: أَنْ يَكُونَ اللَّهُ

وَرَسُولُهُ أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِمَّا سِوَاهُمَا، وَأَنْ يُحِبَّ الْمَرْءَ لَا يُحِبُّهُ إِلَّا لِلَّهِ، وَأَنْ يَكْرَهُ
أَنْ يَعُودَ إِلَى الْكُفْرِ بَعْدَ أَنْ أَنْقَذَهُ اللَّهُ مِنْهُ كَمَا يَكْرَهُ أَنْ يُعَذَّبَ فِي النَّارِ» .

“Whoever possesses the following three qualities will taste the sweetness (delight) of faith: the one to whom Allāh and His Messenger ﷺ become dearer than anything else, the one who loves a person and he loves him only for Allāh’s sake, and whoever hates to revert to disbelief, after Allāh has saved him from it, as he hates to be thrown into the Fire.”

Therefore, whoever loves Allāh and His Messenger ﷺ truly from his heart, this love will earn him or her the quality of loving what Allāh and His Messenger ﷺ love and hating what Allāh and His Messenger ﷺ hate and dislike. This love or hatred requires one to adhere by its practical implications. Also, if one does anything with his limbs that contradicts the implications of love for Allāh and His Messenger ﷺ, it will be a sign that one did not yet acquire the standard of love and hatred obliged on him or her. In this case, one should seek Allāh’s forgiveness and repent to Him by avoiding the sin and striving to perfect the required love of Allāh and His Messenger ﷺ in heart and action.

O Allāh’s slaves! Know that all types of sins result from preferring the lusts and desires of the innerself to the love of Allāh and His Messenger ﷺ. The same is true about all *Bid’ah* (innovations in the religion), which are started because of succumbing to lusts and preferring them to Allāh’s religion. Such is the case with sins, which occur because of preferring desires to loving and obeying Allāh and His Messenger ﷺ. Surely, he whose love, hatred, giving and taking are only for satisfying his desires and lusts, then this indicates a shortcoming in his Faith concerning its necessary obligations. In this case, one must repent from this path, revert to the Messenger’s *Sunnah*, prefer his love for Allāh and His Messenger ﷺ over his heart’s lusts and desires and do whatever earns him Allāh’s pleasure.

Hence, it is necessary for every Muslim who has true *Imān* to love Allāh and love whomever and whatever He loves, such as His angels, Messengers, Prophets عليهم السلام, truthful believers, martyrs and all

believers in general. Furthermore, it is a fact that one tastes the delight of Faith when he loves a person for Allâh's sake only. For this reason it has been reported (from the Prophet ﷺ) that from the signs of the sweetness of *Imân* is to love someone only for Allâh. Also, whoever loves for Allâh, hates for Allâh, gives for Allâh and, withholds for Allâh, then verily he has completed his Faith.

﴿وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَافَ مَقَامَ رَبِّهِ وَنَهَى النَّفْسَ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ ۖ فَإِنَّ الْجَنَّةَ هِيَ الْمَأْوَىٰ﴾

“But as for him who feared standing before his Lord, and restrained himself from impure evil desires and lusts. Verily, Paradise will be his abode.” (79:40,41)

I invoke Allâh to forgive me, you and all Muslims, male and female, for every error and sin. So seek His forgiveness, for certainly, He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.¹

¹ *Khutbatul-Jumu'ah*, by Shaikh Abdullah Al-Khulaifi, p. 5