

الِابْتِسَامَةُ مِنَ الْاَخْلَاقِ

Smile is Sunnah

مسکرا کر ملنا سنت نبوی اور اعلیٰ اخلاق کی علامت ہے۔

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قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: «تَبَسُّمُكَ فِي وَجْهِ أَخِيكَ صَدَقَةٌ»⁽¹⁾. يَغْنِي إِظْهَارُكَ الْبَشَاشَةَ وَالْبِشْرَ لِأَخِيكَ إِذَا لَقِيْتَهُ تُؤْجِرُ عَلَيْهِ كَمَا تُؤْجِرُ عَلَى الصَّدَقَةِ⁽²⁾، فَلِقَاءُ النَّاسِ بِالتَّبَسُّمِ، وَطَلَاقَةُ الْوَجْهِ؛ مِنْ أَخْلَاقِ النَّبُوَّةِ، وَهُوَ جَالِبٌ لِلْمَوَدَّةِ.

The Messenger of Allah pbuh said, “Your smiling in the face of your brother is an act of charity.” This means smiling when others look at you is regarded as a good deed for which you will attain the same reward received for spending in charity. Truly, meeting people with a smile and a cheerful face is a prophetic quality that imparts affection to the hearts.

فَالِابْتِسَامَةُ تَغْيِيرٌ عَنْ صَفَاءِ النَّفْسِ، وَانْشِرَاحِ الصَّدْرِ، وَجَمَالِ الرُّوحِ، وَهِيَ عُنْوَانُ السَّعَادَةِ، وَوَسِيلَةُ لِنَشْرِ الْمَحَبَّةِ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ؛ بِمَا تُحَقِّقُهُ لِصَاحِبِهَا مِنْ قَبُولٍ، وَهِيَ مِنْ هَدْيِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمُرْسَلِينَ، فَقَدْ تَبَسَّمَ

(1) الترمذي : 1956.

(2) تحفة الأحوذی : 189/5.

سَيِّدُنَا سُلَيْمَانُ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ عِنْدَمَا سَمِعَ نَمْلَةً تُحَذِّرُ قَوْمَهَا مِنْ جَيْشِهِ،
 قَالَ تَعَالَى: (حَتَّى إِذَا أَتَوْا عَلَى وَادِ النَّمْلِ قَالَتْ نَمْلَةٌ يَا أَيُّهَا
 النَّمْلُ ادْخُلُوا مَسَاكِنَكُمْ لَا يَحْطِمَنَّكُمْ سُلَيْمَانُ وَجُنُودُهُ وَهُمْ لَا
 يَشْعُرُونَ* فَتَبَسَّمَ ضَاحِكًا مِنْ قَوْلِهَا)(1).

This is because smile reflects purity of soul, expansion of the heart/mind and beauty of the spirit. It is also an expression of happiness and a means of spreading love amongst people as a result of the acceptance that a smiling person attains from others.

Having so many positive effects, smiling was part of the guidance of all the Prophets and Messengers pbuh. For instance, the holy Quran tells in the story of Prophet Suleiman (Solomon) pbuh how he smiled upon hearing an ant warning its colony. About him, Allah the Almighty says, “until, when they came upon the valley of the ants, an ant said, "O ants, enter your dwellings that you not be crushed by Solomon and his soldiers while they perceive not. So [Solomon] smiled, amused at her speech.” (An-Naml: 18–19).

(1) النمل : 18 – 19.

وَكَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ دَائِمَ الْبِشْرِ وَالتَّبَسُّمِ، فَعَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ الْحَارِثِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: مَا رَأَيْتُ أَحَدًا كَانَ أَكْثَرَ تَبَسُّمًا مِنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ ﷺ⁽¹⁾.

In like manner, the Messenger of Allah Muhammad pbuh always smiled and met people with pleasing face. On this account, it was narrated that Abdullah Ibn Al Harith R.A. said, "I never came across a person who smiled as much as the Messenger of Allah pbuh."

