

A Message to OUR Future

Adapted from: إلى الجيل الصاعد



Why YOU?



Biggest "HOPE"



YOU are the
FUTURE!



YOU will make
the Difference.



The Fruits of the
FUTURE.



REFLECT

- What does this Picture mean to YOU?



SHARE

- The Million Dollar Question:
- What do I do With my Life and my Time?




What is the difference
between this Generation &
the Previous Generation?

- WHAT DO YOU THINK?



Ten POINTS we
will discuss...

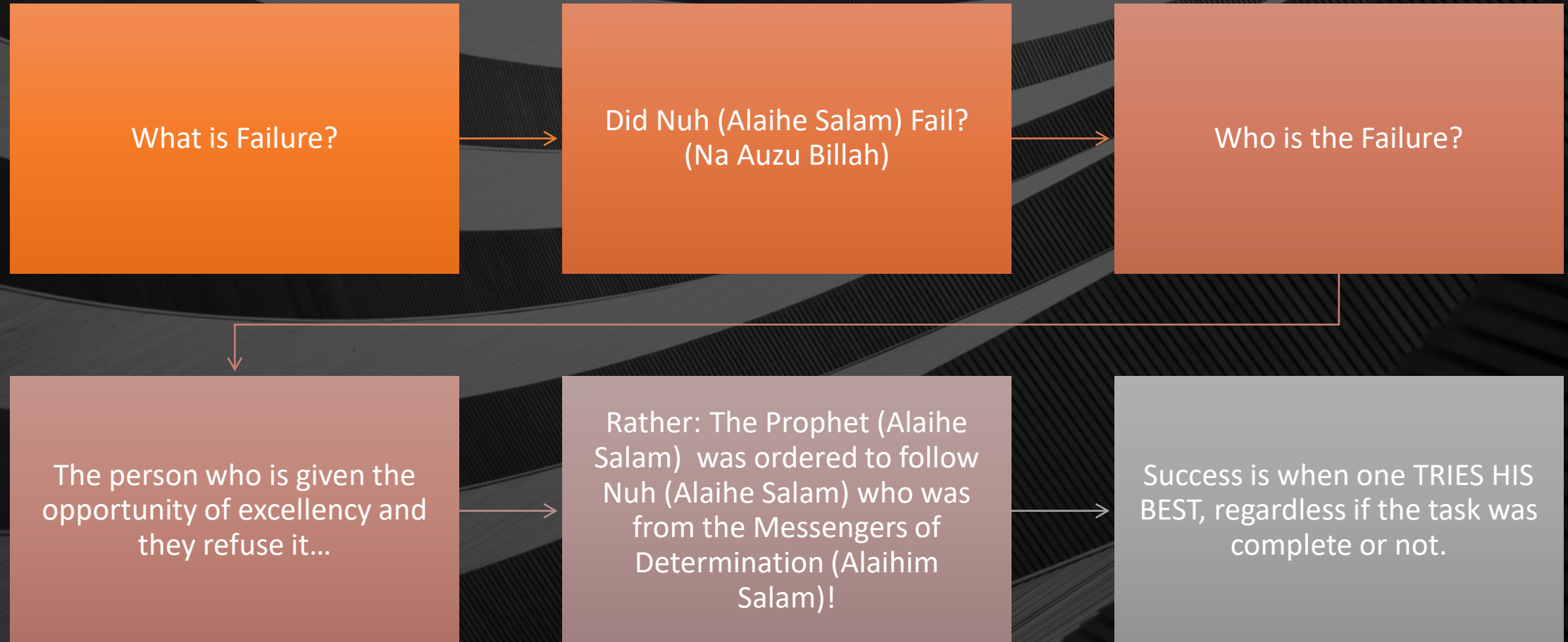
1. Embrace Failure (NO FEAR)
 2. The Question of Identity
 3. Challenging Faith and Perseverance
 4. Balancing Critical Thinking and Doubt
 5. The Problem of Role Models
 6. The Path to Excellence: Unveiling the Four Pillars of Elite Achievement
 7. Cognitive Chaos and Organizing Information
 8. Understanding Historical Context
 9. Navigating Temptation, Love, and Marriage
 10. Guidance and Righteousness
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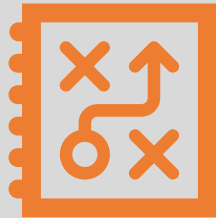
1-Embrace Failure (NO FEAR)

- Why is this Important?
- NOW IS WHEN WE NEED HOPE.

