

INTRODUCTION

As-salaamu alaykum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakaatu

Nahmaduhu wa nusalli ala Rasoolihil Kareem. Amma ba'd.

All praise is due to Almighty ALLAH, the Cherisher, Nourisher and Sustainer of the Universe. Peace, blessings and salutations be upon our Beloved Master and Leader, Nabi Muhammad Mustafa, SallALLAHU Alayhi wa Sallam (ﷺ).

SABRUN-NABI MUHAMMAD ﷺ — THE PATIENCE AND ENDURANCE OF NABI MUHAMMAD ﷺ

Sabr is defined as *حَبْسُ نَفْسِي عَلَى مَا تَكَرَّرَ* – *Habsun nafsi ala ma takra* – to suppress one's desires, whims and fancies; to exercise restraint. It has 3 categories:

1. الصبر على طاعة *Sabr ala ta'aat* – to continue with righteous and good deeds
2. الصبر عن المعصية *Sabr anil ma'siya* – to abstain and refrain from vices and sins
3. الصبر على المصيبة *Sabr alal museeba* – to exercise patience and endurance, not to complain to humanity if a calamity or disaster strikes, Allah forbid.

ALLAH ﷻ جلا وعلى COMMANDS MUSTAFA NABI MUHAMMAD ﷺ IN THE QUR'AN KAREEM:

Wasbir wa ma sabruka illa billah – O HabeebALLAH Mustafa ﷺ, exercise patience, and you will not be able to exercise complete and perfect patience except with the command and the mercy of Almighty ALLAH ﷻ جلا وعلى.

وَأَصْبِرْ وَمَا صَبْرُكَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

Mustafa ﷺ had to exercise the greatest patience because his mission and message had (and still have) a global, international impact. (Ch. 16: Surah An-Nahl, Ayat 127) <http://www.ahadees.com/ayat-127-surah-16.html>

Fasbir kama sabra Ulul Azmi minar-russul – You have to exercise *sabr*, patience, O Mustafa ﷺ, just as the Prophets and Messengers عليهم الصلاة والسلام of the 'Ulul Azm' had to do. In fact, you ﷺ will have to exercise even greater patience and endurance. (Ch. 46: S. Al-Ahqaf, Ayat 35) <http://www.ahadees.com/ayat-35-surah-46.html>

فَأَصْبِرْ كَمَا صَبَرَ أُولُو الْعَزْمِ مِنَ الرُّسُلِ

'Ulul Azm' refers to those Ambiyya عليهم السلام who were most resolute, like Nabi Nooh عليه الصلاة والسلام, Nabi Ibrahim عليه الصلاة والسلام, Nabi Moosa عليه الصلاة والسلام and Nabi Isa عليه الصلاة والسلام.

يَتَأَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ

O you who believe! Seek help with patient Perseverance and Prayer: for Allah is with those who patiently persevere. (S. Al-Baqara; Ayat 153)

TRIALS THAT AFFLICTED NABI MUHAMMAD ﷺ:

1. REJECTION AND PERSECUTION

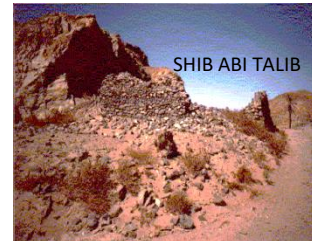
If we study the *Seerah* or Life History of Nabi Muhammad ﷺ, we find that, for the 40 years he ﷺ lived in Makkah Mukarramah the Meccans (who were *Mushrikeen*, Polytheists) would call the Master عليه الصلاة والسلام *As-Saadiqul Ameen* – the Truthful and Trustworthy one.

However, once Mustafa عليه الصلاة والسلام received *Wahyi* (Divine Revelation) and proclaimed the message of *Tauheed* – the Oneness and Uniqueness of Almighty ALLAH جل و على – everything turned against Nabi ﷺ. People made unsavoury comments, criticised and persecuted Mustafa ﷺ during the 13 years of *Nubuwwah* (Prophethood) in Makkah. Similarly, his followers there were also persecuted and tortured.

For 3 years, the Master عليه الصلاة والسلام was boycotted and ostracised by the same people in the *Shib Abi Talib* (the Valley of Abi Talib). They even tried to assassinate Nabi ﷺ, Allah forbid, but Almighty ALLAH جل و على's Word is always true at all times and in all places:

WALLAHU ya'simuka minan-naas – And Almighty ALLAH protected you so they could not assassinate you although they tried their best.

It was the patience and mercy which Almighty ALLAH جل و على granted Mustafa ﷺ to give hope, motivation and inspiration to the Sahaba and to us, the Ummah to come, to teach us to exercise patience against all adversity and *baatil*, falsehood.



<http://www.usf.edu.pk/wyw-12.html>

2. DEATH

In the tenth year of *Nubuwwah* when Nabi ﷺ was 50 years old, he ﷺ lost his wife, Sayyidina Khadija رضي الله عنها after 25 years of marriage: the lady with whom he had six children; his pillar of support and the first Muslim.

