

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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Some of the characters of the hypocrites

Allah (*subhanahu wa ta'ala*) tests this *Ummah* with the *Kuffar* and the *Munafiqoon*, and so it has to deal with two evils and struggle against two enemies. This is the price which the *Ummah* must pay in order to qualify for the position of being the best nation among human kind. Allah (*subhanahu wa ta'ala*) says: “You are the best community that has been raised up for mankind, enjoining what is right, forbidding what is wrong, and believing in Allah....”

As we have learnt before the *Munafiqoon* are more dangerous than the *Kufar* because the *Kuffar* show their *Kufr* and enmity openly, and so the believers know them and take precautions against them. On the other hand the *Munafiqoon* appear to be Muslims and so the believers underestimate their risk and do not take them as enemies.

Allah (*subhanahu wa ta'ala*) warned Muslims against the *Munafiqeen* and explained their characters in His Noble Book.

There is no mention of *Nifaq* (hypocrisy) in the Makkah Qur'an because there were no hypocrites in Makkah. The Makkan *Mushrik* did not hide their *Kufr* or enmity of Muslims. When the Prophet (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) migrated to Madinah, there was no *Nifaq* at the beginning because Muslims had no power to be feared. When Islam and Muslims became strong after the battle of *Badr*, the hypocrite group appeared.

The first and longest *Madinian Surah* was revealed warning against them and mentioning their description. It is *surah al-Baqarah*. The *surah* starts by describing the qualities of the believers in four verses; it then mentioned those of the *Kuffar* in two verses and followed by mentioning the qualities of the *Munafiqeen* in thirteen verses.

The revelation of Qur'anic *suras* and verses followed disclosing what the *Munafiqeen* hide and revealing their secrets. Among the Qur'anic *suras* there is one which is called after them. There is another *surah* called the discloser or the disgracer which went to great length to reveal their evil traits and deeds. Ibn Abbas (*radhiya Allahu 'anhuma*) “*Surat at-Tawba* is the disgracer; it continued to disclose them until they thought that it would mention every one of them.”

It is important that we know the qualities of the *Munafiqoon* so that we can avoid them and their evil, and also avoid their qualities. One can take on one or more of the qualities of *Munafiqoon* without realising. Even the senior *Sahabah* of Rasulullah (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) feared *Nifaq* for themselves. Umar ibn al-Khattab (*radhiya Allahu 'anhu*) appealed to Hudhaifa ibn al-Yaman (*radhiya Allahu 'anhu*) in the name of Allah to tell him if Rasulullah (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) mentioned his name among the *Munafiqoon*? Hudhaifa said: ‘No, and I will not tell anybody else.’

Ibn Abi Mulaikah, one of the senior *Tabi'een*, said: “I met thirty of the *Sahabah* of the Prophet (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) and each one of them feared *Nifaq*”

Imam Ibn Al-Qayyim, may Allah have mercy upon him, said: “It is in accordance with the measure of one's Iman that one fears to be of this group. It was for this reason that the

righteous predecessors of this *Ummah* were extremely fearful of unwittingly being of the *Munafiqeen*.”

1) One of the qualities of the hypocrites is that they mock the *deen* and ridicule the good and righteous slaves of Allah. Allah (*subhanahu wa ta'ala*) told us about this in several verses of the Qur'an. In *surah* al-Baqara Allah says: “And when it is said unto them: believe as the people believe, they say: Shall we believe as the foolish believe...” (13.) So, they described the believers as foolish, and Iman as foolishness.

Allah (*subhanahu wa ta'ala*) says in *surah at-Tawba*: “Those who slander the believers who give charity voluntarily, and such who could not find to give except their hard earnings, so they mock at them, Allâh will throw back their mockery on them, and they shall have a painful punishment.”

Rasulullah (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) called upon his companions to give *Sadaqah*, so one believer came with a handful of barely, the *Munafiqoon* said: “Allah does not need the handful of this man.” Another believer came with a purse of gold, and the *Munafiqoon* said: ‘He is showing off.’ So, both were not safe from them— the one who gave little and the one who gave a lot.

That was the attitude of the *Munafiqeen* in the past and today they become annoyed and infuriated when they see Muslims and especially Muslim youths adhering to their *deen*; filling the *Masaajids*, attending the circles of knowledge, fasting and doing *Qiyam*. They become irritated and start making fun of them and calling them bad names such as backward, dark-minded, fanatic, extremists and so on.

2) One of the qualities of the hypocrites is that they put their hands into the hands of the *Kuffar* who are enemies of Islam. They are loyal to them though they live among Muslims. Their hearts are with the enemies while their bodies are with the Muslims. They fear them and so they hurry to their friendship as Allah (*subhanahu wa ta'ala*) says: “And you see those in whose hearts there is a disease (of hypocrisy), they race towards them, saying: "We fear that some misfortune may befall us. Perhaps Allah may bring a victory or something else from His own side, whereupon they will become regretful over what they concealed in their hearts.” (Al-Maeda 52.)

This is the way of the *Munafiqeen* yesterday, today and tomorrow. They will always put their hands into the hands of the enemies of Allah and His *deen*. They fear the *Kuffar*, but they do not fear Allah.

The hypocrites are the real enemies of Islam and Muslims. Great catastrophes and tragedies happened to Muslims at their hands. Whenever they were in a position of influence in any Muslim state throughout history they caused its fall and extinction. The fall of Baghdad and the demise of the Abbasid Caliphate at the hands of the Tatars in the sixth *Hijri* century was brought about by the conspiracies of its hypocrites. The leaders of *Nifaq* who facilitated the destruction of Baghdad were Ibn Al-'Alqami, the *Rafidhi* minister and a man called Nasir al-Din Al-Tusi, another wicked *Rafidhi*. Both corresponded with the King of Tatars, misled the Abbasid Caliphate Al-Musta'sim and instead of advising him to prepare for Jihad against the invaders, they advised and encouraged him to surrender to the Tatars who entered the city killed its inhabitants, burnt its libraries and destroyed its civilisation

That was what the two wicked *Rafidhi* hypocrites did in the past. The same was repeated in our present time. If we ask ourselves how Baghdad fell ten years ago to the Crusades – we will find that it was with the help of the hypocrites that it fell.

The capture of Bait Al-Maqdis by the Crusades in the fifth *Hijri* century was only possible through the conspiracies of the secret sect of Bani Ubaid.

Similarly, the fall of the Ottoman caliphate - which ruled half of the globe for eight centuries- was caused by the Donama Jews who pretend to be Muslims and hid their *Kufr*.

Hypocrisy has become so serious in Muslim communities that many of the branches of minor *Nifaq* –which do not through a person outside Islam - have become very common and widespread among Muslims. These include such ills like lying, breaking promise, showing off, betrayal, cowardice, abandonment of *Jihad* and so on.

Although these are considered minor *Nifaq*, nevertheless they can lead to major *Nifaq*. Ibn Rajab said: “Minor *Nifaq* is a means that leads to major *Nifaq*. As it is feared for one who insists on an act of disobedience to be deprived of Iman at the time of death and die as *Kafir*, likewise it is feared for one who insists on a quality of minor *Nifaq* to be deprived of Iman at the time of death and die as *Kafir*.”

Nifaq has become greater to the extent that we see many forms of major *Nifaq* in Muslim lands nowadays such as making a mockery of the *deen* of Allah, hurrying to the friendship of the *Kuffar* and standing on their side and being pleased with the defeat of Muslims and the decline of Islam.