

English Bimonthly Issue 131 July-August

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# SPIRIT OF ISLAM

Towards Global Peace & Spiritual Living



Every human being is a hidden treasure of nature.  
Challenges and hardship uncover that hidden treasure.

# A Magazine for The Journey of Life

This is a current magazine. Its articles are based on sound principles of reason and science with a particular emphasis on the spirit of Islam rather than the form or the ritual. All the articles have been either written by Maulana Wahiduddin Khan, translated from his Urdu writings, or based on his writings developed by a team trained and guided by him.

## **Spirit of Islam.....**



Presents Islam, the religion of nature, in the contemporary idiom to help Muslims rediscover Islam from the original sources



Explains Creation plan of God for humankind



Enlightens people on the subject of global peace



Addresses contemporary issues



Assists the readers to deal with life's challenges



Offers Spirituality to a wider circle of seekers



Fosters greater communal harmony through religious understanding

United in prayers

**SOI Editorial Committee**

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Late Maulana Wahiduddin Khan, renowned Islamic scholar and recipient of the Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awards, on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2006 executed a Deed of Trust and the Trust was named as Centre for Peace and Spirituality International (CPS International) having its head office at 1, Nizamuddin West Market, New Delhi 110013. CPS international does not engage in any commercial activity nor does it sell any products

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# **SPIRIT OF ISLAM**

Towards Global Peace & Spiritual Living

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## FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITORIAL DIRECTOR



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### THE TEST OF POWER

#### *Discovery Through Nature*

**I**n every society, a change in political power brings with it a wave of emotions. Some people celebrate the new arrangement, while others feel anxious about the future. This reaction is not unique to any particular country, community, or political party. It is a universal human phenomenon. Whenever a familiar political order changes, those who had grown comfortable under the previous system naturally wonder what lies ahead.

Such concerns can also be found in places like Bengal, where political developments often become a matter of intense public discussion. Yet, if we step back from immediate emotions and look at history, we discover an important reality: no political arrangement remains permanent. The pages of history are filled with examples of governments rising and falling, parties gaining influence and then losing it, and communities experiencing changing circumstances over time.

One of the greatest mistakes human beings make is to assume that a favourable situation will continue forever. When people attain power, they often begin to think of it as a permanent possession. They unconsciously develop a sense of entitlement, believing that the existing arrangement should remain unchanged indefinitely.

However, reality teaches a different lesson. The world is a place of movement, not stagnation. Change is woven into the very fabric of life.

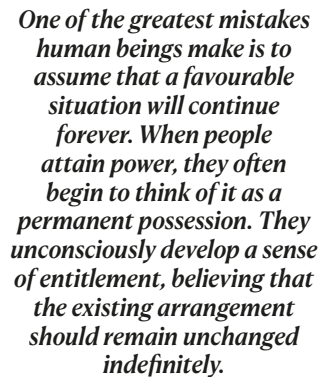
If we observe nature, we find the same principle everywhere. Day is followed by night, and night is followed by day. Seasons change throughout the year. Youth gives way to old age. Success and difficulty alternate in human experience. The Creator has established a dynamic world where nothing remains fixed forever. Political power is no exception to this universal law.

The Quran draws attention to this reality in a profound manner. Referring to the changing fortunes of people, it says: “Such days We alternate among the people.” (3: 140) This verse highlights a divine principle operating throughout history. Circumstances change, opportunities shift, and positions of influence move from one group to another. No community has been guaranteed permanent dominance.

From an Islamic perspective, political authority is not a prize to be permanently owned. Rather, it is a test entrusted to human beings for a limited period. Just as a student receives an examination paper for a specific time, those who hold power receive an opportunity to demonstrate justice, responsibility, and wisdom. The real question is not how long one remains in authority, but how one uses that authority while it lasts.

The Quran also reminds us: “You give sovereignty to whom You will and You take sovereignty away from whom You will.” (3: 26) This verse shifts our attention from human calculations to a higher perspective. Political developments may appear to be the result of human strategies alone, but behind the visible events lies a larger divine plan. Recognizing this reality helps people avoid excessive pride during success and excessive despair during setbacks.

When individuals understand the temporary nature of political power, they become better equipped to face change. Instead of reacting with fear, anger, or resentment, they learn the art



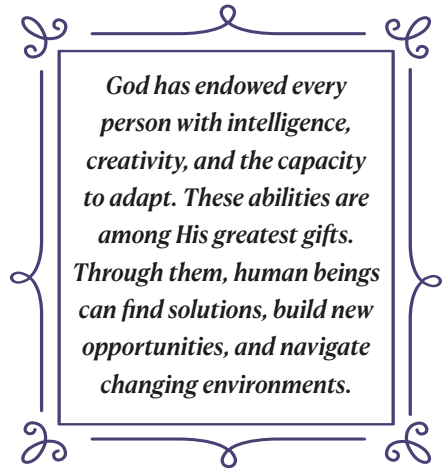
*One of the greatest mistakes human beings make is to assume that a favourable situation will continue forever. When people attain power, they often begin to think of it as a permanent possession. They unconsciously develop a sense of entitlement, believing that the existing arrangement should remain unchanged indefinitely.*

of adjustment. Adjustment is one of the greatest secrets of successful living. A person who knows how to adapt can continue moving forward under a variety of circumstances.

The Prophet Muhammad demonstrated this principle throughout his life. He faced changing situations with patience, wisdom, and constructive action. Rather than becoming trapped by unfavourable conditions, he focused on available opportunities. This positive approach transformed challenges into stepping stones for greater success.

Another important lesson is gratitude. Human beings often associate gratitude only with favourable conditions. Yet true gratitude extends beyond circumstances. It is the recognition that every situation contains opportunities for growth, learning, and discovery. What appears unfavourable today may reveal hidden benefits tomorrow.

God has endowed every person with intelligence, creativity, and the capacity to adapt. These abilities are among His greatest gifts. Through them, human beings can find solutions, build new opportunities, and navigate changing environments. History repeatedly shows that those who respond positively to change often discover possibilities that were previously invisible to them.



Political change, therefore, should not be viewed merely as a gain or loss. It should be seen as a reminder of a deeper truth: this world is a place of testing, not permanent possession. Power comes and goes, but character, wisdom, and faith remain enduring assets.

When a person develops this perspective, he attains inner stability. He does not become arrogant during favourable times, nor hopeless during difficult ones. Instead, he remains grateful to God, uses his abilities constructively, and continues his journey with confidence. Such an attitude transforms political change from a source of anxiety into an opportunity for reflection, growth, and renewed trust in the wisdom of God. □

## IN FOCUS



*We bring you two articles every issue under the headings of ‘Personal Experiences’ and ‘Journey towards God-realization’ of our mentor Maulana Wahiduddin Khan (1925-2021). Though he is no more with us, we feel the presence of his guiding spirit motivating us through his teachings and his advice.*

*Maulana, through his study of science, religion, psychology and the experiences of his own life, enlightens about the path to discovery of God through one’s journey of life. A discovery of this kind involves pondering on the Word of God, converting one’s material experiences into spiritual insights, constant introspection, and contemplating on the numerous phenomena of the universe.*

*The journey of realization begins with a questing spirit. Seeking is an intellectual journey. If a person is sincere and honest in his discovery of God, if there is no negativity in his thinking, if he is free from prejudices, if he has become a completely complex-free soul, attainment of God-realization is as certain as the dawn of light after the rising of the sun.*

**The greatest success in this world is to live life in such a manner that you should not have an iota of negative thought against any person. You should depart from this world with a totally positive mindset. This is my last discovery in this world.**

*-- Maulana Wahiduddin Khan (1925-2021)*

## A TOMATO MIRACLE

*Discovery Through Nature*

The day I plucked the first ripe tomato from a plant that we had grown with our own hands, I experienced a feeling of deep awe. It was no longer just a tomato. It appeared to me as a living sign of God's creative power. My heart spontaneously turned toward praise and gratitude.

For several weeks, I had watched the plant grow. First, it emerged from the soil as a tiny and fragile sprout. Then its leaves gradually spread. After some time, delicate yellow flowers appeared. Soon tiny green tomatoes emerged, hanging quietly from the branches. Day after day, they grew larger until they finally ripened into bright red fruit. Witnessing this silent journey awakened a profound realization within me.

Ordinarily, when we buy tomatoes from the market, we rarely think about their origin. We see only the finished product. The hidden story behind it remains unseen. Familiarity turns extraordinary things into ordinary objects. However, when we personally observe the process of growth, the veil of habit is lifted. We begin to see creation with fresh eyes.

The Quran draws attention to this reality: "Then let man look at his food" (80: 24) This verse invites us to reflect on what we eat and the remarkable processes behind it. Food is not merely a commodity; it is a sign of divine planning and mercy.


Realization is born from observation and reflection. The world around us is filled with divine signs, but repeated exposure often makes us blind to them. A simple plant can become a source of spiritual discovery when viewed thoughtfully.

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Human beings can place a seed in the soil and water it, but they cannot create the life hidden within it. No scientist can command a seed to split open, send roots into the earth, produce leaves, flowers, and fruit. This mysterious process belongs entirely to God.

That ripe tomato therefore became much more than food. It became a lesson in gratitude,

a reminder of God's unseen power, and an invitation to deeper faith. □



Peace Is A  
Prerequisite For  
All Kinds Of  
Human Progress.

