



The Samkeen Times

Tazkiyah (Self Purification)



Introduction

Tazkiyya, or self-purification, is a central concept in Islam that focuses on cleansing the heart, mind, and soul of sins and negative traits, such as laziness and overconsumption, across different areas of life (food, media, sleep, etc.). It involves striving to become closer to Allah by improving one's character, intentions, and actions. In a world full of distractions and temptations, Tazkiyya reminds us to reflect on ourselves, seek forgiveness, and continuously grow in our deen and become closer to Allah (swt). Through sincere effort, remembrance of Allah, and following the teachings of the Prophet ﷺ, we can purify our hearts and strengthen our connection with our Lord.



Scavanger Hunt

Find all the icons hidden around the newsletter, screenshot them, and send them to one of the editorial team members, first to complete this WINS!

ICONS KEY



إِنَّ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا رَبُّنَا اللَّهُ ثُمَّ اسْتَقَامُوا تَتَنَزَّلُ عَلَيْهِمُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ أَلَّا تَخَافُوا وَلَا تَحْزَنُوا وَأَبْشِرُوا بِالْجَنَّةِ الَّتِي كُنْتُمْ تُوعَدُونَ ۝ ٣٠

Surely those who say, "Our Lord is Allah," and then remain steadfast, the angels descend upon them, saying, "Do not fear, nor grieve. Rather, rejoice in the good news of Paradise, which you have been promised"

Surah Fussilat: Ayah 30



Theme Exploration

Although we, as Muslims, should make sure to act on and embody our deen as much as possible, working on internal factors like intention, internalizing knowledge, understanding our deen, and knowing Allah and having a relationship with Him is equally important. The first hadith in Imam Nawawi's 40 hadiths is “إِنَّمَا الْأَعْمَالُ بِالنِّيَّاتِ، وَإِنَّمَا لِكُلِّ امْرِئٍ مَا نَوَى” or Verily, Indeed actions are according to their intention and everyone will be rewarded according to their intention”. Practically, imagine two people, one of whom has never missed a salah in their life, but they have never truly felt any connection to Allah (swt) or experienced khushu', but does not care as long as they are hitting the daily requirement or physical action. and the other, who is less consistent but working to be more consistent, and experienced sincerity and khushu', and seeks forgiveness from Allah sincerely and asks Him to change his condition and make him stronger and more disciplined. Just based on this incident alone, which person do you think is putting in more effort to work on themselves and become better muslims? Both external actions and internal work are the two parts of a Muslim's deen, and both are equally important to focus on as they relate to and influence each other.





April Features

Alhamdulillah, over the month of April:

A new chapter of Sheikh's book *A Tamkeener Under the Shed of the Quran* titled *Among the Believers are Men* reflecting on ayah 23 of Surah Al-Ahzab was posted. And an article by Zain El-Kassas titled *10 Simple Ways to Distract Yourself from Food While Fating* was posted, be sure to read, like and comment on them.

We also got a new addition to the Tamkeen YouTube.... Podcasts! Episode 1 has been posted and stay tuned for episode 2 soon.

During our Saturday halaqahs we have been continuing the series of "Muslim Conquest to Persia".

Unfortunately, the Tamkeen Boys Soccer team competed against the Islamic House Soccer team and *lost* :(IA next time Tamkeen will win.

For the month of April, the number of quiz answers peaked at 78 mashallah, let's keep the number up!





Saturday Summary

After the devastating defeat at the Battle of Al Jisr, Al Muthanna regrouped and returned the following month to face the Persians again. The Muslims numbered around 10k while the Persian army reached 70k. As the battle unfolded, the Muslims pressed forward with their strength, forcing the Persian army to fall towards the river. In the chaos, many started to retreat towards the bridge. Seeing this, Al Muthana cut the bridge, trapping the Persians and preventing their escape. The Muslims had gained a victory in this battle. After the battle, Al Muthanna gathered his army and addressed them saying ‘Let me teach you something. I made a mistake by cutting the bridge. Allah saved you from my mistake, and if such a situation happens again, do not do what I did.

By cutting off their escape, the Persians were left with no option but to fight with even greater desperation and fierceness than ever before, making it more dangerous for the Muslims. Al Muthana understood this and the beauty of his leadership lies in the moment that he was able to stand before his people with humility, openly acknowledging his mistake so that others could learn from it. Does that not show Tazkiyah?

This honesty reflects the purity of his heart and the sincereness of his intentions.