وَكَانَ ﷺ إِظْهَارًا لِلِاسْتِبْشَارِ، فَعَنْ أَنَسِ بْنِ مَالِكٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: بَيْنَمَا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ ذَاتَ يَوْمٍ بَيْنَ أَظْهُرِنَا إِذْ أَغْفَى إِغْفَاءَةً ثُمَّ رَفَعَ رَأْسَهُ مُتَبَسِّمًا، فَقُلْنَا: مَا أَضْحَكَكَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ؟ قَالَ: «أُنْزِلَتْ عَلَيَّ آيَةٌ سُوْرَةٌ». فَقَرَأَ: (بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ الْكَوْثَرَ* فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَأَحْرُ* إِنَّ شَانِئَكَ هُوَ الْأَبْتَرُ) ثُمَّ قَالَ: «أَتَدْرُونَ مَا الْكَوْثَرُ؟». فَقُلْنَا: اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَعْلَمُ. قَالَ: «فَإِنَّهُ خَيْرٌ وَعَدَنِيهِ رَبِّي عَزَّ وَجَلَّ»⁽²⁾.

The Prophet pbuh used to smile so as to reveal a glad tidings that he was given. In this regard, it was narrated that Anas Ibn

(1) أحمد : 17704 ، الترمذي : 3641.

(2) مسلم : 400.

Malik R.A., said, “One day while the Messenger of Allah pbuh was sitting amongst us, he took a nap. He then raised his head smiling. We said, ‘What makes you smile, O Messenger of Allah?’ He said, A Surah has just been revealed to me, and then recited: ‘In the name of Allah, the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful. Indeed, We have granted you, [O Muhammad], Al Kawthar. So pray to your Lord and sacrifice [to Him alone]. Indeed, your enemy is the one cut off.’ Then he pbuh said, ‘Do you know what Al Kauthar is?’ We said, ‘Allah and His Messenger know best.’ The Prophet pbuh said, ‘It (Al Kauthar) is a canal which my Lord, the Exalted and Glorious has promised me.”

وَمَا تَغِبُ الْإِبْتِسَامَةُ عَنْ وَجْهِهِ الشَّرِيفِ ρ حَتَّى فِي آخِرِ لَحْظَاتِ حَيَاتِهِ، قَالَ سَيِّدُنَا أَنَسٌ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ: بَيْنَمَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ فِي صَلَاةِ الْفَجْرِ مِنْ يَوْمِ الْإِثْنَيْنِ -أَيَّ يَوْمٍ وَقَاتِهِ- وَهُمْ صُفُوفٌ فِي الصَّلَاةِ، كَشَفَ النَّبِيُّ ρ سِتْرَ الْحُجْرَةِ يَنْظُرُ إِلَيْنَا وَهُوَ قَائِمٌ كَأَنَّ وَجْهَهُ وَرَقَةٌ مُصْحَفٍ، ثُمَّ تَبَسَّمَ (1).

Moreover, the smile on the face of the Prophet pbuh was part of his character till the very last minutes of his life. About such kind demeanor, Anas R.A. narrated, “The Muslims were offering the Fajr prayer on Monday – the day of the Prophet’s

(1) متفق عليه.

demise. When the people aligned (in rows) for the prayer, the Prophet pbuh lifted the curtain of his house and started looking at us and was standing at that time. His face was (glittering) like a page of the Quran and he smiled cheerfully.”

فَلَمَّاذَا يَبْتَسِمُ الْإِنْسَانُ يَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ؟: يَبْتَسِمُ الْإِنْسَانُ إِذَا كَانَ مُسْتَبْشِرًا مُتَفَائِلًا، رَاغِبًا فِي تَحْقِيقِ النَّجَاحِ وَالْإِرْتِقَاءِ، وَيُرِيدُ نَقْلَ مَشَاعِرِهِ لِلآخَرِينَ، وَلِذَلِكَ كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ مِنْ أَحْسَنِ النَّاسِ ثَغْرًا⁽¹⁾. أَيُّ فَمَا مُبْتَسِمًا⁽²⁾.

This calls for a question on why human beings should smile. The answer is a person smiles out of optimism and positivity, seeking to achieve success and elevate their status as well as wishing to share their feeling with others. For this reason, the Messenger of Allah pbuh had the most charming smile amongst people.

فَالِإِبْتِسَامَةُ أَسْرَعُ رِسَالَةٍ تَمْلِكُ بِهَا قُلُوبَ النَّاسِ، وَأَصْدَقُ تَغْيِيرٍ يُقَرِّبُكَ مِنَ الْآخَرِينَ، وَلَهَا تَأْثِيرُهَا الْإِيجَابِيُّ فِي الْمُجْتَمَعِ، فَكَمْ مِنْ قُلُوبٍ مُتَنَافِرَةٍ كَانَتْ الْإِبْتِسَامَةُ سَبَبًا فِي صَفَائِهَا، وَكَمْ مِنْ حَيَاةٍ زَوْجِيَّةٍ مُتَكَدِّرَةٍ رَدَّتِ الْإِبْتِسَامَةُ إِلَيْهَا سَعَادَتَهَا، وَكَمْ مِنْ تِجَارَةٍ نَمَتْ

(1) مسلم : 1479.