A landscape photograph of a palm tree in a field at sunset. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and dark blue. The palm tree is the central focus, with its fronds silhouetted against the sky. The foreground is a grassy field, and the background shows rolling hills under the same sky.

A simple incident in a kitchen can sometimes become a source of profound reflection. While peeling a long ridge gourd, a person noticed that its outer surface looked dry, rough, and almost lifeless. At first glance, it seemed to have little value. Yet, as the thick skin was removed, an entirely different reality emerged. Inside, the vegetable was fresh, tender, and full of life. What appeared ordinary soon became a lesson from nature.

Human beings often judge things by their outward appearance. Something may look dry, worn out, or without promise from the outside, while within it still possesses beauty, vitality, and hidden potential. Nature quietly teaches that appearances do not always reveal the complete truth.

This observation recalls an incident mentioned by Maulana Wahiduddin Khan. During a train journey, he once noticed a dhak tree (*Butea monosperma*) standing beside the railway track. The tree appeared completely barren. Its branches were dry, and not a single leaf could be seen. To any casual observer, it looked lifeless. But as he looked more carefully, he noticed that the same tree was covered with brilliant red flowers. Against the background of its barren branches, the flowers appeared even more striking.

The sight deeply moved him and became a source of spiritual reflection. He prayed to God in words close to these: "O God, I too am a barren existence. As You can bring such beautiful flowers out of a dry and barren tree, bring spiritual growth and realization into my barren being."

A profound lesson lies hidden in this experience. Dryness is not always the final reality. Beneath the surface, life may still be

*Dryness is not always the final reality. Beneath the surface, life may still be waiting to emerge. A barren tree can blossom. A rough vegetable can be fresh within. Likewise, a seemingly empty human heart can, by the grace of God, become filled with faith, gratitude, and realization.*

waiting to emerge. A barren tree can blossom. A rough vegetable can be fresh within. Likewise, a seemingly empty human heart can, by the grace of God, become filled with faith, gratitude, and realization.

The universe is filled with divine signs. Even the simplest moments of daily life can awaken the soul and remind people of God's limitless power. What seems barren today may, by God's will, become a source of beauty, growth, and spiritual discovery tomorrow. □



Let Him Who  
Hopes To Meet  
His Lord Do Good  
Deeds.

THE QURAN 18:110

## THE UNSEEN REALITY

### *Signs Beyond Knowledge*

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On January 31, 2022, the American news network CNN published a report based on a scientific study that appeared in the journal *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. According to the study, scientists have so far identified about 64,100 species of trees on Earth. Yet the researchers estimated that the actual number is close to 73,300. This means that more than 9,000 species of trees still remain unknown to human beings.

One of the researchers made a remarkable observation. Reflecting on the findings, he said that the study had highlighted how little we actually know about these magnificent living organisms and had left researchers wanting to learn more.

This statement deserves serious reflection. Modern science has achieved extraordinary success. Human beings have explored distant planets, mapped the human genome, and developed technologies that previous generations could hardly imagine. Yet every new discovery often reveals not how much we know, but how much remains unknown.

Scientists discover new species, only to realize that countless others may still be hidden. They study the universe and find galaxies beyond galaxies. They investigate matter and encounter mysteries such as dark matter and dark energy. Every door that science opens seems to reveal many more doors waiting to be explored.

This reality points to a profound truth. Human knowledge is limited, while the universe is vast beyond imagination. The Quran draws attention to this fact when it says: “And of knowledge, you have been given only a little.” (17: 85)

The discovery of thousands of unknown tree species is not merely a scientific fact. It is also a reminder of the limitations of human understanding. There are realities that exist even when they are beyond our observation. Before these tree species were discovered, they already existed. Their existence did not depend upon human knowledge of them.

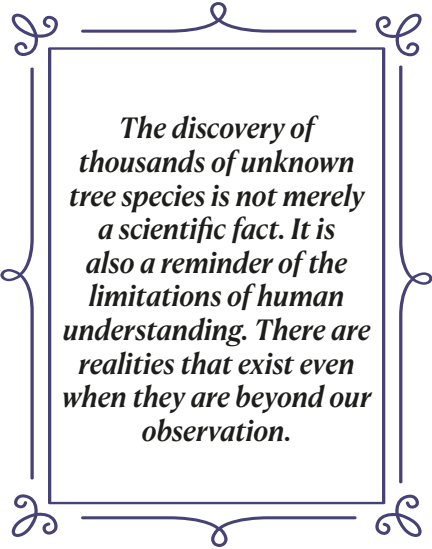
The same principle applies on a much larger scale. There are countless realities in the universe that remain hidden from us.

Their invisibility does not mean nonexistence. Rather, it reflects the limits of human perception.

For a thoughtful person, this becomes a point of realization. If thousands of physical realities can exist without our knowledge, why should the existence of a Creator be dismissed merely because He is not directly visible to us? The unseen is not unreal. In fact, much of reality lies beyond the reach of our senses.

The universe is like a vast ocean, while human knowledge is only a small drop. Every scientific discovery should therefore increase humility rather than arrogance. It should remind us that behind this immense and ordered universe stands a Creator whose knowledge encompasses all things.

Thus, the discovery of unknown tree species becomes more than a scientific finding. It becomes a sign. It tells us that reality is far greater than what we currently know. And if unseen species can exist beyond our awareness, then the existence of God—the ultimate unseen reality—should not be difficult to understand. The limitations of human knowledge are themselves among the strongest signs pointing to the existence of God. □



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“

Every flower, every fruit, every drop of water, and every breath of fresh air carries a silent message. These things are not merely objects of enjoyment. They are reminders of the Creator's generosity.



# IN SEARCH OF SELF

## *Understanding Man across History, Religion and Philosophy*

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**A**mong all the questions that have occupied the human mind throughout history, none is more fundamental than the question: “Who am I?” Every civilization, every religion, and every philosophical tradition has, in one form or another, grappled with this question. Human beings have explored the mysteries of the stars, the depths of the oceans, and the secrets of matter. Yet the greatest mystery remains man himself.

The search for self is not merely an intellectual exercise. It is the foundation of all meaningful enquiry. Before a person can understand the world, he must first understand his own place within it. The questions “What is this universe?”, “What is life?”, and “Who am I?” are interconnected. To answer one is ultimately to engage with the others.

Throughout history, different civilizations have attempted to define human nature. Ancient traditions generally viewed man through a spiritual lens. The Upanishads of India regarded the human being as a union of the physical and the spiritual. Chinese thinkers such as Confucius emphasized moral responsibility and social harmony. In these early traditions, man was understood not merely as a biological organism but as a participant in a larger moral and cosmic order.

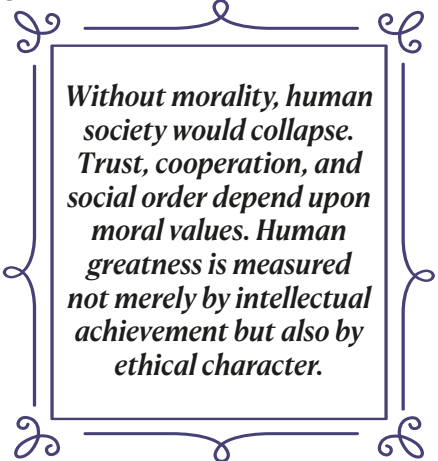
The classical Greek philosophers brought a new dimension to this enquiry. Socrates famously urged people to “know thyself.” For him, self-knowledge was the beginning of wisdom. Plato described man as a being composed of body and soul, with the soul representing the higher and enduring aspect of human existence. Aristotle, meanwhile, defined man as a “rational animal,” emphasizing the role of reason in distinguishing human beings from other creatures.

This emphasis on rationality finds a striking parallel in the Quran. The Quran repeatedly invites human beings to think, reflect, observe, and understand. It appeals not merely to faith but also to reason. The Quran asks: “Do they not reflect upon the Quran?” (4: 82) Elsewhere it speaks of signs “for people who use reason.” Human intellect is thus presented as a divine gift through which people can recognize truth and understand the world around them.

During the medieval period, religious thought integrated reason with spirituality. Christian thinkers such as Thomas Aquinas sought to harmonize Greek philosophy with theological doctrine. Similarly, Muslim scholars such as Al-Farabi, Ibn Sina, and Al-Ghazali developed sophisticated understandings of human nature based on revelation, reason, and ethical reflection.

The Quran presents a profound picture of human origins and dignity: “Then He fashioned him and breathed into him of His spirit; and He gave you hearing, sight and hearts. Little thanks do you give.” (32: 9) This verse captures the multidimensional nature of man. Human beings are physical creatures, yet they possess hearing, sight, intellect, and spiritual awareness. They belong to the earth, yet they are capable of transcending it through reflection and realization.

The Renaissance and Enlightenment periods further emphasized human autonomy and rationality. René Descartes placed self-conscious thought at the centre of existence with his famous statement, “I think, therefore I am.” Immanuel Kant argued that human dignity lies in moral autonomy—the ability to choose and act according to ethical principles. These thinkers reinforced the idea that man is not merely a passive creature of circumstance but an active moral agent.



