

CHAPTER FOUR

THE ANCIENT AGE OF JAHILIYAH AND PRESENT DAY JAHILIYAH

Thousands of years ago, two ages passed to which the Holy Qur'an has referred as the initial Ages of Jahiliyah: one is the age between the coming of the Prophets Nuh and Idris (عليه السلام) and the other between the time of Isa (عليه السلام) and our Prophet (ﷺ). The women of these ages exposed their bodies and abused their freedom to leave their homes to an extent unheard of before that time. As a result they came to be regarded as objects to be exhibited and taken advantage of by all. They were no longer like precious treasures to be protected by those whom they rightfully belonged to, but had become like public charity which could be utilized by anybody at any time. They walked the streets, well-decorated with jewelry and perfumes, attracting men with their flirtatious mannerism as well as by showing off their beauty and half-clad bodies. The frequent contact of women with men other than their husbands created a situation whereby it was possible for a woman to be used by her husband and a lover at the same time. Not having any regard for their honour, respect, chastity and modesty, these women had no hesitation to please men with anything they could ever want from a woman. It was these shameless behaviours and immoral acts of those olden days which the Holy Qur'an referred to as Tabarruj Al-Jahiliyah.

Today's licentious societies, and in particular, the West's pleasure-loving but cultured communities, have gone so far in their lewdness and indecencies that they have managed to put even the past Ages of Jahiliyah and their indecencies to shame. The sexy dresses, vanity and enticement of the women along with the shameless and lewd behaviour of the

men in these societies, which have all been legalized and branded as modern civilization, not only resemble the first age of Jahiliyah but, in its excesses, has surpassed it.

Undoubtedly women today have their legal rights and freedom. But, in reality, what do these rights translate into except the freedom to leave their homes half-dressed without being hindered to wander in parks and other public places? Dressed provocatively in a manner which draws particular attention to the most alluring parts of her body, she walks and flirts in a way which gains her the attention of men around her. In this way, a single woman gains numerous boy-friends while the married woman creates a number of rivals for her husband. Married women openly meet and have fun with their men friends without the permission or will of their husbands. In such instances, the law does not side with the husband who does not have the right to interfere in his wife's activities since she is completely free in her own rights to do as she pleases without interference. What this means, in other words, is that the modern society is obligated not to defend and safeguard the moral values of a society, but instead to ensure that it provides all the facilities which contribute to and foster immorality and moral decay.

SEVERAL EXAMPLES OF INDECENCY IN THE PRESENT DAY JAHILIYAH

The consequence of legalizing such dishonourable behaviour has been the increasing acceptance and support of indecency by society. The Salvation Army of Europe, a service organization which was established mainly to help and look after the helpless, is also involved in helping unwed mothers during their pregnancy and delivery by providing them with maternity homes. In 1928, the Calcutta based Forward magazine published the following excerpt from a New York

magazine which reported some findings from a paper issued by this Salvation Army.

Twenty years ago, the majority of women availing themselves of the maternity home facilities were older, mature women who were well aware of the possible consequences of their immoral behaviour. Now the situation has changed drastically. The vast majority of women who now come to these maternity homes are in fact young students and immature girls who should be worrying about their schools rather than preparing for motherhood. According to the latest statistics these young girls represent 42% of the population of these homes and their average age is only 16.

These high numbers of unwanted pregnancies are there despite the fact that numerous methods of birth control are now easily available and getting pregnant accidentally has become almost impossible. In other words, a very small number, perhaps one out of every couple of hundreds, of those who actually engage in illicit sexual activity find themselves in a maternity home.