(2) الكوكب الوهاج شرح صحيح مسلم (230/16).

وَكَثُرَتْ؛ لِطَلَاقَةِ وَجْهِ صَاحِبِهَا، وَالِابْتِسَامَةِ رِسَالَةِ حُبٍّ وَوُدٍّ، قَالَ
أَحَدُ الْعُلَمَاءِ: إِذَا كُنْتَ مَعَ النَّاسِ فَعَلَيْكَ بِكَثْرَةِ التَّبَسُّمِ
وَالْبَشَاشَةِ⁽¹⁾.

Indeed, genuine smile is the fastest method of communication that can send out a message to others, winning their hearts and affection. It is the most sincere expression that may draw one closer to people. Thus, a smile has a positive impact on the community. In fact, life is full of people who were in disagreement and yet became friends because of a smile.

The power of smile can also be seen in family's life as many families restored their happy and stable life thanks to cheerfulness and smiling faces of their members. Trade also is an arena where smile can have positive impact on the growth of business when the business owner treats customers gently and meet them with a smile.

Truly, a smile sends out a signal of love and sharing. This is why a scholar said, "When you are with people (in a gathering), you should smile often and meet them with a cheerful face."

أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ: إِنَّ الْإِبْتِسَامَةَ تُكْسِبُ الثِّقَةَ، وَتُظْهِرُ حُسْنَ النِّيَّةِ،
وَهِيَ مِنَ الْمَعْرُوفِ الَّذِي لَا يُسْتَهَانُ بِهِ، قَالَ ρ: «لَا تَحْقِرَنَّ مِنَ
الْمَعْرُوفِ شَيْئًا، وَلَوْ أَنَّ تَلَقَّى أَخَاكَ بِوَجْهِ طَلِقٍ»⁽¹⁾.

(1) حلية الأولياء (48/7)، والقائل هو سفيان الثوري.

It is also good to know that smiles perceived as honest serve as a signal of trustworthiness and reflect good intentions. It is amongst the righteous actions that should not be belittled as our Prophet Muhammad pbuh said, “Do not consider any act of goodness as being insignificant even if it is meeting your brother with a cheerful face.”

أَيُّ بَطْلَاقَةِ الْوَجْهِ وَالْبَشَاشَةِ، وَالْإِنْسَاطِ عِنْدَ اللَّقَاءِ؛ لِأَنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ
الَّذِي يَلْقَى أَخَاهُ بِوَجْهِ مُتَهَلِّلٍ مُشْرِقٍ مُبْتَهَجٍ؛ يَنْشَرِّحُ صَدْرُهُ، وَتَزِيدُ
لَهُ الْمَوَدَّةُ، وَإِنَّ الْأُسْرَةَ الَّتِي تَتَعَامَلُ بِالْمَحَبَّةِ تَصْنَعُ الْإِنْسَامَةَ عَلَى
وُجُوهِ أَوْلَادِهَا، وَتَحْرُصُ عَلَيْهَا، فَيَتَبَسَّمُ الْمَرْءُ فِي وَجْهِ أُمِّهِ وَأَبِيهِ،
وَجَدِّهِ وَجَدَّتِهِ، وَأُخْتِهِ وَأَخِيهِ، وَيَتَبَسَّمُ الرَّجُلُ فِي وَجْهِ زَوْجَتِهِ، وَالزَّوْجَةُ
فِي وَجْهِ زَوْجِهَا، فَتُصْبِحَ أُسْرَةٌ سَعِيدَةٌ، تُظِلُّهَا الْمَحَبَّةُ، وَيَسُودُهَا
الشَّفَقَةُ وَالرَّحْمَةُ.

This means to meet others with a smile because one who does so will, by Allah’s favor, see his heart/mind expanded and attain acceptance and affection of others. In this sense, a family whose members treat one another gently and affectionately will definitely be a happy one, something that will be reflected in the smile on their faces. So, you will see the children smiling in the face of their parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters.

