



# Quranic & Prophetic Nurturing Program

Surah An Noor – Class 14

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## Introduction

- As Muslims we shouldn't spread negativity about other Muslims because this will give a wrong impression of the deen and cause mistrust in good people.
- All of us are ambassadors and representing Islam, our country, our family, our husbands, and our children – a person is not alone by himself but is in a society. Either a person is bringing light to a society or is putting it off.

## Ayah 21

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُواتِ الشَّيْطَانِ ۚ وَمَنْ يَتَّبِعْ خُطُواتِ الشَّيْطَانِ فَإِنَّهُ يَأْمُرُ بِالْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ ۚ وَلَوْلَا فَضْلُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَتُهُ مَا زَكَا مِنْكُمْ مِنْ أَحَدٍ أَبَدًا وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ يُزَكِّي مَنْ يَشَاءُ ۗ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ

**O you who believe! Follow not the footsteps of Shaitan (Satan). And whosoever follows the footsteps of Shaitan (Satan), then, verily he commands Al-Fahsha' [i.e. to commit indecency (illegal sexual intercourse)], and Al-Munkar [disbelief and polytheism (i.e. to do evil and wicked deeds; and to speak or to do what is forbidden in Islam)]. And had it not been for the Grace of Allah and His Mercy on you, not one of you would ever have been pure from sins. But Allah purifies (guides to Islam) whom He wills, and Allah is All-Hearer, All-Knower.**

- What is the meaning of (تزكية) in day to day life? After graduating from college a student will ask for a letter of recommendation but this is a great amanah because it's the word of someone.
- Allah (ﷻ) will give (تزكية) according to His perfect knowledge, seeing and hearing. We want Allah (ﷻ) to purify us.
- Surah Ash Shams tells about purification of the nafs.

## Surah Ash Shams 7 to 10

وَنَفْسٍ وَمَا سَوَّاهَا

**By Nafs (Adam or a person or a soul), and Him Who perfected him in proportion;**

فَأَلْهَمَهَا فُجُورَهَا وَتَقْوَاهَا



**Then He showed him what is wrong for him and what is right for him.**

قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ زَكَّاهَا

**Indeed he succeeds who purifies his ownself (i.e. obeys and performs all that Allah ordered, by following the true Faith of Islamic Monotheism and by doing righteous good deeds).**

وَقَدْ خَابَ مَنْ دَسَّاهَا

**And indeed he fails who corrupts his ownself (i.e. disobeys what Allah has ordered by rejecting the true Faith of Islamic Monotheism or by following polytheism or by doing every kind of evil wicked deeds).**

- The one who purifies himself is the one who has succeeded. Purification of the self is two parts:
  1. Removing what's bad
  2. Placing what's good
- We need purification of the self because our nafs changes. In this ayah, Who will give us 'the letter of recommendation' to be a 'lantern'? Not everyone can be a lantern. A person might know all of the knowledge but he doesn't purify himself and is still the same, such a person is not worthy to be a lantern. Allah (ﷻ) chooses who can spread light in society. May Allah (ﷻ) purify us and grant us light. Ameen.
- Before purification, there are corrupters and problem-makers, who are they? The nafs and the shaitan. If we can hold our thinking and tongue then this can control our nafs. The plot of the shaitan is weak but the plot of the nafs is greater because it's us. Those who follow the instructions in Surah An Noor will be lanterns in society.
- (يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا) (**O you who believe!**): it first begins with belief and the focus in Surah An Noor is the believers, even the punishments and scolding is for the believers so that the best is brought out from them and they can be lanterns in society. The theme of Surah An Noor is concealment and when a person conceals sins and not exposes the bad then he will have light.
- (لَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ) (**Follow not the footsteps of Shaitan (Satan).**): the shaitan wants to remove our clothes and remove the concealment. He wants to remove good speech, good thoughts, and good behavior. When we look at any types of etiquettes and protocols, it calls for modesty and even in historical times, the ladies who were covered in layers showed higher class and higher respect. The people of paradise are not naked but are fully covered because they're honored. No one is purer than Allah (ﷻ) and He veils His Face because His beauty would burn the creation, subhan Allah. Not everyone will have the honor of seeing the Face of Allah (ﷻ) but only those who went through life and are worthy to enter it.