Despite the fact that prostitution was illegal in London and not included in the rights of women, one trustworthy source, a lady, writes:

In the three years from 1915 to 1917 over 20,000 women were arrested in London alone for prostitution. These were only the ones who were unlucky or stupid enough to get caught, for there are in fact thousands more who have practiced this trade all their lives and have managed to elude the law. (Inqilab, July 1, 1928 as quoted in T'alimat-i-Islam)

John Pull writes:

There are over 40,000 prostitutes in New York City, not counting those girls who use their homes, hotels and other public places to carry on their trade. It has been calculated that one out of every ten women in New York is involved in such a trade and that an estimated 5,540,000 men avail themselves of their services during a year. In other words 15,180 men visit such women every day, many of whom suffer from sexually transmitted diseases. (Inqilab, July 1, 1928 as quoted in T'alimat-i-Islam)

The June 1935 edition of the magazine Mahshar-i-Khayal stated that 30,000 women in London practiced prostitution with a legal license. Even if such women are visited by a minimum of five men a day, which is obviously a very conservative number, then 150,000 men a day and 5,475,000 a year openly commit legal adultery in the city of London alone.

In the city of Glasgow, young women announced that they would set up kissing stands to raise money for the college students of the city. Selling a kiss for six shillings each, these young women raised thousands of pounds.

There are organized young women's associations in London whose membership vow never to marry, but having love affairs and illicit sexual relationships are not against their association's constitution.

Female students at one American university were asked in a survey to list the qualities and skills which were necessary for girls to have before entering universities for the first time. Over two hundred girls responded. A summary of the results of this survey was published in the newspaper Siyasat, Lahore.

"Girls should be aware of what masculinity is and what femininity is, and what are their characteristics and

requisites. She should know how to dance, smoke, drink, and hug a member of the opposite sex. She should not indiscriminately respond to every male who appears interested in her; instead she should select her partners on the basis of her taste and interests. She should also know how to handle herself with someone who has been drinking or is coming on too strong and against her will. One girl's response was more specific. She said that girls should have some experience beforehand in hugging and kissing men so as to prevent embarrassment due to inexperience when they go to university. Thus, they will have the ability to effectively handle themselves with other male students, teachers, or staff of the university. Also she should know how to tactfully discourage physical overtures from those she does not like. (Siyasat, Lahore, May 28, 1923)

George Allen Endalon writes in his book *Civilization*:

Words of respect are uttered in praise of the qualities of chastity, modesty and honour, but everyday life is devoted to the pursuit of adultery, fornication and syphilis. (T'alimat-i-Islam, p. 105)

These same needs for sexual excitement led to the convening of international exhibitions in West. Exhibitions of what commodity? Not of commercial items, but beauty pageants to exhibit and judge women's bodies. The purpose of these beauty pageants is to select the most beautiful woman from the representatives of different countries of the world. The winning country and province is then praised in glowing terms. Not only are there pageants to choose the most beautiful women, but there are shows now to choose the woman with the most beautiful body parts. Only recently there was a "most beautiful thighs" pageant, to decide which of the young women competing had the most perfect thighs, in terms of colour, size, shape, etc. The winners of such

shows are awarded prizes. One can easily estimate where the values of people are headed today.

The few examples and statistics presented above, which do not represent the entire West but only a few cities and only over a limited time frame (65 years ago), are sufficient to give the readers some inkling of the extent to which male and female intermingling and immodesty have lowered human beings to the level of animals. It also clearly demonstrates the extent to which people, who have denounced religion in favor of their own man-made laws and modernization, are losing the very characteristics which make them human. While sacrificing true happiness, mental peace and satisfaction, the doors of Hell are being opened to swallow the entire human race.

This is the progressive and enlightened culture to which its avid, almost fanatical converts (our "enlightened" younger generation), are inviting us. Articles and columns opposing and misrepresenting Hijab as it is defined by Shari'ah fill the pages of newspapers and magazines in order to ensure that Asia follows the West on the road to shamelessness and renounces Hijab. Alas, we have become dumb, deaf and blind; our hearts have been shielded from the truth, and our minds have been paralyzed. We have lost the ability to grasp the real truth and enlightenment of Islam. It was because of the dangerous and morally destructive outcomes of ignoring Hijab that the Islamic Shari'ah educated its followers in the ways of modesty, purity, and faith. Muslims are taught, not only to eschew the shameless immodest behaviour which characterizes both the first and second Ages of Jahiliyah, but also to avoid any similarity or resemblance to it. It is for this reason that Islam presented, against Tabarruj Al-Jahiliyah, a natural alternative of Hijab, which fosters modesty and ensures positive outcomes. It not only protects the honour of the virtuous Muslim women, but also guarantees material success, protection of human virtues, and national integrity.

