

" BACK TO BASICS "
THE WAY THINGS WERE
MIRROR OF A MUSLIM

All praise is due to Allah (SWT) who through his infinite mercy, forgiveness and grace allowed us to pass the great month of Ramadhaan with comfort, ease, tolerance and peace. Our Taqwa was to have been increased by means of fasting, our standing in Qiyaam at night (the taraweeh), to listen to the glorious Quraan which should have increased our Imaan and was a healing (spiritually and physically). The Zikr and various talks we listened to should have inspired us to obey the commands of Allah (SWT). We should have received Allah (SWT)'s mercy, forgiveness and emancipation from the fire of Jahannam, (may Allah grant us all this). We should have cleansed our souls and started a new leaf in life, saying I must change my unmindful and evil ways.

This morning at Fajr I realized the majority of us have gone "BACK TO BASICS". Of course the shackles of Shaitaan have been let loose. Men and women who strived and fought their nafs and desires for an entire month now let down their guards at the first opportunity. WHY??? WHAT??? WHO??? Am I talking about my dear brother, sister, aged and youth especially the youth. I ask you why the parking lots at the masjids are empty at Fajr but full at the lake, malls and squares. I became totally oblivious of time Asr and Magrib went by. I didn't even flinch or feel remorse I missed salaah with jamaat/ nay /I didn't even read salaah. The masjid that was full a day or two ago is now ½ no, not even a third full. I wonder where have the Muslims gone to, maybe they all just tired or some how forgot the call to prayer or rather failed to respond to the call. We have indeed gone BACK TO BASICS no or less salaah, no or little Quraan tilawaat, no or little charity. Yes increased my leisure time increased my T.V time, increased time at malls, squares and the lake. That sister who wore a scarf and cloak during the holy month has boldly discarded these to parade at the lake for all to see. Yes my dear sisters, brothers and youth, I and you have indeed gone BACK TO BASICS. I hope our lives of bribery, corruption, fraud, deceit, anger, pride, jealousy and backbiting has to some extent left us if not what type of "TAQWA" did we inculcate during the month of Ramadhaan.

I ask besides the duas made on radio and at the mosque by the Imaam. Did I on a personal level make dua for the following?

- Lost lives in the recent earthquake in Pakistan, lost lives in the tsunami that barely a year ago rocked Muslim brothers and sisters in South East Asia.
- Dua for those that survived these test from Allah (SWT).

- Our mujahids languishing in Gautanamo Bay and jails across America and Britain and the like.
- Our parents, teachers, family and friends.
- For the safety of Muslims and their lives, possessions.
- For the protection of the Haram-Shareef and off course not forgetting the 1st Qibla MUSJID-UL-AQSA.
- For the widows, orphans, destitute and those yet unborn.
- Those martyrs who gave their lives defending our deen that we take for granted.
- Did we ask for good conditions to prevail in Muslim lands of Palestine, Iraq, Kashmir, Afghanistan?
- Did I make dua for those who are ill physically and spiritually
- Did I ask for my family to be guided on the straight path?
- Did I ask Allah (SWT) for beneficial rain and abundance in crops?
- I rarely make dua for the auliya, that Allah (SWT) grants them long life so that many may benefit from them.
- Did I ask for death with Imaan, protection against the fitnas of dajjaal?
- Did I make dua for those indulging in gambling, drug abuse, alcohol abuse, riba etc.

The list goes on and on.

My brothers and sisters I have indeed gone BACK TO BASICS living my life exactly the same way as it was before the month of Ramadhaan, contented that I am a Muslim. The question that needs to be asked: am I a Muslim or a hypocrite??? I know not! That is for you to judge for yourself. From the above mentioned we have in fact have

- Love for the world.
- Love for satisfying my carnal pleasures
- Love for western ideologies

Indeed we have gone BACK TO BASICS. When indeed I should have gone back to the foundation. The five pillars, each one as important as the other. Have I Imaan??? Am I reading salaah?? Keeping roza??? Giving charity??? Gone for Hajj or made an intention??? You my precious Muslim brother and sister judge for yourself. PLEASE I BEG OF YOU NOT TO GO BACK TO BASICS RATHER GO FORWARD TO THE SUNNAH, in this lies our ultimate success and goal. Love Allah (SWT), love Nabi (SAW), the signs of Islam and follow the injunctions of the glorious Quraan. That taqwa that was aquired should be used to boost our spiritual condition and make us realize that Allah, the Supreme Being is the controller of hearts and affairs of the world. Our actions and intentions influence this. So make amends for peace and tranquility to prevail

Jazakallah
Yusuf