The husband smiles in his wife's face and she does the same. Ultimately, this is conducive to making the family a happy one that is shaded under the shade of love, sympathy and mercy.

وَقَدْ حَثَّنَا دِينُنَا عَلَى التَّبَسُّمِ وَطَلَاقَةِ الْوَجْهِ وَالْبَشْرِ عِنْدَ لِقَاءِ
الْآخَرِينَ، وَكَانَ سَيِّدُنَا وَنَبِيُّنَا مُحَمَّدٌ ﷺ يُكْثِرُ التَّبَسُّمَ فِي وَجْهِهِ
أَصْحَابِهِ؛ لِيَدْخَلَ السُّرُورَ عَلَيْهِمْ، قَالَ جَرِيرُ بْنُ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ
عَنْهُ: مَا رَأَيْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ﷺ مِنْذُ أَسْلَمْتُ إِلَّا تَبَسَّمَ فِي
وَجْهِهِ (1).

From this perspective, Islam has urged its followers to meet each other with cheerful faces, this being a simple way of following the example of our Prophet Muhammad pbuh. Indeed, he pbuh has set a role model in his kind and pleasant character. He smiled often when meeting with his companions, seeking to impart delight to their hearts. About him, Jareer Ibn Abdullah R.A. said, "Since I embraced Islam, the Messenger of Allah pbuh has never looked at me except with a smile (on his face)."

فَيَتَبَسَّمُ الْمَرْءُ فِي وَجْهِ أَصْحَابِهِ وَقَرَابَتِهِ، وَيَلْقَى الْجَارُ جَارَهُ بِطَلَاقَةِ
وَجْهِهِ، وَالْمُوظَّفُ يَتَبَسَّمُ لِرُؤْيَا لِقَائِهِ وَمُرَاجَعَتِهِ، وَالْمُدِيرُ يَتَبَسَّمُ فِي وَجْهِهِ

(1) متفق عليه .

الْمُوظَّفِينَ، وَالْمُعَلِّمَ مَعَ طُلَّابِهِ، فَكَم مِّنْ طَالِبٍ نَبَعَ وَبَلَغَ الْمَعَالِي،
وَحَدَمَ وَطَنَهُ وَاجْتَمَعَهُ بِسَبَبِ ابْتِسَامَةِ مُعَلِّمِهِ وَمُرِّيَّهِ.

Thus, one should show cheerfulness when meeting one's friends and relatives or when passing by one's neighbor. In like manner, an employee should smile in the face of his colleagues and customers, the manager in the face of their subordinates, and the teacher in the face of their students. As a matter of fact, there are so many students who excelled, achieved lofty status and served their nation and community, thanks to the cheerfulness of their teachers.

وَهَذَا كُلُّهُ مِّنَ الصَّدَقَاتِ وَالْحَسَنَاتِ، وَالْأَعْمَالِ الصَّالِحَةِ الَّتِي تُكَثِّرُ
الثَّوَابَ لِصَاحِبِهَا، وَتَرْفَعُ دَرَجَاتِهِ، وَتَزِيدُ التَّقَارُبَ بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَ النَّاسِ،
وَتَنْشُرُ الطُّمَأْنِينَ وَالرَّاحَةَ وَالسَّكِينَةَ، وَكُلُّ ذَلِكَ يَدُلُّ عَلَى سُلُوكِ
حَضَارِيِّ لِمُجْتَمَعٍ رَاقٍ، يَتَعَامَلُ بِنُفُوسٍ طَيِّبَةٍ، وَأَخْلَاقٍ عَالِيَةٍ، وَرُقِيٍّ
فِي تَعَامُلِ الْإِنْسَانِ مَعَ أَخِيهِ الْإِنْسَانِ، فَقَدْ وَصَفَ عَبْدُ اللَّهِ بْنُ
الْمُبَارَكِ حُسْنَ الْخُلُقِ فَقَالَ: هُوَ بَسْطُ الْوَجْهِ، وَبَذْلُ الْمَعْرُوفِ،
وَكَفُّ الْأَذَى⁽¹⁾.

All this is a form of charity and good actions that increase the rewards of their doers. Those will, by Allah's grace, see their

(1) الترمذي : 2005.

standing raised by degrees, draw closer to the people in their surroundings and cherish tranquility, comfort and peace of mind.

Furthermore, a society whose members are kind and smile often is a civilized one where everyone treats others nicely, politely and with courtesy. Those are traits of the well-mannered people. It was report that Abdullah Ibn Al Mubarak has described good conducts saying, “It is a smiling face, doing your best in what is good, and refraining from causing harm (to others).”