It should be kept in mind that the above examples, which were taken from the book *Shara'i Purdah* by Qari Mohammed Tayyab, were from sixty years ago. In the past sixty years the Western world has witnessed a manifold increase in indecency, lewdness, and corruption in their society. It is phenomena, which the Western people themselves are well aware of, for it is they who have created the laws which legalize and protect these new 'rights' of its citizens. Countless incidents take place on a daily basis which illustrates this. One such event took place in the city of Kitchener, Canada, and was reported by the *K.W. Record* in its October 25th, 1988 edition:

A 40 years old Canadian immigrant of Chile lived in Canada with his 34 year old Chilean wife. One day, upon returning home he found his wife in bed with another man. He went to the police to report the incident and was told that they could not take any action as her actions were not against the law. He returned home, but once there, could not bear to simply do nothing; he called the police again. Two police officers soon arrived, apprised themselves of the situation and informed him that they could not do anything. They advised him to go to sleep on the sofa in the other room and left. Unable to control his emotions any longer, the husband picked up a knife and stabbed his wife in the back. She was admitted to the hospital for her injuries and soon recovered. No charges were brought against her. Her husband, however, was brought to trial and, being found guilty of stabbing his wife, was sentenced to jail for a year and a half.

Incidents such as these are commonplace here and do not surprise or astonish the local residents. It is hard to find college or university girls who remain virgin till they are married. As a matter of fact Westerners are often surprised that the people of East still expect unmarried girls to remain virgin until the time of their marriage.

A SUMMARY OF THE DETAILS OF HIJAB AND THE INTENTIONS OF SHARI‘AH

The rules and regulations dealing with Hijab as outlined by Islamic Shari‘ah are so all-encompassing that virtually no part of a Muslim's life has been left untouched. The religious, social, psychological, emotional, spiritual, cognitive and deeply personal practices are all affected by the injunctions of Hijab for women and Ghadd Al-Basar (lowering of the gaze) for men. Sound Guidance has also been given related to all hidden and apparent aspects of covering the Satr and lowering of the gaze. As you have read previously, the Commandments for Hijab came not all at once. First, the Command for separation between men and women was revealed; then came the Commandments for concealing the body, personal beauty, and ornamentation; then about the use of perfumes, walking, talking, lowering of gaze, and covering the face. Later, the codes of behaviour with the opposite sex, addressing even the personal thoughts and fantasies about them, were revealed. All of this makes it impossible to believe, even for a moment, that the Shari‘ah tolerates the slightest mixing and social intimacy between unrelated men and women leading to sexual excitement of the parties. On the contrary, from all the rules and limits it has imposed on women emerging from their homes, it becomes very clear that its aim is to have women understand the intent of the Shari‘ah and prevent themselves from leaving their homes. Why?

So that the blatant sexual misconduct and commotion of the past or present Age of Jahiliyah do not find their way into their lives. And, so that women, in their ignorance and quest for what they perceived to be the greater enjoyments of the Jahiliyah culture, would not renounce their modesty, good character, and upright behaviour. Thus, as many faces and models of shamelessness, immodesty and licentious behaviour were presented by the former Jahiliyah; Islamic

Shari'ah countered them with as many defenses and preventive measures of safeguarding modesty and honour which successfully blocked these shameless immodesties and protected the Muslim women from being affected by the degeneracy of the modern age.

A COMPARISON BETWEEN THE WOMEN OF THE EAST AND THE WEST

The noble woman of the East values and protects her modesty and chastity so highly that she veils herself, both literally and figuratively, and limits herself to the four walls of her house. The internally torn woman of the West, by contrast, exhibits everything she has to offer, attracts men and is attracted to them, and leaves her home to knock about aimlessly in cinemas and cafes, malls and bazaars, parks and theatres, exhibitions and circuses. How does one compare the sinful false vanity of Jahiliyah to the billowing ocean of honour and modesty of Muslim women? As a poet has said, "How do you compare a dead lantern with the light of the sun?"

