

# ASSESS YOURSELF

Admonition delivered by:

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## Judge yourself before you are judged

The honour and integrity of a man is the worth of what he memorized, if what he memorized is of trivial and despicable things then, his status is the status of that (thing) he memorized, and if he memorized great, valuable and worthy things, then his status is the status of that valuable and worthy thing he bears. Is there anything more honourable and worthy to Muslim than the Qur'an? Is there any other words more valuable, greater and worthy than the Qur'an? Brothers in Islam, if we are to look at our present situation, we will ask ourselves do we (really) believe that this Qur'an is the word of Our Lord (Allah)? Do we believe with our heart that it (the Qur'an) is the best and the supreme of all words. Do we Muslims believe that the Qur'an is the best and greatest thing to us? If we believe this, do we acknowledge this? If we acknowledge this, do we testify this with our actions? Do our actions testify what which we believe? Do (our actions) conform to it (that which we believe)? Answer for yourself! Brothers in Islam, no doubt the answer to these questions is no. If we believe surely that the Words of Allah is the best of all words, and we acknowledge that then, verily our actions do not testify to that. Brother in Islam, let's judge ourselves before we are judged.

## Most of us have abandoned the Qur'an

This favour, the favour of time, this favour, the favour of *ee-man* (faith) of which Allah says : ﴿وَمَا كُنَّا لِنَهْتَدِيَ لَوْلَا أَنْ هَدَانَا اللَّهُ﴾ (translation: . And they will say, "Praise to Allaah, who has guided us to this; and we would never have been guided if Allah had not guided us.) Do our actions show that we really value this favour? The time which is a favour from Allah we spent it on worthless affairs. We spent it on affairs of which most of it is unbeneficial even if it is (beneficial at all), it's only in the life of this world.

The favour of intellect of which Allah favour us with, we spent it on memorizing insignificant things. We spent our time on memorizing men's words while abandoning The Word of Allah. The (best) competitor among us (as regards memorizing the Qur'an) are those who sacrifice little of their time (for the memorizing the Qur'an), while most of us abandoned and deserted the Qur'an. Allah say: ﴿وَإِنَّهُ لَذِكْرٌ لَّكَ

﴿وَلِقَوْمِكَ وَسَوْفَ تُسْأَلُونَ﴾ (translation: *And indeed, it is a remembrance for you and your people and you [all] are going to be questioned.*) O you Muslims, this is our honour and Allah is going to ask us about it.

### **This is the Qur'an that will never depart its bearer**

This is the Qur'an Allah sent down as light (guarding mankind) ﴿يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ قَدْ جَاءَكُمْ بُرْهَانٌ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَأَنزَلْنَا إِلَيْكُمْ نُورًا مُّبِينًا﴾ (translation: *O mankind, there has come to you a conclusive proof from your Lord, and We have sent down to you a clear light.*) The Qur'an that will never depart its bearer, it honours him, raises him in this life, accompanies him in his grave, lightens his grave and (also) accompany him in (the time of) resurrection and raise his position in the paradise.

(It has been authentically (reported) from the prophet (ﷺ) but before that, it has been reported from Aisha (رضي الله عنها) that Ummu Dardaa' asked her about (what will be) the difference between the people of Quran and the rest of the believers? She said verily the levels in Al-Jannah (paradise) are the number of verses of the Quran. Confirmation to this is the hadith of the Prophet (ﷺ) that said: "*it will be said to the bearer of the Qur'an, recite and raise, recite (in tranquility and diligently) as you used to recite in the world, verily your position is at the end of the verse you recite*".