May Allah grant us all purity in our hearts and sincerity in our actions.





Best Quiz Answer

Quiz Title: Who lives in more stress

Author: Anonymous

Although the people in the olden days were under major stress in terms of not knowing when they would get their next meal, if a major entity was going to hurt them, and if they would even survive. We may think to ourselves that because of this, they lived more stressful lives, and we may also think that we are more privileged because we don't have to worry about such things, with everything being at our fingertips with technological advancements, and being so comfortable.

However, the truth of the matter is that all that doesn't mean anything. I truly and wholeheartedly believe that our stress in this generation is worse than ever. You know why? Because, at least, if those people in the olden days had stress, what else did they have that we don't? What were they blessed to have that we don't? Healthy families. Real Men. Real Women. Real Changemakers. Real Khilafah. Real Unity. Real Jihad. Real Scholars. Real Thriving Communities.

And what do we have?

Just losing in both directions.

Stress and Enemies overpowering us.

All of this just goes to show that we lost the Deen and we aren't following the path of the Prophet SAW. If we were, then we would be blessed with righteous people despite the stress, and it would be worth it all. We lose in every single area as an Ummah because of our long chase of the Dunya and following the ways of the West and everything except the Sunnah.





Featured Story/Person

Umar Ibn Khattab RA was once on his way with the intention of harming the Prophet SAW. On the way, he found out his sister had accepted Islam. In anger, he rushed to her house and struck her. But when he saw the impact, something changed in him. His heart immediately softened, and he took a pause. She then calmly told him to read what they were reciting.

He read verses from the Qur'an, which had a strong effect on him. At that moment, his heart transformed. Instead of continuing to hold his anger and pride, he went straight to the Prophet SAW to convert to Islam.

This moment that felt like a light switch led Umar RA from leading a life of darkness and Jahilliyah to immediately softening to the Deen and humbling himself to embrace it. It shows that tazkiyah can begin the moment **a heart becomes willing to be changed by the truth**, even after being so hard towards it. May Allah grant us all a soft, genuinely pure heart.





Featured Article

Tamkeeners' Reflections



Why Do You Want Me to Care About Khilafa?

Submission 1: Mohamed Ali

Dear Peer Review Team and Article Competition Organizers,

I know that the article competition is titled: "*Why Have We Stopped Caring About The Khilafah?*"
However, I want to ask a different question: "*Why do you want me to care about khilafa?*"

The Peer Review Team has released their second article competition, featuring five amazing submissions under the prompt ‘**Why Have We Stopped Caring About The Khilafah?**’ Each article reflects on and responds to this question with a deep observation of the current state of the Ummah. The first submission raises another question and instead asks, “Why Do You Want Me To Care About The Khilafah?” while the second submission reflects on the Western influence and how it has affected people’s care towards anything other than the West itself. Then the third, fourth, and fifth submissions talk about how people aren’t taught about the Khilafah, aren't even able to get by in life to think about the Khilafah, and how we need to return to the Qur’an and Sunnah to cure ourselves of these diseases plaguing our Ummah.

We highly recommend giving it a read inshaAllah. Make sure to comment and stay tuned for future article competitions by the Peer Review Team

i’A!



TAMK-FOOLERY



We all have that one friend that walks into your home like it's theirs



COMIC

(91:9-10)

فَرِحَ الْمُجْتَنِبُونَ
مِنَ الْكَافِرِينَ
وَالْمُتَّقِينَ
الَّذِينَ يُزَكِّوْنَ
أَنفُسَهُمْ
وَالَّذِينَ يُؤْتُونَ
الزَّكَاةَ
وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ
عَلَىٰ ذُرِّيَّتِهِمْ
مُتَّقُونَ
وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ
عَلَىٰ ذُرِّيَّتِهِمْ
مُتَّقُونَ
وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ
عَلَىٰ ذُرِّيَّتِهِمْ
مُتَّقُونَ

Successful is the one who purifies their soul

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ
عَلَىٰ ذُرِّيَّتِهِمْ
مُتَّقُونَ
وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ
عَلَىٰ ذُرِّيَّتِهِمْ
مُتَّقُونَ
وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ
عَلَىٰ ذُرِّيَّتِهِمْ
مُتَّقُونَ
وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ
عَلَىٰ ذُرِّيَّتِهِمْ
مُتَّقُونَ
وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ
عَلَىٰ ذُرِّيَّتِهِمْ
مُتَّقُونَ

and doomed is the one who corrupts it!