The very goals of these women of different cultures are different; with one aiming to reach a spiritually elevated character, while the other striving to attain more basic, physical desires and needs. There are likewise a myriad of other differences, basic and secondary, mental and visible, which exist between these women. How then could it be possible for Islamic Shari'ah, which is determined to end all similarities with Jahiliyah culture, to permit any association between the two? And how could it tolerate any resemblances to develop between their widely differing paths? Islamic Shari'ah put an end to immodesty and gave the Commandment of Hijab to chaste and virtuous women so that no similarities would remain between Muslim women and the women of the old and new Ages of Jahiliyah.

With all this in mind, the Muslim world cannot expect to ease up on even a minor restriction of Hijab, thinking of it as unnecessary or unimportant, and realistically expect the rest of the laws to remain inviolable. Man's most base human urges are such that they exert a pressure on all higher human thoughts and actions until they have brought them down to their own low level. The prevailing nudity, immodesty and indecent behaviour of modern societies did not reach their current and morally reprehensible state of affairs at once. They too reached their current state gradually by permitting small indecencies which these chaotic societies, in their lack of wisdom and foresight, thought of as harmless. It was, therefore, inevitable under the natural laws of cause and effect, that once the grip of morality began to loosen, the shamelessness and indecencies reached an epidemic proportion. The extremes to which these societies have now reached are the very horrors which the initial limitations of Hijab were established to prevent. It is a characteristic of human nature that once it has crossed the first limit imposed upon it, it becomes successively easier to break other, bigger rules until finally all limits have been crossed.

So when the fairer sex of these nations had taken the major step of abandoning the four walls of their homes in favour of the outside world, it was comparatively easy to take the next step and break the silence of their voices, which had long gone unheard. And after this, the faces behind the veils were revealed, and with them, the gaze too was now given the freedom to wander, to see and be seen. The freedom of eyes to look around freely led to the freedom of thought which rejected the very thought of Hijab. Clothes were now designed to enhance and reveal a woman's body; at first necklines and arms and then legs and thighs were exposed. Thus, all the veils were removed from the private and excitable parts of human body leading ultimately to total nudity, which was precisely what the comprehensive

Commandments of Hijab intended to prevent. Today, there are hundreds of thousands of nudists in these European and Western countries. The newspaper Inqilab writes:

In France and Germany a new trend of complete nudity has begun. Even an association of nudists has been established in Germany which calls itself the National Association of Nudists. Its membership has already reached four hundred thousand, of which women form a vast majority. A 1929 survey revealed that its members numbered over four million. (Inqilab, Lahore, Dec. 30, 1929 as quoted in T'alimat-i-Islam)

The newspaper Madinah in Bajnor, India, reporting on the situation in France, writes:

The people of France, in order to practice their beliefs in naturalism, have established a naturalists' society consisting of several thousand members. They live only on fruit, vegetables, and water, and shun clothing as much as possible, choosing to wear very skimpy bathing outfits instead. The most fanatic among them, however, refuse to wear even those, calling them unnatural and unnecessary. These members have announced that they will cast off all clothing and will live in nude. The members of this club include men, women, children and elderly people, and their membership is increasing every day. In Germany, the number of people claiming to be naturalists numbered three million last year, and this year the membership has increased by one million more (Madinah, May 9, 1929 as quoted in T'alimat-i-Islam).

Obviously, after having reached the peak of such shamelessness, open and unhesitant sexual promiscuity and fornication is not surprising at all in the Western cultures. It was this sexual promiscuity and shamelessness which Islam eradicated by imposing the various Commandments of

Hijab. Do the Muslims assume that by blindly following the footsteps of these shameless societies, they will not some day end up at the same peaks of immorality as their Western tutors have already reached? Nay!

وَلَنْ تَجِدَ لِسُنَّةِ اللَّهِ تَبْدِيلًا (الأحزاب، ٦٢)

You will never find a change in the ways of Allah (ﷻ).
(Surah Ahzab, v. 62)

The truth contained in this Verse translates into the principle that whenever Muslims abandon the teachings and practices of our Prophet (ﷺ) in favour of using their own intelligence as their guides in life, they are destined for destruction. Salvation depends solely upon obeying the laws of Allah (ﷻ) as revealed to our Prophet (ﷺ), while depending solely on one's own intelligence and abilities leads only to one's downfall.

