

# Signs of the Love of Allah (SWT)

**PodSeries - Vol 5**



**Achieve Noble Character**

**Signs of the Love of Allah (SWT)**

**ShaykhPod Books**

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## **Acknowledgements**

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We pray that Allah, the Exalted, completes His favour on us and accepts each letter of this book in His august court and allows it to testify on our behalf on the Last Day.

All praise to Allah, the Exalted, Lord of the worlds and endless blessings and peace be upon the Holy Prophet Muhammad, on his blessed Household and Companions, may Allah be pleased with them all.

## **Compiler's Notes**

We have tried diligently to do justice in this volume however if there are any short falls found then the compiler is personally and solely responsible for them.

We accept the possibility of faults and shortcomings in an effort to complete such a difficult task. We might have unconsciously stumbled and committed errors for which we ask for indulgence and forgiveness of our readers and the drawing of our attention thereto will be appreciated. We earnestly invite constructive suggestions which can be made to [ShaykhPod.Books@gmail.com](mailto:ShaykhPod.Books@gmail.com).

## Introduction

The following is a short book that discusses some of the signs of truly loving Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. It is vital for Muslims to support their verbal declaration of love by adopting these signs so that they can Achieve Noble Character.

According to the Hadith found in Jami At Tirmidhi, number 2003, the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, has advised that the heaviest thing in the Scales of Judgment Day will be Noble Character. It is one of the qualities of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, which Allah, the Exalted, complimented in Chapter 68 Al Qalam, Verse 4 of the Holy Quran:

*“And indeed, you are of a great moral character.”*

Therefore, it is a duty on all Muslims to gain and act on the teachings of the Holy Quran and the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, in order to Achieve Noble Character.

## **Signs of the Love of Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him**

It has been made clear in the Holy Quran and the Hadiths of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, that love for Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, is an important part of faith. In fact, one Hadith found in Sahih Muslim, number 165, advises that a person will only taste the sweetness of faith when they love Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, more than the entire creation. Another Hadith found in Sahih Muslim, number 168, clearly warns that a person cannot be a believer until they love the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, more than the entire creation. Because of this fact Muslims all claim they love Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. But this is a claim which must be supported by evidence. Otherwise, it will have no value with Allah, the Exalted.

The first sign of love has been mentioned in the Holy Quran. It clearly advises that if one loves Allah, the Exalted, and desires His love and forgiveness they must practically follow the footsteps of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. Chapter 3 Alee Imran, verse 31:

*“Say, [O Mohammad], “If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.””*



This means a muslim must strive to emulate the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, by applying his traditions into their lives through following his words and deeds. They must obey his commands and avoid his prohibitions. Chapter 59 Al Hashr, verse 7:

*“...And whatever the Messenger has given you - take; and what he has forbidden you - refrain from...”*

One must not pick and choose from his traditions and only apply them in their behaviour when it suits them. The one who does this is only following their desires while claiming to follow the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. One clear sign of this incorrect attitude is that a person changes the priority of actions set by the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. For example, they will give priority to the actions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, which are less important than his other actions. For example, according to a Hadith found in Sahih Bukhari, number 5363, while at home the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon, would help his family with the house chores but when the time of prayer came he would leave to lead the congregational prayer at the Mosque. If someone helps their family with the chores of the house but does not attend the Mosque to offer the prayer with the congregation without a valid excuse then they are not following the tradition of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. This is because they have reordered the priority of actions. The prayer at the Mosque with congregation takes priority over helping with house chores according to the tradition of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. And if a person reorders this priority they are not following his tradition. Helping one's family with the house chores is undoubtedly a good deed but if

they behave in this manner they are not following the tradition of the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, even if it appears so. They are in fact only following their own desires. This is an important point muslims must understand. But it is vital to note, this does not mean muslims should stop doing righteous deeds. It means they should try their best to follow the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, correctly.

The next sign of truly loving Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, is that one will prefer the commands and prohibitions delivered in the Holy Quran and the Hadiths of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, over their own desires and opinions. Chapter 9 At Tawbah, verse 24:

*“Say, [O Muhammad], “If your fathers, your sons, your brothers, your wives, your relatives, wealth which you have obtained, commerce wherein you fear decline, and dwellings with which you are pleased are more beloved to you than Allah and His Messenger and striving in His cause, then wait until Allah executes His command. And Allah does not guide the defiantly disobedient people.””*

A person only inclines towards the things mentioned in this verse out of love for them. But when one chooses the obedience to Islam over these things it proves their love for Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. A true lover only desires to obey their beloved and keep them pleased at all times. This is only possible when a muslim obeys the teachings of Islam.