*Without morality, human society would collapse. Trust, cooperation, and social order depend upon moral values. Human greatness is measured not merely by intellectual achievement but also by ethical character.*

The nineteenth century introduced another important perspective through the rise of modern biology. Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution highlighted the continuity between human beings and other forms of life. Later thinkers explored the influence of instincts, unconscious drives, and environmental forces on human behaviour. These developments contributed significantly to our understanding of the biological dimensions of human existence.

Yet biology alone cannot explain the full reality of man. Human beings undoubtedly share many characteristics with other living organisms. They require food, water, shelter, and reproduction for survival. They are subject to the laws of nature and the processes of growth and decay. However, unlike any other creature, human beings possess the ability to transcend their immediate biological needs.

A hungry animal seeks food. A human being not only seeks food but also asks whether the food is lawful or unlawful, ethical or unethical. Hunger may be biological, but the response to hunger is shaped by values, beliefs, and moral choices. This reveals that human existence cannot be reduced to biology alone.

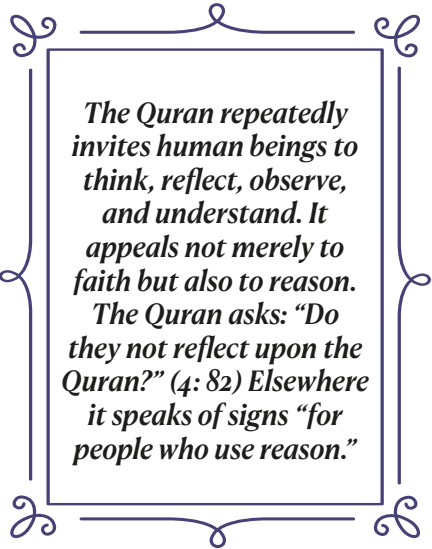
The rational dimension of man is equally significant. Human beings are capable of abstract thought, scientific enquiry, creativity, and long-term planning. They can contemplate the past, analyze the present, and imagine the future. Through reason, they build civilizations, develop sciences, and create systems of knowledge.

But reason itself raises deeper questions. Why does the universe possess order and intelligibility? Why is the human mind capable of understanding the laws of nature? The remarkable harmony between the human intellect and the structure of the universe points towards a purposeful design. Reason, when pursued honestly, often leads beyond itself to questions of ultimate meaning.

Alongside rationality stands morality. Human beings possess a unique moral consciousness. They distinguish between justice and injustice, honesty and dishonesty, compassion and cruelty. While cultural influences shape moral expression, the fundamental awareness of right and wrong appears deeply rooted in human nature.

The Quran refers to this moral awareness when it says: "And inspired it to understand what is right and wrong for it" (91:8). This verse suggests that human beings possess an innate moral capacity. Conscience serves as an internal guide, reminding individuals of their ethical responsibilities.

Without morality, human society would collapse. Trust, cooperation, and social order depend upon moral values. Human greatness is measured not merely by intellectual achievement but also by ethical character.



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Yet there remains a dimension of human existence that transcends both biology and rationality: spirituality.

Human beings naturally seek meaning. They ask questions that no scientific formula can fully answer. Why am I here? What is the purpose of life? What happens after death? These questions arise because human beings are not satisfied with material existence alone.

Spirituality represents the search for ultimate reality. It finds expression through reflection, philosophy, worship, and religion. It inspires individuals to rise above selfish interests and connect with something greater than themselves. Through spirituality, human beings discover purpose, inner peace, and a sense of transcendence.

According to the Quran, man is not an accidental product of blind forces. He is a purposeful creation. His earthly life is a period of testing and preparation. The Quran repeatedly reminds human beings that this world is temporary and that a greater life awaits beyond death. In this perspective, human existence acquires a moral and spiritual significance that extends far beyond the boundaries of the present world.

A holistic understanding of man therefore requires the integration of all these dimensions. Human beings are biological in their physical existence, rational in their intellectual capacities, moral in their ethical awareness, and spiritual in their search for meaning. Each dimension complements and enriches the others.

To ignore any one of these dimensions is to arrive at an incomplete understanding of human nature. Biology explains the body, but not the soul. Reason explains thought, but not ultimate purpose. Morality explains conduct, but not the source of moral obligation. Spirituality provides the framework within which all these dimensions find their fullest meaning.

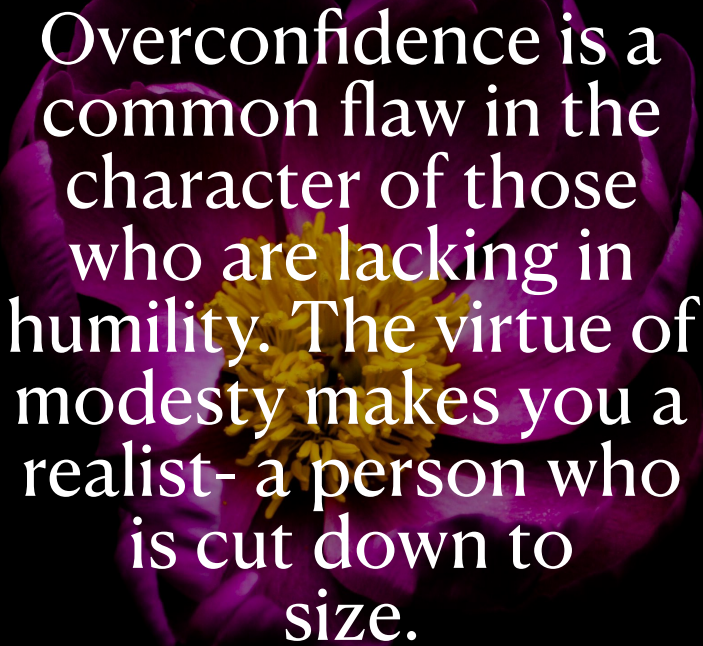
The search for self ultimately leads to the discovery that man is far more than a material being. He is a creature endowed with intellect, conscience, freedom, and spiritual potential. He belongs simultaneously to the world of matter and the world of meaning.

The question "Who am I?" therefore does not end with a single definition. Rather, it opens the door to a lifelong journey of

discovery. It is a journey from instinct to reflection, from self-interest to moral responsibility, from material existence to spiritual awareness, and from the temporary world to the eternal Hereafter.

In the end, to understand man is not merely to define him but to recognize the extraordinary depth of his existence. It is to realize that human life is a trust, an opportunity, and a journey. The greatest success lies not simply in understanding the world, but in understanding oneself—and through that understanding, discovering one's Creator, one's purpose, and one's ultimate destiny. □

*Prof. Zaheeruddin*



Overconfidence is a common flaw in the character of those who are lacking in humility. The virtue of modesty makes you a realist- a person who is cut down to size.

# ACCEPTING LIFE'S REALITY

## *The Secret Peace*

A senior government officer possessed many of the things that people commonly associate with success. He had status, wealth, influence, and professional achievement. Yet, despite having these advantages, he ended his life because he felt unrecognized and unappreciated.

This tragic incident highlights one of the most important realities of human life. People often suffer not because they lack blessings, but because they fail to accept the inevitable difficulties that are built into the present world. This world was never meant to be a paradise.

Along with comfort, there is discomfort. Along with success, there is disappointment. Along with appreciation, there is neglect. No one can receive only what he likes and avoid everything he dislikes. Such a world does not exist. The Quran reminds us of this fact in clear words: "We will surely test you." (2: 155) Tests are not accidental events; they are part of the divine plan.

Acceptance of reality is one of the greatest secrets of peaceful living. Much of human frustration arises from demanding that life conform to personal expectations. But the moment a person accepts reality as it is, a large part of his mental burden disappears.

The Prophet Muhammad said: "How wonderful is the affair of the believer. There is good for him in every matter." (*Sahih Muslim*) This teaching encourages a positive outlook. A believer understands that every situation contains some wisdom, even if it is not immediately apparent. No setback is final. No hardship remains forever. Very often, hidden opportunities emerge from difficult experiences. What initially appears to be a loss may later prove to be a blessing.

*The real danger in life is not failure, criticism, or rejection. The real danger is losing hope. Hardships were not meant to destroy human beings. They were meant to awaken them, strengthen them, and deepen their understanding of life.*

The real danger in life is therefore not failure, criticism, or rejection. The real danger is losing hope. Hardships were not meant to destroy human beings. They were meant to awaken them, strengthen them, and deepen their understanding of life.

A successful person is not one who escapes every storm. A successful person is one who learns to sail through the storms of life without losing faith, balance, patience, and inner peace.

A photograph of cherry blossoms in various stages of bloom, from buds to fully open flowers, set against a soft, blurred background. The image is framed by a dark brown border with rounded corners.

Life's problems are  
solved by employing  
a rational strategy,  
not by complaining.

# BEYOND MATERIAL PLEASURE

## *Journey To Faith*

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Modern man lives in a world overflowing with material comforts. Every day he experiences countless pleasures. He enjoys delicious food, refreshing drinks, beautiful scenery, and the conveniences of technology. These experiences give him satisfaction, and often he expresses gratitude for them in words. Yet there is a deeper question that rarely enters his mind: Who made these pleasures possible? Who created within him the capacity to enjoy them? Who gave him the senses through which pleasure is experienced?