The social system which the Holy Qur'an and the Sunnah have given the world is one which guarantees piety and cleanliness, purity and chastity, respect and inner peace. It is only through Islam that Allah (ﷻ) has blessed Muslims with honour and glory. Abandoning the ways which are characteristic of Islamic society in favour of foreign cultures and ideas, fashions and norms should be repulsive to the very self-respect of Muslims. The Christians, Jews and atheists of the West are truly dangerous enemies of Muslims. They have convinced the less knowledgeable and weaker Muslims the necessity of women's emancipation, thereby engaging them in the same kinds of lewd, indecent and immoral behaviour as they follow, in order to destroy the purity and the virtues of Islamic societies and to foster all kinds of filth within them. These enemies of Islam have insidiously laid all kinds of traps within Muslim societies, to which those Muslims who have a weak attachment to the Holy Qur'an

and Sunnah, fall prey with ease. انا لله و انا اليه راجعون. The moral destruction, lewdness and licentious behaviour that the people in Europe, America and other Western countries are suffering from today, began with bringing women out in the open. Once out in the streets, the doors were open for physical and sexual exploitations, which in turn gave way to lewdness, leading to nudity and all kinds of other immoral and shameless behaviour. A virtuous English woman, sincerely disturbed by the increasingly immoral behaviour of women in her own society, wrote an article which was translated and reproduced in an Egyptian monthly magazine, Al-Manar. In this article she writes:

English women, as a whole, have lost their chastity and virtue. It has become difficult to find women who have kept themselves pure and not defiled themselves by engaging in illicit behaviour. They no longer possess any semblance of modesty or shamefulness, and live their lives with such unlimited and unnatural freedom that it has left them unworthy of being called human beings. We envy the Muslim women of the East, who live lives of honesty and piety in obedience of their husbands and who do not let the stains of sin mar their purity and chastity. If they feel pride in their ways of life, they have every right to do so. The time is coming when the Commandments of Islamic Shari'ah will come to aid and protect the virtue of English women as well. (Quoted in Ma'arif-ul-Qur'an, vol. 9, by Maulana Idris Kandhalvi)

Anyway, the Holy Qur'an and Ahadith have elucidated the subject of Hijab with such clear and convincing arguments that there no longer remains any room for doubt or suspicion in the wisdom behind it.

A MOMENT OF THOUGHT

The above discussion makes it abundantly clear how much care Allah (ﷻ) and His beloved Prophet (ﷺ) have taken in presenting the Commandments of Hijab, and how much detail and clarification has been provided to us of each aspect of Hijab, as well as how strongly have we been asked to follow these Commandments.

As Muslims we should think! To what extent do we actually follow the Holy Qur'an in which we profess to have such faith, and how much concern and regard do we sincerely have for its Commandments? Could it be that on the Day of Judgment, as according to the following Verse in the Holy Qur'an, our Prophet (ﷺ) says to Allah (ﷻ) (regarding us):

يَا رَبِّ إِنَّ قَوْمِي اتَّخَذُوا هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ مَهْجُورًا (الفرقان، ٣٠)

Oh Lord! My Ummah forsook this Qur'an.... (Surah Furqan, v. 30)

We believe in Allah (ﷻ) and it is also our belief that on the Day of Judgment all of us will have to face Him, and we will be held accountable for our each and every action. How then do we expect to meet Him? Will He not say to us: "I revealed to you clearly all the etiquettes of living your lives and made clear the difference between Halal and Haram. How closely then did you follow my Commands? How much did your character, thoughts, and actions reflect the fear of accountability before me?"

On the Day of Judgment we will face our beloved Prophet (ﷺ) as well. With the sun unbearably close over us, it will be a day of unimaginable difficulty, torment and unendurable thirst. He will lead us all to the well of Kauthar to drink. But have we ever thought about how shall we face him? We,

who have spent our whole lives ignoring his teachings and never taking any steps to implement them in our lives; how will we honestly expect him to quench our thirst with his own blessed hands? How can we expect that he will intervene on our behalf when we will meet him bent under the burden of our sins? Have we followed his teachings in our lifestyles, our appearances, our manners of dressing, or in anything else in our lives?