Re-define Failure.



NEVER GIVE UP



Commence the Journey, Establish Goals,
and Maintain Elevated Intentions.



BUT when you inevitably let yourself
down, what do you do?



Do you let Shaitan overpower you or do
you refresh your intentions?

Consider the Future & the Aakhirah

Look at the
BIGGER
PICTURE

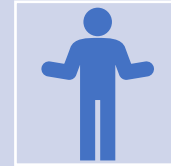
Remember the
Aakhirah!

You will not Fail
after the first
experience.

Strive for Results, Embrace Progress over Perfection



Success is not to be perfect.



Don't Limit Yourself by Avoiding Ideas Due to the Fear of Incompletion.



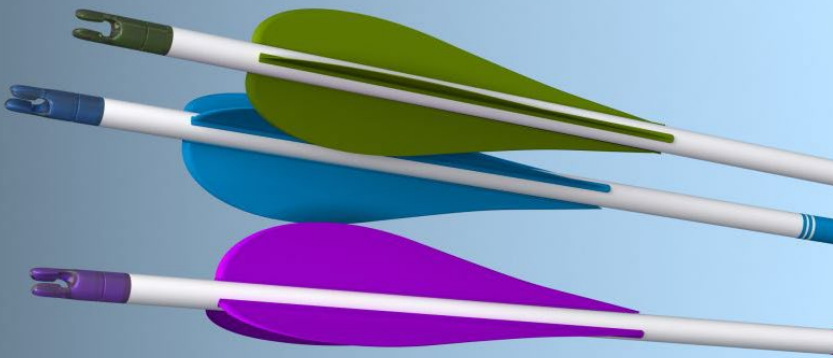
Success lies in wholeheartedly striving to achieve objectives with the necessary effort.



When a *judge* gives a ruling, having tried his best to decide correctly, and is right (in his decision), he will have a double reward; and when he gives a ruling having tried his best to decide correctly, and is wrong (in his decision), he will have a single reward. (Muttafaq Alaihe)

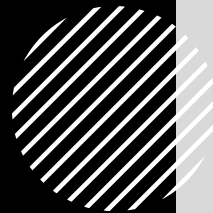
Plan & Assess yourself through your targets

- Let yourself feel you have achieved something.
- Align Objectives with Accomplishment: Assess Goals by Fulfilling Them
- Set achievable Targets
- Split them into 1-minimum performance, 2-target performance & 3-stretch performance.





Recap



Re-define Failure



NEVER GIVE UP



Consider the Future & the Akhirah



Strive for Results, Embrace Progress over Perfection



Plan & Assess yourself through your targets



2-The Question of Identity

- Who am I? Who will I be? Who shall I be? – The million Dollar questions we all need answering. (A slide will never give justice to this topic)
- **Primarily, true understanding of Identity necessitates comprehending Ubudiyah (servitude) and the purpose of existence.**
- “And be not like those who forgot Allah, so He made them forget themselves. These are the transgressors.”
- Recognise yourself, You will recognise Allah!
- **Secondly recognise your determinants.**
- **I am a Muslim, I am a son, I am a husband, I am a friend, I am a student who benefits people.**
- Focus on the Qualities that Bring Significance to Your Being.