The next sign of loving Allah, the Exalted, is that their anger towards people will only be for the sake of Allah, the Exalted. Meaning, they will dislike the things which Allah, the Exalted, dislikes. This prevents a muslim adopting ill feelings towards others and inspires them to respect others as Islam commands. Even if another person sins they should dislike the sin but not hate the sinner as they can sincerely repent at any time. In fact, Allah, the Exalted, does not hate a sinner. This is proven by the fact that the door of repentance is always open for the sinner until their death. Chapter 4 An Nisa, verse 17:

*“The repentance accepted by Allah is only for those who do wrong in ignorance [or carelessness] and then repent soon [after]. It is those to whom Allah will turn in forgiveness...”*

If Allah, the Exalted, hated the sinner He would not have given them a chance to repent. Disliking sins and not the sinner is a tradition of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, and whoever acts on his traditions truly loves him and whoever truly loves the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, will be in Paradise with him. This is confirmed in a Hadith found in Jami At Tirmidhi, number 2678. The more a muslim controls their emotions so that they are only angered for the sake of Allah, the Exalted, the more they truly love Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. The muslim who does not act in this way possesses incomplete love.

The next sign of truly loving Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, is that a muslim will

mention Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, often. It is commonly known that the one a person often remembers is the one they love, the greater the love the greater the remembrance. This is indicated in a Hadith found in Sahih Muslim, number 826, which advises that the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, used to remember Allah, the Exalted, in every moment. This is a sign of the deep love the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, has for Allah, the Exalted. Those who prove their love by remembering Allah, the Exalted, often have been given the glad tidings of forgiveness and a great reward. Chapter 33 Al Ahzab, verse 35:

*“...and the men who remember Allah often and the women who do so - for them Allah has prepared forgiveness and a great reward.”*

The next sign of loving Allah, the Exalted, is a strong desire to meet Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. It is not possible to love someone and not desire they constant company. The one who desires this meeting will dedicate great effort in preparing for it. This is quite obvious even in worldly matters, the more important a meeting the greater the preparation. So those who desire to meet Allah, the Exalted, will strive in His sincere obedience by fulfilling His commands, refraining from His prohibitions and by facing destiny with patience. This has been indicated in the Holy Quran. Chapter 18 Al Kahf, verse 110:

*“...So whoever would hope for the meeting with his Lord - let him do righteous work and not associate in the worship of his Lord anyone.”*

This sign is linked to the previous one as Allah, the Exalted, has clearly declared in a divine Hadith found in Sahih Bukhari, number 7405, that He is with whoever remembers Him. So if one desires the company of Allah, the Exalted, they will constantly remember Him through His sincere obedience.

Those who desire to meet the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, will hasten in following his traditions. Especially the ones which indicate that acting on them will cause one to be with him in the hereafter. For example, a Hadith found in Sahih Bukhari, number 5304, advises that whoever takes care of an orphan for the sake of Allah, the Exalted, will be with the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, in the hereafter. The Companions, may Allah be pleased with them, fulfilled this sign to the utmost as they constantly yearned for the company of Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. The Holy Quran alludes to this characteristic of the Companions, may Allah be pleased with them, in chapter 3 Alee Imran, verse 159:

*“So by mercy from Allah, [O Muhammad], you were lenient with them. And if you had been rude [in speech] and harsh in heart, they would have disbanded from about you...”*

The next sign of truly loving Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, is to show great respect when mentioning Allah, the Exalted or the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. When one remembers Allah, the Exalted, it should not be done in heedlessness meaning, when one

remembers Allah, the Exalted, with the tongue but not with the heart. This can often occur during the prayer where a muslim may appear to be worshipping Allah, the Exalted, yet, their mind is wondering around the material world. When one performs the prayer they are talking intimately with their Lord. So they should not be heedless during this divine communication. A person dislikes when another person acts heedless during their conversation so how could Allah, the Exalted, be pleased with someone who remembers Him like this? When one remembers Allah, the Exalted, in the correct way it will strengthen their spiritual connection with Him. This will inspire them towards greater obedience in the form of fulfilling His commands, refraining from His prohibitions and by facing destiny with patience.