### **What have you memorized?**

This Qur'an, brothers in Islam, with it Allah raise it's people in the world. It suffice us the narration of Umar (رضي الله عنه) for the Prophet (ﷺ). *Verily, Allah raises some people with this book (the Quran) and (He) debase others with it (the Qur'an)*. O Muslim brother, the Qur'an is either evidence for or against you, for you are one of the two men, is either the Qur'an is an evidence for you or evidence against you. What do you chose for yourself? Do you choose the Qur'an to be evidence for you or you are pleased with the Qur'an as evidence against you. This (man), the son of Abzaa (ibn Abzaa), his stories is common (among us). Naafi' bn Al-Aarith was the governor of Umar bn Al-

Khataab for Makkah. Umar met him in a place called *uthfaan*, he asked him: where are going? He replied: I'm travelling. He then asked: who do you ask to deputize you (in Makkah)? He said: Ibn Abzaa. Umar was surprised, he said: who is Ibn Abzaa?! (Meaning) deputizing someone the leader of the muslims does not know? Asking, who is Ibn Abzaa. He (further) asked who is Ibn Abzaa? He replied: one of our free slaves, complicating the issue for Umar. Confronting him with what is greater than the first one. He (Umar) said: deputizing (a free slave) for people of the valley (Makkah) you can't find someone other than one of the free slave? He replied: he is a bearer of the book of Allah and has the knowledge of *faraa'id*. Umar said: verily your Prophet said: Allah raises with this Qur'an and debases others. This Qur'an if we are true believers and truly believe the messenger, and truly believe his message, then this is what the Qur'an does to its bearer. This (narration) confirms (other) narrations.

Brother in Islam, for the people of Qur'an, they are the people of Allah, they are His special ones. Verily holding upon the Glorious Qur'an truly is upon every Muslim. Every Muslim should pounder on what portion of the Qur'an does he have? Everyone here should think on what portion of the Qur'an does he have. Are you pleased with this world or (pleased) to be called until you reach the highest status. If we are to go by our state of affairs, (it is) as if Allah censure us and call us to thoughtfulness, but we never heed to it. It is on the affairs of this world we compete, as for the of the thereafter – memorizing the Qur'an, making efforts on what entails and other knowledge of the *deen* (religion) we hold back, we find ourselves lagging behind.

Allah The Most Praise said: ﴿بَلْ تُؤْثِرُونَ الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا﴾ . For the affairs of this world we compete, we compete of this world – the aged, middle-age and the young ones. The most surprising is seeing the students of (Islamic) knowledge, memorizing the Qur'an, seeing them engaging themselves in the affairs of this world. You feel surprise to for the bearer of the Qur'an among those that among them.

Brother in Islam lets fear Allah and judge ourselves and pounder on where we have placed the Qur'an. Let's everyone among us pounder on what portion of the Qur'an he bears. As we said earlier on, the levels of paradise is the number of verses in the Qur'an. Let's every one of us reflect what he has memorized in the Qur'an. What have you memorized?

## How old are you?

Another issue to end with, words of those claiming that age is no more on their side, responsibilities have escalate and multiplied and that have turned them away from being

busy with the book of Allah (meaning) justifying themselves with these excuses. Responsibilities and work duties justify your excuses and for your being old. Why not turn you away from striving for your daily bread? Striving to survive the perish life? Why not turn away from this? .....

I read about a woman, the story of a woman that memorized the Qur'an at the age of eighty (80). How hold are you denying yourself of this great favour? Are you pleased being nonchalant? Not fearing of Quran being evidence against you?

I sincerely advise myself and you my brothers in Islam as I started with, being lackadaisical. I wish to answer myself of what I believe as regards the Quran and what I acknowledged and act with. Surely, faith (*eeaman*) its pillars are three: our believe (in the heart), statement (of the tongue) and actions. For if you believe and acknowledge, do you act with it (that which you believe)? If you believe and acknowledge, do you act with it? Do you testify your believe with your statement and actions or not? Everyone here knows himself more than any other person, he should answer himself.

I ask Allah The Most High to make the Quran evidence for us all and not against us. And make us all from the people of the Quran, and not among the miserable ones nor among the denied.

I will stop here, I ask Allah The Most High to benefit us from this statement of which is right and noble, and whatever in it of mistakes I as Allah The Most High to forgive me and to accept my repentance. I ask Allah to guide us to that which is right in our words and actions and make us among the trustworthy and pious slaves (who worship none except Him alone).

Assalam alaukum warahmatullah

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