This is one of the greatest tragedies of the modern age. Material pleasures have become so dominant that they have overshadowed spiritual pleasures. People know the taste of food, but they do not discover the joy of knowing the Creator who made taste possible. They appreciate the blessing, but they fail to recognize the Benefactor behind the blessing.

Consider a simple meal. A person enjoys its flavour and feels delighted. But the experience of taste itself is an extraordinary mystery. The tongue is only an instrument. It is not the creator of pleasure. Behind the tongue is a complex system of senses and perception. More importantly, behind this entire arrangement is the Creator who designed it. If food provides one kind of pleasure, then discovering the wisdom and power of the Creator behind that pleasure should provide an even greater joy.

The Quran repeatedly draws our attention from the blessing to the Giver of the blessing. It says: "Then which of the favours of your Lord will you deny?" (55: 13) This verse is repeated many times in *Surah Ar-Rahman*. It is as if the Quran is inviting man to rise above the surface of things and recognize the divine hand behind every gift. Every enjoyment in life is a signpost pointing toward its Creator.

Unfortunately, many people stop at the signpost and never continue the journey. They become absorbed in material experiences and remain unaware of the spiritual treasures hidden within them. As a result, they know the pleasure of consumption but remain strangers to the pleasure of realization.

The Prophet Muhammad spoke about a special sweetness that belongs to faith. He said: “He has tasted the sweetness of faith who is content with God as his Lord, submission to God as his religion, and Muhammad as His Messenger.” This *Hadith* introduces us to a dimension of pleasure that is far superior to physical enjoyment. It is the pleasure of conviction, discovery, and nearness to God.

The universe is full of opportunities for such discovery. Every flower, every fruit, every drop of water, and every breath of fresh air carries a silent message. These things are not merely objects of enjoyment. They are reminders of the Creator’s generosity. When a believer reflects on them, his enjoyment acquires a deeper meaning. The pleasure of the senses is transformed into the pleasure of faith.

This was one of the central lessons taught by the Quran. The Quran encouraged people to become travellers on the path of realization. According to the Quran, the world is not merely a place of consumption; it is a vast library of divine signs. Every experience contains an opportunity to discover God. The purpose of life is not simply to enjoy blessings but to attain awareness of the One who grants them.

When this awareness awakens, ordinary experiences become extraordinary. A meal becomes a reminder of divine mercy. A beautiful sunrise becomes a sign of divine artistry. Even a glass of water becomes a source of spiritual reflection. In this way, material pleasures cease to be mere pleasures of the tongue and become pleasures of faith.

The greatest human discovery is not the discovery of a new technology or a new resource. It is the discovery of the Creator behind creation. When a person develops this awareness, he experiences a joy that no material object can provide. This is the joy of realization, the joy of gratitude, and ultimately, the joy of faith. □



*The secret of success in this world is to ignore problems and seize opportunities.*

# TOWARDS GLOBAL PEACE

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***We often talk of peace in the context of war. But this is a very narrow and restricted notion of peace. Peace is deeply linked with the entirety of human life. Peace is a complete ideology in itself. Peace is the only religion for both—man and the universe. It is the master-key that opens the doors to every success. Peace creates a favourable atmosphere for success in every endeavour. Without peace, no positive action—small or big—is possible.***



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## THE POSITIVE MIND

### *Gateway To Discovery*

**A**n Indian once visited Japan and spoke to his Japanese host about the Second World War. He said sympathetically, “America treated your country very unjustly. It dropped atomic bombs on Japan and reduced two of your cities to ruins.”

The Japanese host replied, “We do not look at it in that way. Hiroshima and Nagasaki were old cities with narrow streets, outdated buildings, and poor planning. Under normal circumstances, rebuilding them completely would have been extremely difficult. After the war, however, we found an opportunity to reconstruct them as modern and well-planned cities.” This reply reflects the power of positive thinking.

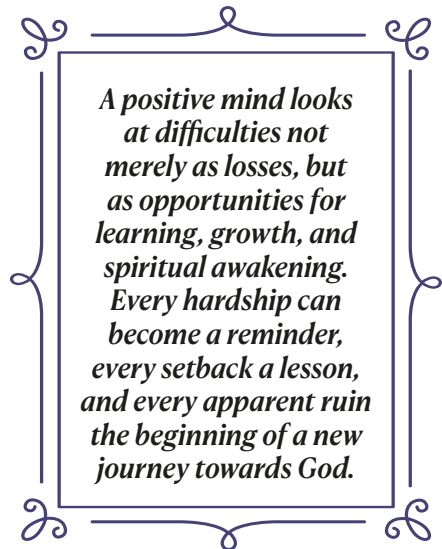
Positive thinking does not mean denying painful realities. It does not mean pretending that loss is gain or that suffering does not exist. Rather, it means looking beyond the immediate event and discovering the opportunities hidden within it. A negative mind remains trapped by the problem, while a positive mind searches for a constructive response.

Life constantly presents situations that are not of our choosing. Some bring disappointment, while others bring hardship. In such moments, one can either become a victim of negative thinking or rise above circumstances and seek new possibilities.

This principle is closely related to God-realization. A mind filled with complaint, resentment, and bitterness finds it difficult to reflect deeply. Negativity acts like a veil that blocks higher understanding. But when a person develops a positive attitude, he becomes capable of seeing the wisdom of God behind events.

The Quran says: “Perhaps you dislike a thing and it is good for you” (2:216). This verse teaches that human beings often judge events by immediate appearances, while God sees their deeper outcome.

A positive mind is therefore a discovering mind. It looks at difficulties not merely as losses, but as opportunities for learning, growth, and spiritual awakening. Every hardship can become a reminder, every setback a lesson, and every apparent ruin the beginning of a new journey towards God. Such a mindset opens the doors of reflection and leads a person from circumstances to realization. □



*A positive mind looks at difficulties not merely as losses, but as opportunities for learning, growth, and spiritual awakening. Every hardship can become a reminder, every setback a lesson, and every apparent ruin the beginning of a new journey towards God.*



*The best servants of God are those who praise God the most.*



# THE POWER OF TRUST

## *Thinking Good Thoughts*

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On May 25, 2026, I travelled from Chennai to Malaysia on Malaysia Airlines Flight 183. As I reflected upon the journey, a valuable lesson emerged before my mind. It was not merely a lesson about travel. It was a lesson about human nature, positive thinking, and the power of good expectations.

Outwardly, I am a person with a traditional appearance. In today's environment, many people assume that someone with such an image may frequently face suspicion, discrimination, or unpleasant treatment. It is often said that individuals belonging to certain backgrounds encounter obstacles wherever they go. However, my personal experience over the last fifty years has been remarkably different.

Throughout my life, I have travelled extensively across India. I have travelled in buses, trains, and airplanes. I have visited stations, airports, hotels, and public places. Yet I cannot recall a single occasion when I was mistreated because of my appearance or identity. My Hindu brothers and sisters have always treated me with respect and courtesy. Whether at a railway station, a bus terminal, an airport counter, or any other public place, I have generally encountered kindness rather than hostility.

This experience points to an important reality. Very often, the fears that dominate our minds do not exist in the external world to the extent that we imagine. People sometimes live with negative assumptions about others. They begin to expect hostility, and these expectations create invisible walls between human beings. The problem is not always outside; often it begins within the human mind.

The Quran teaches believers to adopt a positive attitude toward others. It says: "O you who believe, avoid much suspicion. Indeed, some suspicion is sin." (49: 12) This verse encourages us to free our minds from negative assumptions. Suspicion poisons relationships, while positive thinking opens the doors of mutual understanding.

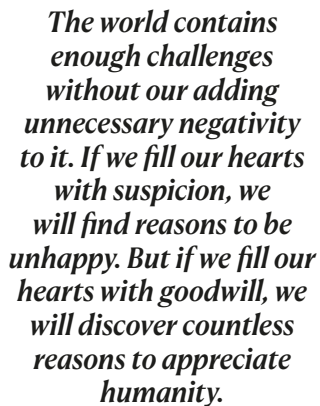
There is also a well-known Islamic teaching that encourages believers to maintain a good opinion of one another. Yet the wisdom behind this principle extends beyond any particular group. It reflects a universal law of human interaction: think positively about people, and you will often discover goodness in them. Approach others with trust, respect, and sincerity, and you are likely to receive the same in return.

During my journey to Malaysia, I experienced this reality repeatedly. From the moment I left my home until I reached my lodging, I interacted with numerous individuals. Some assisted me with directions, others with formal procedures, and many simply exchanged smiles and courteous words. As I looked back on these encounters, I realized that positive thinking has a visible effect on human relationships.

Human beings possess an extraordinary ability to communicate without words. A smile conveys a message. A relaxed face conveys a message. A respectful attitude conveys a message. Likewise, anger, suspicion, and hatred also communicate their own messages. When a person carries negativity within himself, it often appears on his face and in his behaviour. People naturally become cautious around such a person. On the other hand, when someone carries goodwill in his heart, that goodness reflects through his words, expressions, and conduct. Others feel comfortable in his presence.

The Prophet Muhammad said: “Do not belittle any good deed, even meeting your brother with a cheerful face.” This profound teaching highlights the power of positive human interaction. A smile may seem insignificant, but it can remove barriers and create goodwill between people.