It is important to note, even though a muslim should strive to remember Allah, the Exalted, with their heart as well as their tongue they should never abandon remembering Allah, the Exalted, if they struggle to include their heart. As remembering Allah, the Exalted, with only the tongue is far better than not remembering Him at all.

When a muslim recites the Holy Quran they should be fully aware that these are the words of the Lord of the worlds and therefore recite them with awe and respect. A part of this respect is to try one's best to pronounce each word correctly. This is why learning how to recite correctly is so important. As mispronouncing words can in some cases change the meaning of the word or verse, which is a serious issue. Another part of respect is to strive to understand the teachings of the Holy Quran and apply them into one's life. Wrapping up the Holy Quran in a nice cloth and placing it on a high shelf is not true respect. Reciting correctly, understanding and acting on it is.

In addition, one should not use the name of Allah, the Exalted, in vain, such as taking empty oaths. Muslims should have more respect for the blessed name of Allah, the Exalted.

A muslim should remember the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, with respect especially when sending peace and blessings upon him or when studying his Hadiths. They should understand that his words are divinely revealed to him so they should not treat them as they treat the words of others. Chapter 53 An Najm, verses 3-4:

*“Nor does he speak from [his own] inclination. It is not but a revelation revealed”*

Some scholars paid so much respect to the Hadiths of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, that they would only narrate them after they performed ablution and would never do so in a casual manner. Instead, they would sit with respect in a gathering and narrate them while their students remained silent.

The next sign of truly loving Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, is to love all those who love Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, for the sake of Allah, the Exalted, even if this contradicts one's personal opinion about them. This love includes those who proclaim love through their words and more importantly through their actions. For example, it is obvious to all that all the household of

the Holy Prophet Muhammad, may Allah be pleased with them, all the Companions, may Allah be pleased with them, and the righteous predecessors possessed this true love. So loving each of them is a duty upon the one who claims love for Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. This has been proven through many Hadiths such as the one found in Sahih Bukhari, number 17. It advises that love for the helpers of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, meaning, the residents of the Holy city of Medina is a part of faith and hatred for them is a sign of hypocrisy. In another Hadith found in Jami At Tirmidhi, number 3862, the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, has clearly warned muslims not to criticize any of the Companions, may Allah be pleased with them, as loving them is a sign of loving the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, and hating them is a sign of hating the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, and Allah, the Exalted. This person will not succeed unless they sincerely repent. The Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, mentioned a similar statement regarding his blessed household, may Allah be pleased with them, in a Hadith found in Sunan Ibn Majah, number 143.

If a muslim unjustifiably criticises any muslim who demonstrates their love for Allah, the Exalted, it proves their lack of love for Allah, the Exalted. If a muslim commits a sin other muslims should hate the sin but they should, for the sake of Allah, the Exalted, still have love for the sinful muslim because of their love for Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. The sign of loving others is to treat them kindly and respectfully. Simply put, one should treat others how they wish people to treat them.

In addition, a muslim should dislike all those who show dislike for those who love Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace



and blessings be upon him, irrespective of if the person is a relative or a stranger. A muslim's feelings should never prevent them from fulfilling this sign of true love for Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. This does not mean they should harm them but they should make it clear to them that hating those who love Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, is unacceptable. If they persist on this deviant attitude then one should separate from them until they sincerely repent.

The next sign of truly loving Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, is to dislike the attitude of those who may perform righteous deeds but do so without following the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. Meaning, they do not actively seek out his traditions and act on them. Instead, they seek and act on good deeds which have been advised by others. Even though, these are good deeds also yet, a muslim must understand that no good deed is superior to a good deed prescribed or advised by Allah, the Exalted, or the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. Everything has a hierarchy. So one should not deviate from the correct priority and instead first fulfil their obligatory duties and then fulfil as much of the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, as possible. Only then should they perform other voluntary deeds if they find the time and energy to do so. Even the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, should be prioritised correctly as they vary in grades, which scholars have made clear. Simply put, all paths to Allah, the Exalted, are blocked except the path of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. So muslims should choose his traditions over the voluntary actions prescribed by others. Chapter 3 Alee Imran, verse 31:

*“Say, [O Muhammad], “If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins...”*

The next sign of truly loving Allah, the Exalted, is loving the Holy Quran. This must be shown through actions by acting on its teachings not by simply kissing it, wrapping it in a nice cloth and then placing it on a high shelf in one’s home. One must fulfil the aspects of the Holy Quran in order to prove their love for it. Firstly, they must recite it correctly and regularly with respect and concentration. Secondly, they must study the Holy Quran from a reliable source in order to understand its teachings. Lastly, they must strive to act on its teachings in their everyday life. A muslim must always act on its teachings and not only when it suits their desires or in a specific situation or time, such as during the Holy month of Ramadan.