Within three days his uncle, Abu Talib also died. Although he had not embraced Islam, he had defended Nabi عليه الصلاة والسلام against his enemies.

OLD PHOTO OF SAYYIDINA KHADIJA رضي الله عنها's TOMB



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khadija_bint_Khuwaylid

Nabi ﷺ was extremely sad at the loss of both these supporters and defenders. That year in Islamic History came to be known as *Aamul Huzn*, the Year of Sadness, Sorrow and Grief.

After these events, Almighty ALLAH جل و على took Mustafa ﷺ on the miraculous nocturnal journey of *Isra* and *Mi'raaj*: from Makkah Mukarramah to Masjidul Aqsa (*Isra*), then from Masjidul Aqsa to the seven heavens and beyond (*Mi'raaj*).

3. BATTLES

Mustafa ﷺ's *sabr* in the various battlefields – whether at Badr or Uhud, Khandaq or Hunain, Ta'if or Tabuk – everywhere, the Master عليه الصلاة والسلام showed what a pillar of strength he was. Not once did Nabi ﷺ take flight from the battlefield. Always, as the Commander-in-Chief, he showed his followers, the Ummah, the real meaning of *sabr*.

4. VILIFICATION AND CONSPIRACIES

The *Mushrikeen* in Makkah made every effort to harm Nabi ﷺ and to undermine his message. After the *Hijra*, Migration, the Jews and *Munafiqeen* (Hypocrites) formed a coalition against Mustafa ﷺ to continue the verbal and physical onslaught against him ﷺ and Islam.

Almighty ALLAH ﷻ consoled Nabi ﷺ regarding the speech and plots of his enemies:

Fala yahzunka qowluhum – Do not let their speech grieve you, O Mustafa ﷺ; *Inna na'lamu ma yusirroona wa ma yu'lioon* – WE are well aware of what they conceal (in their caucuses) and whatever they say publicly (Ch. 36: Surah Yaseen, Ayat 76)

As always, it is *Sunnatullah* – the established practice of ALLAH ﷻ – that the truth will always prevail and the *baatil*, falsehood, will always fail.

Therefore, Almighty ALLAH ﷻ states: *Innal baatila kana zahuka* – Verily, those who are on falsehood,

Almighty ALLAH ﷻ will let them perish (Ch.17: Surah Bani Isra'eel, Ayat 81).

5. HUNGER AND NEED

If we look at the personal life of Mustafa ﷺ with his own beloved wives, the *Ummahatul Muslimeen*, (our Honourable Mothers) we find that, for two or three months at a time, no fire was lit in their homes. They would hardly have food to cook. This is the extent of *sabr* Mustafa ﷺ and his beloved family, including his children, had.

Nabi ﷺ did not grant his own beloved daughter, Sayyidina Fathima رضي الله عنها a *khadima*, maid, although her hands were calloused and scarred. This was to show humanity and posterity that, although Mustafa ﷺ was offered everything of this world he ﷺ refused it all, saying, “No. We make *sabr* and *shukr* [give thanks].”

THE EXAMPLE OF NABI MOOSA علي السلام

Almighty ALLAH ﷻ describes the trials of Nabi Moosa عليه الصلاة والسلام, whose name is mentioned 136 times, in the Noble Qur'an. In most places, the reason and *hikmah*, wisdom, for this was to console, pacify, give *tasalli* or comfort, to Mustafa ﷺ.

Almighty ALLAH ﷻ's message to Nabi ﷺ was: You will also have to exercise *sabr*, patience, like Nabi Moosa عليه الصلاة والسلام.

The Master عليه الصلاة والسلام said (as part of a longer narration by Anas RA): *Utheetu fillah ma lam yu'tha ahad* – I have been given difficulties and problems in the path of Almighty ALLAH that no-one else before me has ever experienced.

عن أنس، قال: قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم: «لقد أُخِفْتُ في الله وما يُخَافُ أحد، ولقد أُؤدِّبْتُ في الله وما يُؤدِّبُ أحد، ولقد «أنتت عليّ ثلاثون من بين يوم وليلة وما لي وليلال طعامٍ يأكله ذو كبد إلا شيء يُؤاريه إبط بلال».

Grade: Sahih (Darussalam) Reference: Jami' at-Tirmidhi 2472 In-book reference: Book 37, Hadith 58 English translation: Vol. 4, Book 11, Hadith 2472

This Hadith is related in Musnad-i-Ahmad and other compilations. There are several Ahadith on this topic e.g., Nabi Muhammad ﷺ said: Real patience is at the first stroke of a calamity. (Sahih Al-Bukhari)

LESSON: EXERCISING SABR DURING HARDSHIP

May Almighty ALLAH ﷻ make us learn from these lessons so that, at the time of difficulty, we always ask ALLAH for *afiyah*, safety and comfort but, if a calamity comes, then we exercise *sabr*, patience. *BarakALLAHU feek. As-salaamu alaykum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakaatu.*