Maulana Wahiduddin Khan frequently emphasized that peace begins in the mind. A person who develops a peaceful personality becomes a source of peace for others. Such a




*The world contains enough challenges without our adding unnecessary negativity to it. If we fill our hearts with suspicion, we will find reasons to be unhappy. But if we fill our hearts with goodwill, we will discover countless reasons to appreciate humanity.*

person does not look at the world through the lens of hatred or victimhood. Instead, he focuses on opportunities for dialogue, understanding, and cooperation.

The world contains enough challenges without our adding unnecessary negativity to it. If we fill our hearts with suspicion, we will find reasons to be unhappy. But if we fill our hearts with goodwill, we will discover countless reasons to appreciate humanity.

The lesson of my journey was simple yet profound: learn to live with love and positive thinking. Do not give hatred and violence any place in your heart. Trust in the goodness that God has placed within human nature. When you do so, you will find that the world becomes a friendlier place, and your own life becomes richer, happier, and more meaningful.□

*M* *Maulana Iqbal Oomeri*



Charity means giving from one's wealth to those in need. Just as your own needs compel you to spend on yourself, you should not remain indifferent to the needs of others.

# RISING ABOVE STORMS

## *The Secret Strength*

Nature is a great teacher. It presents profound lessons through simple observations. One such lesson can be learned from the behaviour of birds during a storm.

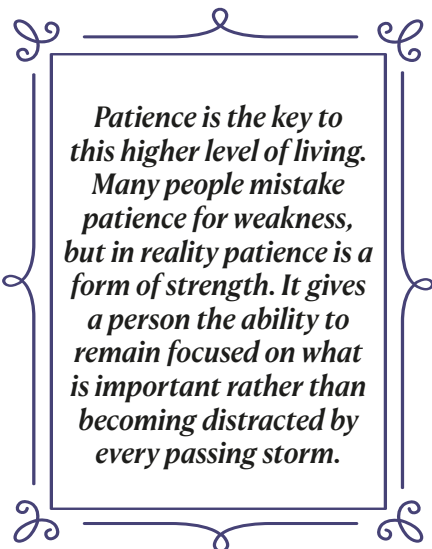
When strong winds and storms arise, small birds often become trapped in them. They flap their wings desperately, trying to resist the force around them. The harder they struggle at the same level, the more the storm controls them.

Large birds behave differently. Instead of fighting the storm where it is strongest, they use their powerful wings to rise above it. They ascend to a higher altitude where the storm loses its power over them. By changing their level, they change their experience. This is not merely a lesson about birds. It is also a lesson about human life.

Many people live with what may be called “small bird thinking.” Every criticism disturbs them. Every unpleasant remark provokes a reaction. Every disagreement becomes a personal battle. They allow external events to control their inner world. As a result, they remain trapped in emotional storms.

A wise person adopts a different approach. He rises above the level of reaction. He does not allow every negative word to enter his heart. He thinks before speaking. He reflects before responding. He remains calm when others lose balance.

Patience is the key to this higher level of living. Many people mistake patience for weakness, but in reality patience is

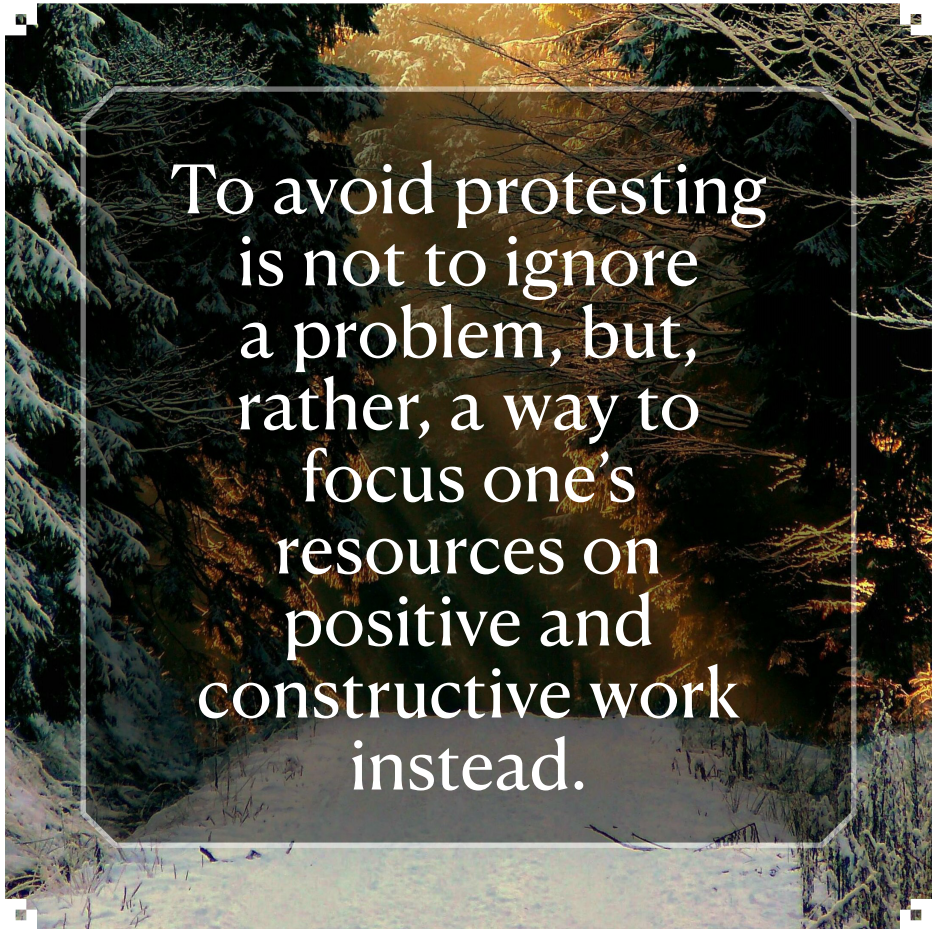


*Patience is the key to this higher level of living. Many people mistake patience for weakness, but in reality patience is a form of strength. It gives a person the ability to remain focused on what is important rather than becoming distracted by every passing storm.*

a form of strength. It gives a person the ability to remain focused on what is important rather than becoming distracted by every passing storm.

Successful living requires developing a superior mindset. The strongest people are not those who win every argument or confront every challenge head-on. The strongest people are those who learn the art of rising above negativity.

Like the great bird that soars beyond the storm, a person of wisdom rises above emotional turbulence. In doing so, he discovers peace, clarity, and the strength that comes from higher thinking. □



To avoid protesting  
is not to ignore  
a problem, but,  
rather, a way to  
focus one's  
resources on  
positive and  
constructive work  
instead.

# THE ROSE'S SECRET

## *Giving Without Expectation*

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A rose is one of nature's most beautiful creations. It spreads fragrance, displays beauty, and brings joy to those who see it. Yet it asks for no applause. It does not demand appreciation. Nor does it complain when people pass by without noticing it. It blooms simply because blooming is its nature. This simple fact contains a profound lesson for human life.

A remarkable incident from the life of J. Krishnamurti illustrates this truth. For many decades, he travelled across India and various Western countries, speaking about self-understanding and inner transformation. Large audiences attended his talks, and many people returned again and again to listen to him. Yet he observed that genuine and lasting change among listeners often seemed rare.

On one occasion in Madras (now Chennai), after addressing a large gathering, he remarked, "You will all go back and continue doing what you were doing." One listener was disturbed by this statement. He stood up and asked, "If people do not change, why do you keep speaking to us?"

Krishnamurti did not react emotionally. He did not argue or become defensive. Instead, he replied with a simple question: "Sir, have you ever asked a rose why it blooms?" The audience fell silent.

The answer contained a wisdom that went far beyond the immediate discussion. A rose does not bloom because people admire it. Nor does it stop blooming because people ignore it. Fragrance and beauty are part of its nature.

The same principle applies to human character. A person of wisdom does not make goodness dependent on people's responses. He continues to share truth, kindness, and sincere advice, whether others appreciate it or not. His motivation comes from within, not from public approval.

To react is easy. To remain positive and continue one's mission despite indifference is a higher form of character. Like the rose, a truly mature person continues to spread goodness because goodness has become part of his nature.



# THE TREE'S MESSAGE

## *Lessons In Giving*

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A tree is one of the greatest teachers in the world, yet it teaches without words. It stands silently in the open, exposed to the heat of the sun, the force of the wind, and the hardships of changing seasons. Yet, despite enduring these conditions itself, it provides comfort to others. It offers shade to the traveller, shelter to birds, and beauty to all who pass by. The tree lives by the principle of giving.

Modern science tells us that a tree absorbs carbon dioxide and releases oxygen. In this way, it continually benefits others without demanding anything in return. It produces flowers, fruits, and wood, enriching the lives of countless creatures. Its existence is a silent example of service.

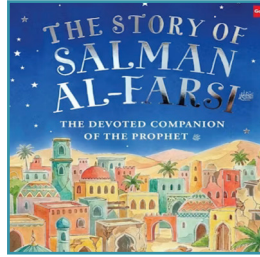
There is another lesson hidden in the life of a tree. When children throw stones at a fruit-bearing tree, the tree does not respond with anger. Instead, it lets its fruits fall to the ground. This scene serves as a powerful reminder that the highest character is not to return negativity with negativity, but to respond with positivity. The Quran says: "Repel evil with what is better." (41: 34).

