

In the Knowledge of Allah Ta'ala

by Hazrat Maulana Yunus Patel Saheb

(rahmatullah alayh)

Imam Malik (Rahmatullah 'alaihi) had great respect and great love for Rasulullah (Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam) and Madina Munawwarah. He once wanted to perform Nafil Hajj, but feared that he may die whilst on his journey for Hajj. ...It was his deep-hearted desire to die in Madina Shareef.

In a dream, he saw Rasulullah (Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam) and told him of his wish to die in Madina Shareef and he asked Rasulullah (Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam) as to how long he would live. Rasulullah (Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam) showed his five fingers to Imam Malik (Rahmatullah 'alaihi).

Not understanding the meaning of this dream, Imam Malik (Rahmatullah 'alaihi) wrote an anonymous letter to Shaykh Ibn Sireen (Rahmatullah 'alaihi) who was the renowned and distinguished interpreter of dreams, in his time.

On reading the dream, Shaykh Ibn Sireen (Rahmatullah 'alaihi) said that only Imam Malik (Rahmatullah 'alaihi) could have had such a dream and then gave the interpretation, saying that the dream referred to an Ayah (verse) of the Qur`aan Shareef in which five things are mentioned which are in the exclusive knowledge of Allah Ta'ala alone.

Allah Ta'ala states in the Qur`aan Shareef :

“Verily Allah, with Him (Alone) is the knowledge of the Hour (Qiyaamah), He sends down the rain, and knows that which is in the wombs. No person knows what he will earn tomorrow (the next day), and no person knows in what land he will die. Verily, Allah is All-Knower, All-Aware (He is acquainted with all things).”

[Surah Luqman 31 : 34]

To briefly explain these 5 things as is mentioned in this Ayah (verse):

THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE HOUR

Ø The exact year and time remains unknown to us.

Ø In the famous Hadeeth-e-Jibraeel, where Rasulullah (Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam) was questioned with regard to Islam, Imaan and Ihsaan, he was also asked : “So inform me about the Hour (i.e. Qiyamah).”

Rasulullah (Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam) replied: **“The one who is being questioned is not more knowing than the one asking the question.”** (meaning : neither do I know nor do you know.)

Ø Rasulullah (Sallallaahu 'alayhi wasallam) conveyed many signs, which indicate to the proximity of the last day. These signs have been categorized as minor signs and major signs. All the minor signs have come to pass. Soon to follow are the major signs of Hazrat Mahdi, Dajjaal, the descension of Hazrat Eesa ('alaihis Salaam), etc.

HE SENDS DOWN THE RAIN

Ø Weather bureaus predict rainfall. However, this is **EXPECTED** rainfall.

Allah Ta'ala does not talk about **expected** rain, but refers to the **absolute and complete details of rain** :

- .. The exact and precise time when the rainfall will commence.
- .. The exact details of the land, city or farm which will receive this rain.
- .. How much of rain is going to fall i.e. the exact amount.
- .. Whether the rain will be beneficial or destructive. ...If we had such detailed knowledge, we would be able to prepare ourselves for floods and damage.

Ø All the scientific instruments of the world cannot give us such details.

AND HE KNOWS THAT WHICH IS IN THE WOMBS

Ø Whether that child will be born or whether the mother to be will miscarry.

Ø The most science can do is inform one as to whether the child will be a boy or girl and this too is not always 100%. Even if they advance to the level of 100 % certainty, then too, they cannot predict details such as :

- v The life span of the child and the sustenance that he / she will receive.
- v Whether the child will be black or white, whether the child will live a life of health or a life of ill health. Whether the child will be a doctor, Aalim, teacher, etc.
- v Whether the child will be a blessing for the parents or a curse.

NO PERSON KNOWS WHAT HE WILL EARN TOMORROW

Ø The detailed knowledge of exactly what a person will be able to do.

Ø All we can do is plan. However, we should not trust in those plans. Anything can happen: an accident, death, war, revolution, etc. which then changes those plans. ...All plans are subject to Allah Ta'ala's confirmation.

Ø This part of the Ayah (verse) also refers to wealth, i.e. exactly how much money a person will earn for that day.

AND NO PERSON KNOWS IN WHAT LAND HE WILL DIE

Ø Hazrat Sulaiman ('alaihi Salaam) was given the Kingdom of the world and was given the power and control to rule over everything, even the winds and the animals.

A simple man was once in the presence of Hazrat Sulaiman ('alaihi Salaam), when a stranger came before him. The stranger stared at the person in such a manner that he was overwhelmed with fear and anxiety. He quickly requested Hazrat Sulaiman ('alaihi Salaam), to send him to a distant land.

Hazrat Sulaiman (‘alaihi Salaam) commanded the wind to take the man where he wanted to go.

The following day Hazrat Sulaiman (‘alaihi Salaam) met the stranger who was Hazrat Izra’eel[1](‘alaihi Salaam), and asked him as to why he had created such fear in a Muslim by staring at him. Hazrat Izra’eel (‘alaihi Salaam) replied that he stared at the man in astonishment since Allah Ta’ala had commanded him to take the man’s soul that very day in a certain distant land and yet, he was in the Court of Hazrat Sulaiman (‘alaihi Salaam). However, he found him where he was meant to die, and took his soul at the appointed time.

Ø Many people remained all their lives in Madina Shareef or Makkah Shareef. Just before their death, they travel to some other land where they pass away and are buried. And many people reside elsewhere, and Allah Ta’ala creates those means whereby they reach Makkah Mukarramah or Madina Munawwarah, pass away and are buried there.

May Allah Ta’ala give us the understanding and acceptance of Allah Ta’ala’s Decree. Acceptance will create calm and peace in this journey of life. Otherwise, there is restlessness, apprehension, anxiety and worry on what is beyond a person’s knowledge and capacity.

So many debate and argue the knowledge of the Hour, whereas it is Allah Ta’ala’s secret. How many non-Muslims have given away all their belongings, etc. believing that the world will come to an end of a certain day, whereas that day came and went, and everything continued on, as usual.

So many visit fortune tellers and others, seeking predictions of their futures, whether they will marry, have children, become rich, enjoy good health, etc. – Na-uzu Billah[2]. Reading palms, looking into crystal balls, reading tarot cards, etc. are all grave and serious sins and are Haraam. There is no one who can disclose these details to us because this is in the knowledge of Allah Ta’ala.

Others choose a graveyard or cemetery, where they wish to be buried, and they purchase their graves – but it is not necessary that this will be the place of their burial. It may be a foreign land, it may even be the sea, or in some other way, whereby, they may not be a burial at all.

[1] Hazrat Izraeel (alaihi Salaam) : The Angel of Death

[2] We seek Allah Ta’ala’s Protection