In addition, a part of true love for the Holy Quran is not to use it as a tool to fix one's worldly problems. Unfortunately, some have adopted this attitude and only take out the Holy Quran to recite it when they encounter a worldly problem. And the moment their problem is fixed they put it away not to be looked at again until their next worldly problem. They treat it like a tool which is only taken out of the toolbox in order to fix something. Even though, the Holy Quran is a cure for worldly problems but this is not its main function. Its main purpose is true guidance so that one can reach the hereafter safely. It is foolish to ignore its main function and only use it for something else. This is the like one who buys an expensive car which does not have engine in it only to watch the television that has been fitted inside it. Wouldn't this person be labelled a fool? If a muslim treats the Holy Quran correctly they will find it not only guides them to Paradise but it also fixes their worldly problems also. Chapter 17 Al Isra, verse 82:

*“And We send down of the Quran that which is healing and mercy for the believers, but it does not increase the wrongdoers except in loss.”*

The next sign of truly loving Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, is having sincere love for the creation as they are the creation of Allah, the Exalted. And having sincere love in particular with muslims as they are the nation of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. In fact, the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, has indicated this in a Hadith found in Jami At Tirmidhi, number 1926, when he advised that faith is being sincere to all people. Another Hadith found in Jami At Tirmidhi, number 2515, warns that a person cannot be a true believer until they love for others what they love for themselves. As Allah, the Exalted, is merciful to the creation according to His infinite dignity muslims should love the creation by being merciful to them for the sake of Allah, the Exalted.

It is important to note, this love should be shown through one's actions not just through words. Having sincere love for the creation includes desiring good for them and doing what one can in order to make things better for them, such as financial and emotional support.

It is a part of love towards people that one is pleased when they are happy and sad whenever they are grieved as long as their attitude does not contradict the teachings of Islam. A high level of love includes one going to extreme limits to make the lives of others better solely for the pleasure of Allah, the Exalted, even if this puts themselves in difficulty. For

example, one may place restrictions on their own demands in order to donate more wealth to the needy.

Desiring and striving to always unite people on good is a part of love towards people whereas dividing others is a characteristic of the Devil. One way of achieving this is to veil the faults of others and advise them privately against sins. The one who acts in this way will have their sins veiled by Allah, the Exalted. This is confirmed in a Hadith found in Jami At Tirmidhi, number 1426.

Whenever possible one should advise and teach the aspects of religion and the important aspects of the world to others so that both their worldly and religious lives improve.

A proof of one's love for others is that they support them in their absence for example, from the backbiting of others. Turning away from others and only worrying about oneself is not the attitude of a muslim. Simply put, one must treat others how they desire people to treat them.

The next sign of truly loving Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, is loving the hereafter and turning away from the material world. This is because the material world encourages one to turn away from the remembrance of Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. Whereas, the hereafter encourages one to obey Allah, the Exalted, by fulfilling His commands, refraining from His prohibitions and

by facing destiny with patience according to the traditions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him.

In addition, it is in the hereafter a muslim will meet Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. Therefore, true love would encourage one to turn towards the hereafter. Detachment from the material world does not mean one should completely abandon the world and live in a cave. But it means they should take what they need from this world in order to fulfil their requirements and responsibilities without waste and extravagance and turn away from the excess of this material world by dedicating their time to preparing for the hereafter.

Doing without this world was not only the tradition of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, but as mentioned in a Hadith found in Jami At Tirmidhi, number 2352, the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, desired to depart the world in this way and be resurrected in this way.

The human heart has been created in such a way that it must contain something in it. So if one fills it with the material world then there will be no space in it for the love of the hereafter. If one turns away from the excess of this material world their heart will become full with the hereafter. This will encourage them to prepare for it through sincere obedience to Allah, the Exalted. This will give rise to the true love of Allah, the Exalted and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him.

It is a duty on all muslims who claim love for Allah, the Exalted, and the Holy Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, to adopt the signs which have been discussed in this short book. This will ensure they prove their love through actions not just words and only then will it benefit them in both worlds.

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