A tree also teaches the lesson of stability. The secret of its strength lies beneath the ground. The deeper its roots penetrate the earth, the more firmly it stands against storms and strong winds.

Human life follows the same law. A person whose roots are grounded in truth, patience, and God-consciousness develops inner stability. Such a person may face difficulties, criticism, and challenges, but temporary storms cannot shake him.

Nature is a divine classroom. Every part of creation contains a lesson for those who reflect. The tree teaches patience, humility, service, peace, and resilience. It does not live for itself alone; it exists for the benefit of others.

Human greatness lies not in taking, but in giving. The tree reminds us that a meaningful life is one that spreads goodness despite difficulties. □



## SALMAN AL FARSI - THE DEVOTED COMPANION OF THE PROPHET

By Sr. Nafees Khan

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✦ **No. of Pages:** 32

✦ **ISBN:** 9789349952355

✦ **About the Author:**

The author Sr. Nafees Khan earned her Bachelor of Art's degree at Aligarh Muslim University in India and completed her teacher's training in Canada. Her career spans over thirty years as a teacher in elementary public schools. She has been an active member of the Toronto Muslim community since 1967. She has a special interest in the education of Muslim children and played a key role in the establishment of two full-time Islamic schools, Islamic Foundation School and Al Falah School in Toronto. Sr. Nafees served as Principal at both schools. Her other books are "A to Z of Akhlaaq", "Abu Bakr" and "Daughters of the Prophet Muhammad."

Salman-Al-Farsi, born into a wealthy Persian Zoroastrian Family, courageously searched for the truth. His journey led him through Christianity, slavery and hardship before embracing Islam. Honoured by the Prophet (S.A.W), his wisdom shaped history and inspires perseverance and faith. His remarkable journey teaches young readers the power of perseverance, courage and an unwavering search for truth.

The following is a selection from the book:

## Blessed Encounters with the Prophet

Salman waited impatiently for the evening to come. Then he took a few dates with him that he had collected and went to the Messenger of Allah in Quba. While offering the dates to the Prophet & he said, "I heard that you are a good man, and that your companions are strangers here and are needy. Here is something that I want to give away in sadaqah and I think you deserve it more than others." Salman put the dates in front of the Prophet & and watched what he would do. The Messenger of Allah offered the dates to his companions, and he himself did not take any.

Salman knew that this was one of the signs of prophethood and returned home. He started collecting some dates again. When the Prophet & reached Madinah, Salman again went to Him and said,

"I noticed that you did not eat what was given as sadaqah. This is a present that I am offering to you." The Messenger of Allah ate some dates and asked his companions to do so as well. Salman knew that this was proof of the second sign of prophethood.

Now, Salman was keen on seeing the third and last sign that had been described to him. He went looking for the Messenger of Allah and found him in *Jannat al Baqi* (a cemetery in Madinah) where he was attending the funeral of one of his Companions. The Messenger of Allah was draped in two sheets and was sitting with his Companions.

After greeting the Prophet &, Salman went behind him hoping to catch a glimpse of his back to find out whether he had the seal of the prophethood on him. The Messenger of Allah noticed Salman going behind him and knew what he was looking for. The Messenger of Allah lifted his sheet and revealed his back. As soon as Salman saw the seal, he fell on his knees, kissing the seal and crying. The Messenger of Allah said, "Come to the front." Salman did as instructed and sat in front of him, recounting his entire life story. He detailed his experiences from his time with his father to his current situation.

Prophet Muhammad was happy that his Companions were able to hear Salman's story. □

# CPS NEWSLETTER

Note: Kindly open the magazine in a PDF reader for the links to be clickable


The mission of the Centre for Peace and Spirituality (CPS International, New Delhi) continues to advance across different parts of the world through educational programmes, publications, digital initiatives, and outreach activities inspired by the teachings of Maulana Wahiduddin Khan.

## CPS USA HOSTS HARVARD RESEARCH STUDENTS

On April 13, 2026, an interactive programme was held at the CPS USA Centre. The gathering included several research scholars from Harvard University who are currently pursuing doctoral studies in diverse academic fields.



Many participants were already familiar with the work and thought of Maulana Wahiduddin Khan and expressed great appreciation for the opportunity to visit the centre. They explored the facilities, visited Maulana’s Legacy Wall, interacted with CPS representatives, and collected books for themselves as well as for fellow students and friends at Harvard.

 Report by Asad Pervez, CPS USA

## CPS USA CENTRE RECEIVES POSITIVE MEDIA COVERAGE



A feature article titled “Center for Peace & Spirituality USA Opens New Boston-Area Hub to Promote Peace, Dialogue, and Spiritual Growth” highlighted the centre’s efforts to promote peace, dialogue, and spiritual development.

The coverage reflects the growing interest in Maulana Wahiduddin Khan's message of peace and constructive engagement.

Read the full report:

🌟 <https://indianewengland.com/?p=383460>

Click Here

## 🌟 THE PROPHETIC CONTINUUM: A NEW BOOK PROJECT

Dr. Mohammad Ashraf Kashmiri, a medical doctor and long-time student of Maulana Wahiduddin Khan's teachings, is currently working on a new book project titled *The Prophetic Continuum*.

Inspired by Maulana's ideas on peace, reconciliation, and spiritual development, the book has been dedicated to Maulana Wahiduddin Khan, whom Dr. Ashraf regards as his teacher and guide.

On April 26, 2026, Dr. Ashraf visited the CPS International Centre and delivered a thoughtful and creative presentation on the project.





content, the platform helps readers understand Quranic teachings, derive practical lessons, and incorporate Quranic wisdom into everyday living.

✨ [www.applyquran.com](http://www.applyquran.com)

[Click Here](#)

## ✨ MAULANA WAHIDUDDIN KHAN ON INSTAGRAM

Selected video clips and inspirational messages of Maulana Wahiduddin Khan continue to reach a global audience through social media platforms.

✨ <https://www.instagram.com/reel/>

[Click Here](#)

## ✨ MAULANA'S ARTICLES ON SOULVEDA

Maulana Wahiduddin Khan's articles continue to be published regularly on Soulveda in both English and Hindi. These articles explore themes of spirituality, peace, self-discovery, positive thinking, and God-realization.

📖 Read the English articles:

<https://www.soulveda.com/guest-contributor/maulana-wahiduddin-khan/>



[Click Here](#)

📖 Read the Hindi articles:

<https://hindi.soulveda.com/guest-contributor/maulana-wahiduddin-khan/>



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# BEYOND MERE APPEARANCE

## *The Purpose Of Intelligence*

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A small incident from everyday life can sometimes reveal a profound truth about human existence. Such was the case in a locality where monkeys had become a persistent nuisance. They would arrive in groups, jump across rooftops, break flower pots, and damage whatever they encountered. During the fruit season, they were particularly troublesome, leaving almost nothing on the trees. Residents tried various methods to keep them away, but with little success.

After some time, an interesting solution was discovered. Some people placed pictures and cutouts of langurs on their rooftops. Since monkeys naturally fear langurs, they avoided those places. Others followed the same practice, and the result was remarkable. The monkeys stopped coming altogether. A simple picture, containing no real threat, was enough to alter their behaviour.

At first glance, this may appear to be an ordinary incident. Yet it contains a lesson that goes far beyond the behaviour of animals. It highlights the difference between animal intelligence and human intelligence.

Animals possess a limited form of intelligence. It enables them to secure food, avoid danger, reproduce, and survive. Their awareness is confined to immediate needs. A monkey sees the image of a langur and reacts instinctively. It does not stop to investigate whether the langur is real or merely a picture. It responds to appearance rather than reality. Its intelligence functions within a narrow circle determined by instinct.

Human beings, however, have been granted a far greater gift. They possess the ability to think, analyze, question, and reflect. They can move beyond appearances and search for underlying truths. This capacity distinguishes them from all other creatures.

The Quran repeatedly invites human beings to use this higher faculty. It asks them to observe the heavens and the earth, to reflect on creation, and to ponder the signs of God spread throughout the universe. Such invitations would have no meaning if human beings were intended to live only at the level of instinct. Reflection itself is evidence that humankind has been created for a higher purpose.

The Quran says: “Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth and the alternation of night and day are signs for people of understanding.” (3: 190) The expression “people of understanding” points to those who do not stop at appearances but move from observation to realization.

The world is a vast treasure-house of divine signs. Every object and every event carries a message. The purpose of human intelligence is not merely to earn a livelihood or achieve worldly success. Even a limited intelligence would be sufficient for survival. The true purpose of human intelligence is discovery—the discovery of God, the discovery of truth, and the discovery of the purpose of life.

This is why the human being has been honoured above other creatures. Yet this honour is inseparable from responsibility. Privilege and accountability always go together. Because human beings have been given the ability to know, they will be questioned about how they used that ability.

The Quran states that hearing, sight, and the heart will all be called to account. Human beings are not expected merely to exist; they are expected to understand. They are not expected merely to consume; they are expected to realize.

The incident of monkeys being deceived by a picture therefore becomes a gentle reminder for thoughtful people. Animals may be excused for living at the level of appearances because they possess no higher capacity. Human beings have no such excuse. They have been given minds capable of reaching beyond the visible world and discovering eternal realities.