- Allah (ﷻ) placed rules for Adam (عليه السلام) to not come near the tree and Allah (ﷻ) told us to not come near to zina because the steps of the shaitan begin with immodesty, where it's speaking immodestly, dressing immodestly, or acting immodestly.
- The shaitan wanted to beautify the tree to Adam (عليه السلام) and make him think it will make him immortal and an angel, then Adam (عليه السلام) and his wife ate from the forbidden tree though there are many halal trees.
- The moment they ate from the tree, what happened? Their clothes were removed and they were naked, subhan Allah. The shaitan wants to have no concealment – to speak indecently, to act indecently, to behave indecently, and to dress indecently.

#### **Process of the steps of the shaitan (towards Adam (عليه السلام)):**

1. He will analyze and scan you, he will study your nature. He found out Adam (عليه السلام) had two desires: to live forever and to be angel, though both are good desires.
  2. He will beautify 'the tree' and whisper again and again that this is what you need.
  3. Your nafs will either accept these whispers or reject it
  4. When you're convinced then he'll watch you fall into the sin
  5. Then he will come to make you despair of the bad you've done. The first time after committing zina, a person will feel so bad and dirty that the shaitan will trick him to think, you're so bad and dirty that it doesn't matter if you do it again, subhan Allah. So the person continues in bad relationships.
- The shaitan will not tell us to eat from the tree but he'll advertise the tree and make you want it. And for each person he will use a certain strategy because everyone is different, and the strategies he used on us before are different now because we've changed.
  - A person needs to be strong in front of the shaitan, seek refuge with Allah (ﷻ) and not surrender.

#### **There are two strategies of the shaitan:**

1. Denial (التكذيب)
2. Arrogance (الاستكبار)

#### **Our assignments in life is:**

1. Respecting and magnifying what Allah (ﷻ) tells us by believing in it (الاخبار) (Belief)
  2. Following and respecting the commands and prohibitions (التكليف) (Do good deeds)
- The shaitan will make his strategies according to these two assignments:



1. He will make us have doubts and belie the news which Allah (ﷻ) told us. When a person disbelieves and belies any news then it's disbelief in all.
  2. Make us disrespect and be arrogant to the commands and prohibitions.
- Why is the shaitan using these two strategies? Because he committed them, he belied and was arrogant, and he's going to the hellfire and wants to take as many people with him. His vision is clear to take people to the hellfire and his mission are the strategies he's using. May Allah (ﷻ) protect us. Ameen.
  - If a person is strong enough to stop his nafs then he'll be strong to stop the shaitan. How can a person have a 'lantern' if he's following his nafs or the shaitan? Subhan Allah.
  - (وَمَنْ يَتَّبِعْ خُطَوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ) **(And whosoever follows the footsteps of Shaitan (Satan))**); whoever follows the steps of the shaitan, then the shaitan will be his commander, astaghfar Allah. What will the shaitan command him to?
  - (فَإِنَّهُ يَأْمُرُ بِالْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ) **(then, verily he commands Al-Fahsha' [i.e. to commit indecency (illegal sexual intercourse)], and Al-Munkar [disbelief and polytheism (i.e. to do evil and wicked deeds; and to speak or to do what is forbidden in Islam)])**); (بِالْفَحْشَاءِ) is anything indecent from dress, speech, behavior, actions and thinking; this is related to the shaitan's strategy of arrogance. (وَالْمُنْكَرِ) is any type of thinking or actions which a sound mind would deny, this is related to the shaitan's strategy of denial.
  - One of the missions of the shaitan is to command to indecency and munkar.
  - (وَلَوْلَا فَضْلُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَتُهُ مَا زَكَا مِنْكُمْ مِنْ أَحَدٍ أَبَدًا) **(And had it not been for the Grace of Allah and His Mercy on you, not one of you would ever have been pure from sins.)**; we need Allah's favor and mercy in order to not follow the steps of the shaitan so that we may be purified, and we need it to not love the indecency and munkar, and for it to not spread. We need to ask Allah (ﷻ) of His favor and mercy. Ameen.
  - (وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ يُزَكِّي مَن يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ) **(But Allah purifies (guides to Islam) whom He wills, and Allah is All-Hearer, All-Knower.)**; to be continued in sha'a Allah.

#### What did we learn from these ayat and how can we change for the better?

- Ask Allah (ﷻ) for protection from the evil of your nafs and shaitan
- Ask Allah (ﷻ) to increase in faith in order to increase in modesty

**May Allah (ﷻ) grant us of His favor and mercy. Ameen.**