The Commandments of Hijab are of great importance, though it is true that they are in fact somewhat difficult to follow. But one thing is true beyond doubt, and that is that whosoever succeeds in following these Commandments will have less difficulty in obeying other Commandments of Allah (ﷻ). This is one of the most bitter pills to swallow in terms of obedience, but it is most beneficial in that it makes it quick and easy for a Muslim to be close to Allah (ﷻ).

Today, our standards of piety have become limited to reciting endless incantations and rosaries, praying extra Salat, reciting the books of prayers, fasting when possible, giving alms and charity, and obeying those Commands which are convenient for us. But, we readily ignore and reject all those rules and prohibitions which interfere in any way with our lifestyle, Nafs and desires. We profess deep love for Allah (ﷻ), but do not refrain from disobeying Him, even though it is obligatory on us to refrain from all that He has declared Haram. The foundation of piety is built on seeking Allah's Forgiveness for all our disobedience and rebelliousness against Him. Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) has said: اتق المحارم تكن اعبد الناس - Refrain from sinning, and you will become the most pious of worshippers.

The sin of refusing to observe Hijab is more severe than other sins, which is why it is critical to immediately desist

from it and to sincerely resolve not to repeat it. The reasons for this are as follows:

1. It is a sin which is committed in the open for all to see. The one committing this sin, without saying a word, is openly declaring to everyone around him that she/he has no regard for Allah's Commands, and that she/he has revolted against Allah (ﷻ). Our Prophet (ﷺ) has said: كل امتي معافى - إلا المجاهرين - All of my Ummah is worthy of forgiveness, except for those who have openly sinned.

This is true not only for religion, but even under the laws of any government of this world, those who openly betray their governments are not forgiven. And what is the punishment for betrayal but death?

2. The sinful consequences of refusing to observe Hijab are not limited only to the one committing this sin; since it encourages and spreads lewd and shameful behaviour, it ultimately affects the entire society which thus gets caught in Allah's Punishment in this world and in the Hereafter. It is commonly observed that such a sin also paves the way for all kinds of other mischief, even murder.

Those women who do not observe Hijab should ask themselves why they are doing so. Is it the temporary pleasures and fulfillment of desires which is keeping them from it? They should realize that life in this world is short while life in the world hereafter is for ever. They should also realize that by not observing Hijab they are embittering their lives here as well as condemning themselves to the punishment of Hellfire in the Hereafter. We are not able to bear, even for a second, the heat of a burning coal placed on the palm of our hand. And yet we never think, how will we be able to bear the severe torment and fires of Hell? If we worry that our father or husband or other relatives will not

approve and will be displeased with our following Allah's Commands, then we should also think whether this will be an acceptable excuse before Allah (ﷻ) on the Day of Judgment. Will He forgive us if we say that we did not follow His Orders because we feared displeasing our family and friends? Even though it is Allah's absolute and unalterable Law that لا طاعته المخلوق في معصيته الخالق –

“Obeying anyone while disobeying Allah (ﷻ) is forbidden.” That is, if someone asks us to disobey Allah (ﷻ), we are forbidden to obey him. We should simply reject such a demand. We should consider whether this person, whom we are attempting to please by disobeying Allah (ﷻ), will be willing to receive and bear the punishment in our place on the Day of Judgment? Allah (ﷻ) clearly states in the Holy Qur'an:

إِذْ تَبَرَّأَ الَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوا مِنَ الَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوا وَرَأَوْا الْعَذَابَ وَتَقَطَّعَتْ بِهِمُ الْأَسْبَابُ
 وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوا لَوْ أَنَّا كَرِهْنَا لَمَا كَرِهُوا مِمَّنْ كَرِهُوا كَذَلِكَ يُرِيهِمُ اللَّهُ
 أَعْمَالَهُمْ حَسَرَاتٍ عَلَيْهِمْ وَمَا هُمْ بِخَارِجِينَ مِنَ النَّارِ (البقرة، ١٦٦-١٦٧)