When a person neglects this gift and remains absorbed only in material pursuits, he fails to fulfill the purpose for which he was created. True intelligence is not measured by the ability to survive, compete, or accumulate wealth. True intelligence is the ability to recognize truth and live according to it.

The lesson is clear. If human beings fail to use their superior intelligence to discover their Creator and prepare for the life after death, they reduce themselves to a level not worthy of the gifts they have received. The greatest success lies not in worldly achievement, but in using the intellect as it was intended—to move beyond appearances and arrive at realization.

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# THE TRULY LIVED DAY

## *Preparing For Eternity*

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It has been rightly said: “The day you truly live is your day. Otherwise, all are just dates on a calendar.”

**T**his short statement contains a profound truth about human life. Every morning, a new date appears on the calendar. By evening, that date becomes part of the past. Days, weeks, months, and years continue to pass in this manner. Yet not every passing day becomes part of a meaningful life. Many people pass through life, but very few truly live.

A real day is not merely a day in which a person eats, works, earns money, and goes to sleep. Animals also eat, move about, and fulfill their physical needs. Human life is meant for something higher. A truly lived day is one in which something awakens within the human soul. It is a day when a person remembers God with deeper awareness, rises above a negative reaction, reflects upon a sign of creation, helps another human being, controls his ego, or takes a step towards preparing for the life after death. Such a day is not merely spent; it is invested.

The Quran repeatedly reminds man that worldly life is temporary, while the Hereafter is permanent. The real question is not how many years a person lives, but what he does with the years that are given to him. A long life without realization may be spiritually empty, while a single day of genuine awakening may transform a person's destiny.

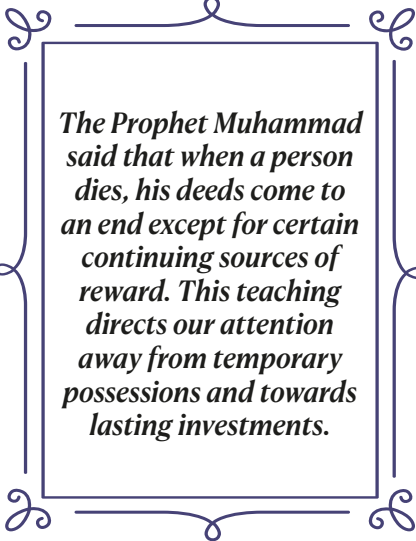
A wealthy man had no son. The man's mother would often express her concern by asking, “Who will inherit my son's wealth?” It was a natural question from a worldly point of view. People are generally concerned about what will happen to their possessions after they die.

But this points to a much deeper question. Instead of asking who would inherit the man's wealth, one should ask: What will the man himself take with him after death? This question changes the entire perspective.

A person may own houses, businesses, land, investments, and countless possessions. He may spend his whole life accumulating material wealth. Yet when death arrives, none of these things will accompany him. His properties will remain behind. His bank accounts will remain behind. His family and friends will remain behind. Even his physical body will remain behind. He will enter the next world completely alone.

The Quran describes this reality with remarkable clarity: "And you have come to Us alone as We created you the first time." (6: 94) Human beings enter this world empty-handed, and they leave it in the same condition.

What then accompanies a person into eternity? Only his inner wealth. Faith accompanies him. Sincerity accompanies him. Patience accompanies him. Gratitude accompanies him. Acts of kindness accompany him. Every good deed performed for the sake of God becomes part of an eternal treasure that no worldly event can take away.



*The Prophet Muhammad said that when a person dies, his deeds come to an end except for certain continuing sources of reward. This teaching directs our attention away from temporary possessions and towards lasting investments.*


The Prophet Muhammad said that when a person dies, his deeds come to an end except for certain continuing sources of reward. This teaching directs our attention away from temporary possessions and towards lasting investments.

The truly successful person, therefore, is not the one who leaves behind the largest inheritance for others. Rather, he is the one who

sends ahead the greatest treasure for himself. He understands that every day is an opportunity to add something to his eternal account.

A calendar date becomes meaningful only when it contributes to this higher purpose. Otherwise, days merely pass and disappear.

The wise person is one who treats every day as a chance for spiritual growth, self-correction, and God-realization. Such a person does not simply count his days; he makes his days count. Then every passing date becomes part of a life that is truly lived, and every truly lived day becomes a provision for eternity. □




Every difficulty  
is bound to  
disappear after  
some time.



***The remedy for ignorance is asking questions. (Prophet Muhammad)***

*The spirit of enquiry is the hallmark of an open society and the above saying of the Prophet aptly illustrates this principle. A culture of curiosity and open-mindedness will foster development in any society by motivating its members to learn enthusiastically and enrich their knowledge. This is because awareness of one's ignorance is half of knowledge, as it becomes a stepping-stone to seeking and finding answers. A questioning mind is like a flowing river that is replenished with fresh thoughts and ideas and continues on its journey.*



### **How can the current generation find God?**

The current generation can find God not through inherited rituals or blind faith, but through conscious reflection—observing the intricate design of the universe and the inner voice of conscience. God is not a distant figure to be searched for, but a reality that reveals itself when a person honestly seeks truth with an open mind and a sincere heart.

A person walking through a desert stumbles upon a beautiful palace with perfectly arranged architecture, running water, and furnished rooms. Even without seeing the builder, they would immediately conclude a conscious, intelligent architect must have designed it. Similarly, every atom in the cosmos—from the precise tilt of the Earth to the DNA code in a single cell—points to a Master Designer. The current generation, overwhelmed by technology and distractions, can rediscover this truth by pausing to reflect on everyday signs: a leaf's veins, the rhythm of day and night, or the feeling of gratitude after a moment of calm. Such reflection, free from dogma, naturally leads to an awareness of a Creator—a personal discovery that makes faith both rational and transformative.

### **How can a student save himself from frustration that stems from re-exams and paper leaks?**

Frustration from re-exams and paper leaks often arises when a student ties their self-worth entirely to external results, grades, and academic recognition. The way out is to shift focus from outcome to effort: see each re-exam not as a punishment but as a second chance to master the subject, and view paper leaks as a reminder that shortcuts never build real knowledge. The key

is to develop an inner stability—anchored not in what happens to you, but in how you respond—recognizing that true success is the growth of your own character and capability, not a number on a sheet.

Consider the example of a farmer who plants seeds. He does not dig it up every day to check if it has sprouted; he waters it, protects it, and waits patiently, trusting the natural process. Even if a storm damages the first crop, the farmer does not give up—he ploughs the field again and sows new seeds. Likewise, a student facing a re-exam or the disappointment of a paper leak is like that of a farmer. The real test is not the exam itself, but whether you can remain steady, continue your honest preparation, and see the setback as part of a longer journey of learning. If you fix your mind on perfecting your effort—day by day, topic by topic—you will discover a sense of purpose that no external disruption can shake.

### Who is *Dajjal*?

Dajjal, in the Islamic tradition, is not a mysterious or supernatural being but a concept representing the ultimate form of deception—a “great deceiver” who uses modern tools to mislead people on an unprecedented scale. The root of the word “*dajl*” means to deceive, like giving a metal a gold polish to simulate gold. This deception is carried out not by force, but through false reasoning, misinterpretation, and ideological manipulation.

In earlier times, such deception was limited in scope, but today, the invention of the printing press and modern media has expanded it enormously, making the Dajjal the embodiment of large-scale misinformation. The Dajjal is described as someone who employs global communication channels to spread negative propaganda, creating what traditions call “*fitnah duhaima*”—an age of utter intellectual darkness. This darkness has distorted the image of Islam worldwide, filling the world with negative thinking. However, this same global curiosity sparked by the negative image has also created an opportunity: people now want to study the Quran and learn the truth, so about fifty percent of the work of correcting the image is already done.

The *Dajjal* menace is not new—it is the culmination of Satan’s age-old attempt to make untruth appear attractive. In the scientific age, this deception appears in the form of elegant, convincing arguments supported by abundant modern resources. Yet, the tradition holds that before doomsday, a believer will arise who, by God’s special grace, will put an end to this deception at the ideological level, presenting the truth with such clarity that

it becomes the greatest witness to humankind. This event—a massive, global presentation of truth—will be unprecedented in human history. The Dajjal, then, is a symbol of the harm that results when powerful communication tools are used to mislead, and the response is to counter falsehood with reasoned, truthful discourse.

### **How can we protect ourselves spiritually in these turbulent times?**

In a world of uncertainty, the greatest spiritual protection is not found in blindly following rituals but holding fast onto the original sources of Islam: the Quran and the corpus of *Hadith*. Reflection, pondering over the verses of the Quran illuminates our life and we can also help others walk this path of guidance and light by sharing with them the wisdom of the Quran and *Hadith*.

### **What should be the response of a believer when he is scorned?**

When someone scorns you, the believer's response is not to retaliate but to embody humility and gentleness, recognizing that all greatness belongs to God alone. This inner realization—that no human is inherently superior—allows a believer to absorb insults without becoming arrogant or bitter, because true strength lies in restraint and good conduct.