أَيُّهَا الْمُصَلُّونَ: إِنَّ الْإِيتِسَامَةَ مِنْ أَفْضَلِ الْأَعْمَالِ، وَأَكْرَمِ الْأَخْلَاقِ،
وَإِنَّ أَعْظَمَهَا أَجْرًا وَأَحَبَّهَا إِلَى اللَّهِ تَعَالَى الَّتِي تُدْخِلُ السُّرُورَ عَلَى
النَّاسِ، وَتَرْتَسِمُ عَلَى وُجُوهِ الْعُمَّالِ وَالْأَيْتَامِ وَالْأَرَامِلِ وَالْمُحْتَاجِينَ؛
بِمَدِّ يَدِ الْعَوْنِ إِلَيْهِمْ، وَحُسْنِ مُعَامَلَتِهِمْ.

Please be aware that smile is amongst the best of deeds and noblest of manners. Moreover, the greatest smile that is abundantly rewarded and most loved by Allah the Almighty is the one that touches the hearts of people with happiness. It is the smile that helps in drawing a smile on the face of ordinary people, orphans, widows and the needy people by extending a helping hand to them and treating them in kindness.

فَهَلْ نَحْرِصُ عَلَى الْإِيتِسَامَةِ، وَنُؤَكِّدُ عَلَيْهَا مَعَ بَنَاتِنَا وَأَبْنَائِنَا؟

وَهَلْ نَنْقُلُ الْإِبْتِسَامَةَ إِلَى الْآخَرِينَ؟

You are urged, therefore to ensure to smile often and teach your sons and daughters to be cheerful and kind. Smile begets smile, so smile and draw smiles on the faces of others!

هَذَا وَصَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى مَنْ أُمِرْتُمْ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالسَّلَامِ عَلَيْهِ، قَالَ تَعَالَى: (إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا)⁽¹⁾. وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ: «مَنْ صَلَّى عَلَيَّ صَلَاةً صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ بِهَا عَشْرًا»⁽²⁾. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَنَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

That is said, please bear in mind that you are instructed to invoke peace and blessings on the Prophet pbuh. Allah, the Most Sublime, says, “indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace.” (Al-Ahzab: 56).

On the same matter, the Prophet pbuh said, “For everyone who invokes a blessing on me will receive ten blessings from Allah.” O Allah, please confer Your blessings and grant peace upon our Prophet Muhammad pbuh, his family and all of the companions.

(1) الأحزاب : 56 .

(2) مسلم : 384.

اللَّهُمَّ ارْزُقْنَا حُبَّ الْقِرَاءَةِ وَالْكِتَابِ وَطَلَبَ الْعِلْمِ. اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْ
أَلْسِنَتَنَا رَطْبَةً بِذِكْرِكَ، نَاطِقَةً بِشُكْرِكَ، مُحْسِنَةً إِلَى خَلْقِكَ.

O Allah, we supplicate to You to provide for us the love of reading/reciting Quran, attachment to books and passion for seeking knowledge.

O Allah, please make our tongues wet with Your remembrance, busy with uttering Your praise and kind to Your Creation.

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً، وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.

O Allah, may we ask You for all that is good, in this world and
in the Hereafter.

نَسْأَلُ اللَّهَ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ أَنْ يُؤَفِّقَنَا جَمِيعًا لِمَطَاعَتِهِ وَطَاعَةِ رَسُولِهِ مُحَمَّدٍ ﷺ
وَطَاعَةِ مَنْ أَمَرَنَا بِطَاعَتِهِ، عَمَلًا بِقَوْلِهِ: (يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا
اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِي الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ)⁽¹⁾.

نَفْعِنِي اللَّهُ وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِالْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ،
وَبِسُنَّةِ نَبِيِّهِ الْكَرِيمِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.
أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ،

(1) النساء: 59.

فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.

We pray to Allah, the Most Exalted and Sublime, to guide us all to obey Him and obey His Messenger Muhammad pbuh and obey those He have commanded us to obey in line with His orders: “O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you.” (An-Nisaa: 59).

May Allah direct us all to the blessings of the Glorious Quran and the Sunna of His Messenger pbuh.

I say this and ask Allah for forgiveness for me and you, so invoke Him for forgiveness, for He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.