Then would those who are followed clear themselves of those who follow (them); they would see the penalty and all relations between them would be cut off. And those who followed would say, "If only we had one more chance, we would clear ourselves of them as they have cleared themselves of us." Thus will Allah (ﷻ) show them (the fruits of) their deeds as (nothing but) regrets, nor will there be a way for them out of the Fire. (Surah Baqrah, v. 166-167)

Ponder on this Verse, and it becomes clear that on the Day of Judgment, those people who disregarded the Commands of Allah (ﷻ) and disobeyed Him to follow and please others, will be enemies unto each other and all relations between them will be severed. On that day, the young will blame their

elders for not letting them obey Allah (ﷻ) and observe Hijab, while the elders will say that they had no control over them, they only asked them to disobey, but did not force them. Then, how frustrated and helpless will those feel who had disobeyed Allah (ﷻ) to please others around them? How sorry and miserable will those feel when they realize that the people they had tried to please and on whose account they were to endure such grave punishment, were denying all responsibility for their wrong-doing and were accusing them of being guilty instead? Let alone men, even Shaitan, on the Day of Judgment, will say:

وَقَالَ الشَّيْطَانُ لَمَّا قُضِيَ الْأَمْرُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَعَدَكُمْ وَعَدَ الْحَقُّ وَوَعَدْتُكُمْ فَأَخْلَفْتُكُمْ
وَمَا كَانَ لِي عَلَيْكُمْ مِنْ سُلْطَانٍ إِلَّا أَنْ دَعَوْتُكُمْ فَاسْتَجَبْتُمْ لِي فَلَا تَلُمُونِي وَلَوْلَا
أَنْفُسُكُمْ مَا أَنَا بِمُصْرِخِكُمْ وَمَا أَنْتُمْ بِمُصْرِخِيَّ إِنِّي كَفَرْتُ بِمَا أَشْرَكْتُمُونِ مِنْ قَبْلُ
إِنَّ الظَّالِمِينَ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ (ابراهيم، ٢٢)

And Shaitan will say when the matter is decided, "It was Allah (ﷻ) who gave you a promise of truth, I too promised but I failed in my promise to you. I had no authority over you except to call you but you listened to me; then reproach me not, but reproach your own souls. I cannot listen to your cries nor can you listen to mine. I reject your former act of associating me with Allah (ﷻ). For wrongdoers there must be a Grievous Penalty." (Surah Ibrahim, v. 22)

So, we know that on this day no one will come to anyone else's aid, and every human being will be left alone to answer for his own deeds. Even the Shaitan will say to those who followed him, "I had no real power over you, all I could do was to tempt and preach you; you chose to follow me and committed sins of your own free will. I am disgusted with you for associating me with Allah (ﷻ) and obeying me in

His stead. You were with me in life, and you will be with me now. We will go to Hell and abide there together."

For the Sake of Allah (ﷻ), think! Is the goal in life to gain Allah's Pleasure, or the pleasure of a few relatives? By Allah (ﷻ), those who sever their worldly relations in this life for the Sake of Allah (ﷻ), will attain Heaven right here on earth. He, who turned away from people and cut his relations with them solely to gain Allah's Pleasure and to avoid punishment in his final and everlasting abode in the Hereafter, has attained true success. He will be rewarded with such joy and pleasure that all the joys of this world will seem insignificant and worthless by comparison. As a poet has said:

You shouldn't care if the entire world is angry at you;
So long as your beloved is pleased with you;
Keep this in mind as you decide;
What should you do and what shouldn't you.

Let us pray to Allah (ﷻ) to grant us great courage and fortitude, to bless us with complete Iman, unwavering trust and belief in the Holy Qur'an, and the ability to obey his Commandments as they should be obeyed. May Allah (ﷻ) shower Salat and Salam in great abundance, on our beloved Prophet (ﷺ), the best of creation, and upon his family and his Companions.

Doctor Mohammed Ismail Memon
Lailatul Eid-ul-Adha 1410 H
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