For example, consider the teaching from a *Hadith* where the Prophet Muhammad said: “God has revealed to me that you must adopt humility, so that no one boasts over another, and no one oppresses another.” This means a believer should never respond to scorn with scorn. Instead, the Quran instructs believers to “proclaim the greatness of your Lord” (74: 3), which fosters an attitude of modesty. When someone scorns you, the believer's duty is to make concessions unilaterally: doing good even if the other person is ill-behaved. For instance, if a neighbour insults you, the believer should still treat them kindly, because being a good neighbour is the first step toward becoming a good human being, and this is what earns God's blessings in the Hereafter. The Prophet also said: “If a Muslim becomes a source of trouble to his neighbour, his faith itself will become suspect”. So, rather than returning scorn, the believer remains gentle, humble, and tolerant, knowing that this path leads to God's succour and a share in His blessings. □

# THE WORD OF GOD

*From The Scriptures*

*The Quran is the book of God. It has been preserved in its entirety since its revelation to the Prophet of Islam between CE 610 and 632. It is a book that brings glad tidings to humankind, along with divine admonition, and stresses the importance of man's discovery of the Truth on a spiritual and intellectual level.*

*Translated from Arabic and commentary by  
Maulana Wahiduddin Khan*



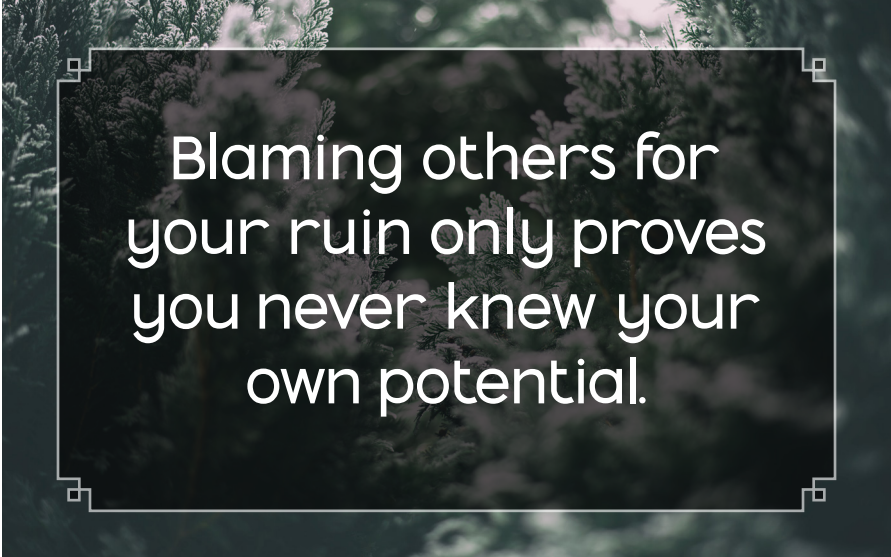
*In the name of God, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful*

**Say, [God says] ‘O My servants, who have committed excesses against their own souls, do not despair of God’s mercy, for God surely forgives all sins. He is truly the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful. Turn to your Lord and submit to Him before His scourge overtakes you, for then you shall not be helped. (39: 53-54)**

When those who possess sensitive hearts are blessed with a deep realization of God (ma’rifah), they start becoming worried as to what would happen about their past sins. Similarly, even after adopting a God-fearing way of life, a man is likely to display shortcomings from time to time, and his sensitive nature makes him worry again on this account. These feelings in some people can become so intense as to cause a deep sense of frustration. For such people, God has declared in His Book that they should firmly believe that their God is Forgiving and Merciful. He does not look at a man’s past but at his present. He does not look to his outward form but at his inner soul. He treats a man with broad-mindedness and not with petty-mindedness. That is why, when a man turns towards Him, He once again takes him into the fold of His Mercy, howsoever big a blunder the man might have committed.

**God is the Creator of all things, He has charge of everything; the keys of the heavens and the earth belong to Him. Those who deny God's revelations will surely be the losers. Say, 'Ignorant men! Would you bid me worship someone other than God?' It has already been revealed to you and to those who have gone before you that if you ascribe any partner to God, all your works will come to nothing, and you will surely be among the losers. Therefore, you should worship God alone and be among the thankful. (39: 62-66)**

The existence of the universe is proof of the existence of its Creator. Similarly, the conduct of the affairs of the universe in a meaningful and systematic manner proves that, at all times, a Supreme Caretaker is watching over it. If one gives serious consideration to these things, one will find in the universe the sign of its Creator and also the sign of its Organizer and Designer. Under these circumstances, those who worship beings other than God are indulging in an action which has absolutely no value in the present universe, because as the Creator and Organizer is one and the same, worshipping Him alone will be of avail to man. Worshipping anybody other than that Being amounts to calling upon a totally non-existent entity. □

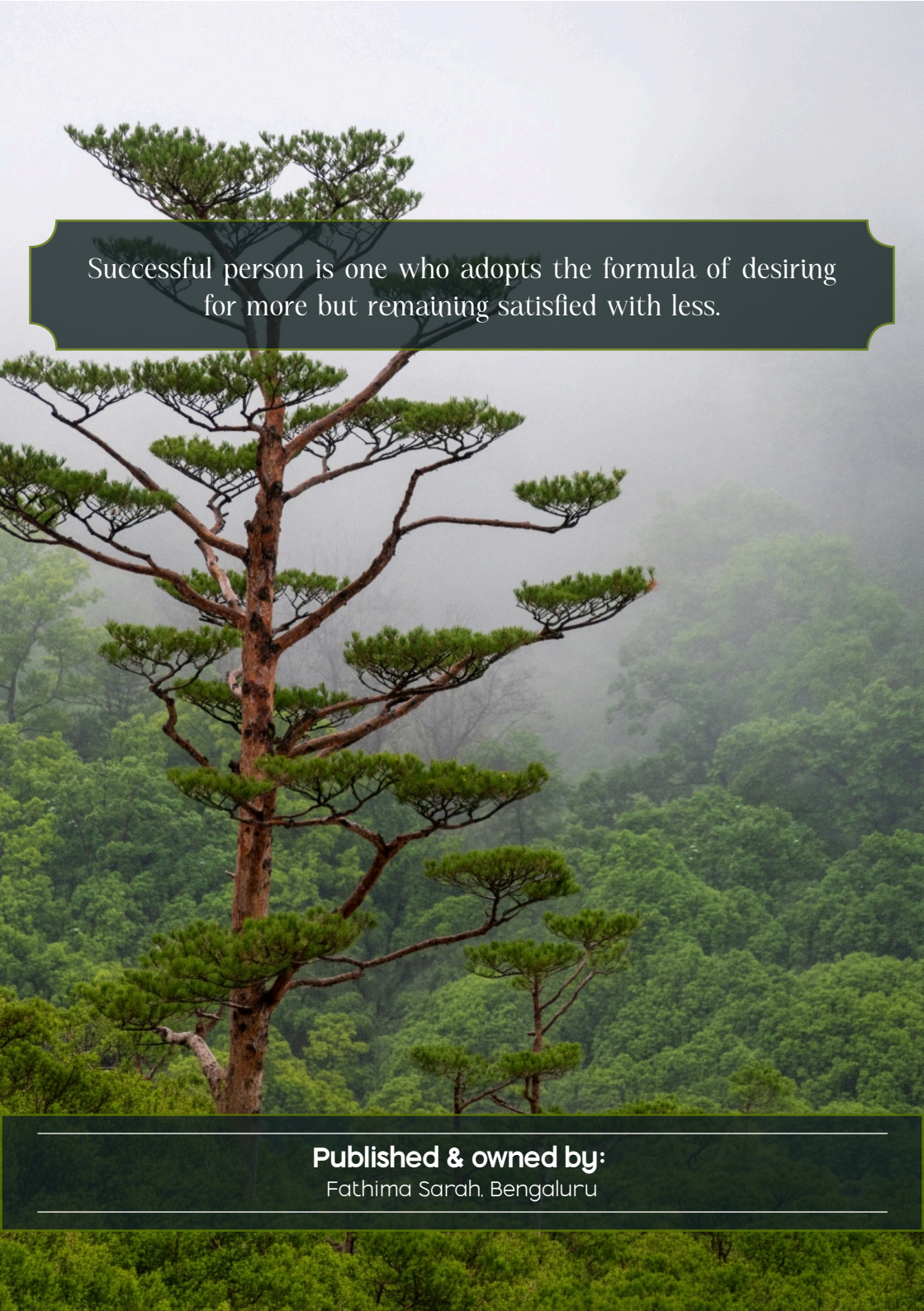


**Blaming others for  
your ruin only proves  
you never knew your  
own potential.**

**WE ASKED CHATGPT TO  
OFFER SOME INFORMATION  
ABOUT CPS INTERNATIONAL,  
NEW DELHI. THIS IS THE  
RESPONSE.**

Centre for Peace and Spirituality International (CPS International) is a non-profit, non-political organization founded in 2001 by Maulana Wahiduddin Khan in New Delhi, India. Dedicated to promoting peace, spirituality, and positive thinking, CPS seeks to foster harmony among people of different faiths and cultures. The organization emphasizes personal transformation, ethical living, and constructive engagement with society through education, dialogue, and reflection. Through its publications, seminars, online programmes, and outreach initiatives, CPS shares a message of peaceful coexistence and spiritual development. Its work aims to inspire individuals to contribute positively to society while nurturing a deeper relationship with God.





Successful person is one who adopts the formula of desiring  
for more but remaining satisfied with less.

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