3-Challenging Faith & Perseverance

- If we were to name, OUR biggest challenge it will be this.
 1. Educate yourself about your Beliefs & Yaqin. (Do not chase the shubuhah, rather build your foundations strong)
 2. Build Your Understanding of Shariah.
 3. Study Islamic sciences such as the Principles of Fiqh & Hadith. (Don't worry you will get their Insha Allah)
 4. Dedicate yourself to the Quran.
 5. Enroll in Courses to Expand Your Knowledge.
 6. Engage with Books that Analyze and Dissect the Ideologies that Surround Us.



4-Balancing Critical Thinking and Doubt

- Our Time: Embracing Critical Thinking Amidst Chaos.
- Islam Embodies Progress; There Is No Alternative Expression.
- The Quran's Arguments Exemplify Intellectual Brilliance. May the World Embrace a Wider Perspective. Here are some points to keep in mind:
 1. Mere assertions hold no power to effect change; those who make claims must provide adequate evidence to substantiate them.
 2. A proof consists of three elements: a statement, deducted facts, and reasoning. Therefore, it is important not to be caught off guard by someone's "proof." Often, upon closer examination, we discover errors or flaws within it.
 3. Merely stating a proposition and reasoning for it does not guarantee its correctness. For instance, claiming that the existence of war in the world proves the absence of God is an incorrect assumption. Why? Because the presence of war does not automatically imply the absence of a divine being. The causes of war are multifaceted and can stem from various factors. Any statements containing contradiction cannot be accepted.
 4. When critically thinking differentiate between definitive and indefinite facts.

How do we attain Critical thinking?

Keep the above principles in mind whilst studying knowledge, reading scholars' books, and paying special attention to those scholars who have mastered this field. (Trust me there is a lot to do)

Remember that a critical mind will guide you towards solid knowledge, while a doubtful mind will leave you without direction.

5-The Problem of Role Models

- This is Another difficult Question in this Global Village!
- First comes first, The Principles of Our Religion Transcend Personalities: Embracing the Essence over Individuals.
- So rather than blaming the religion, Ask the Question when a religious person errs: Why did your religion not stop you?
- Additionally, it is important to remember that the decline of religion in the West coincided with the shortcomings of its adherents.
- Before delving into the understanding of the 8 qualities of a role model, keep these two points in mind.:

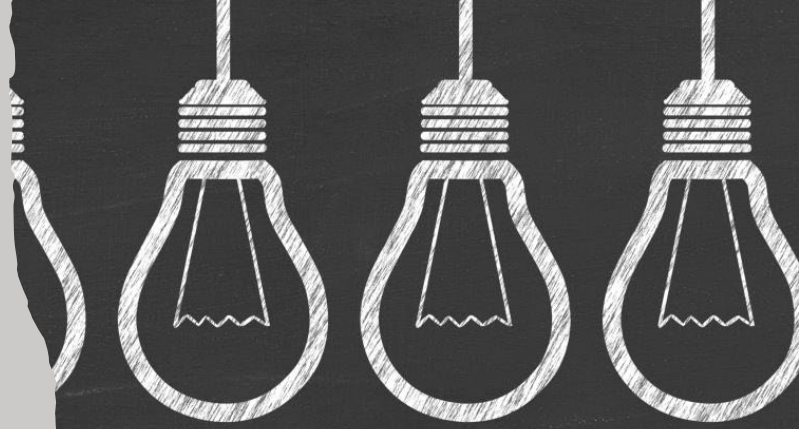
1-A role Model is not infallible


2-Consider the Bigger Picture and Avoid Focusing on Just a Few Qualities



8 Qualities of A Role Model

1. They Address the Fundamental Aspects of Deen (religion).
2. They Unite Religious Texts with the Goals of Deen (religion).
3. They Comprehend the Reality (For instance, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ did not alter the Kaaba after the Conquest of Mecca).
4. They Prioritize the Interests of the Ummah (Muslim community) over Personal Interests.
5. Their Actions Align with Their Words.
6. They are Moderate.
7. They Uphold the Principles of Religion Without Contradiction.
8. They Possess a Firm Foundation in Contemporary Discourse.



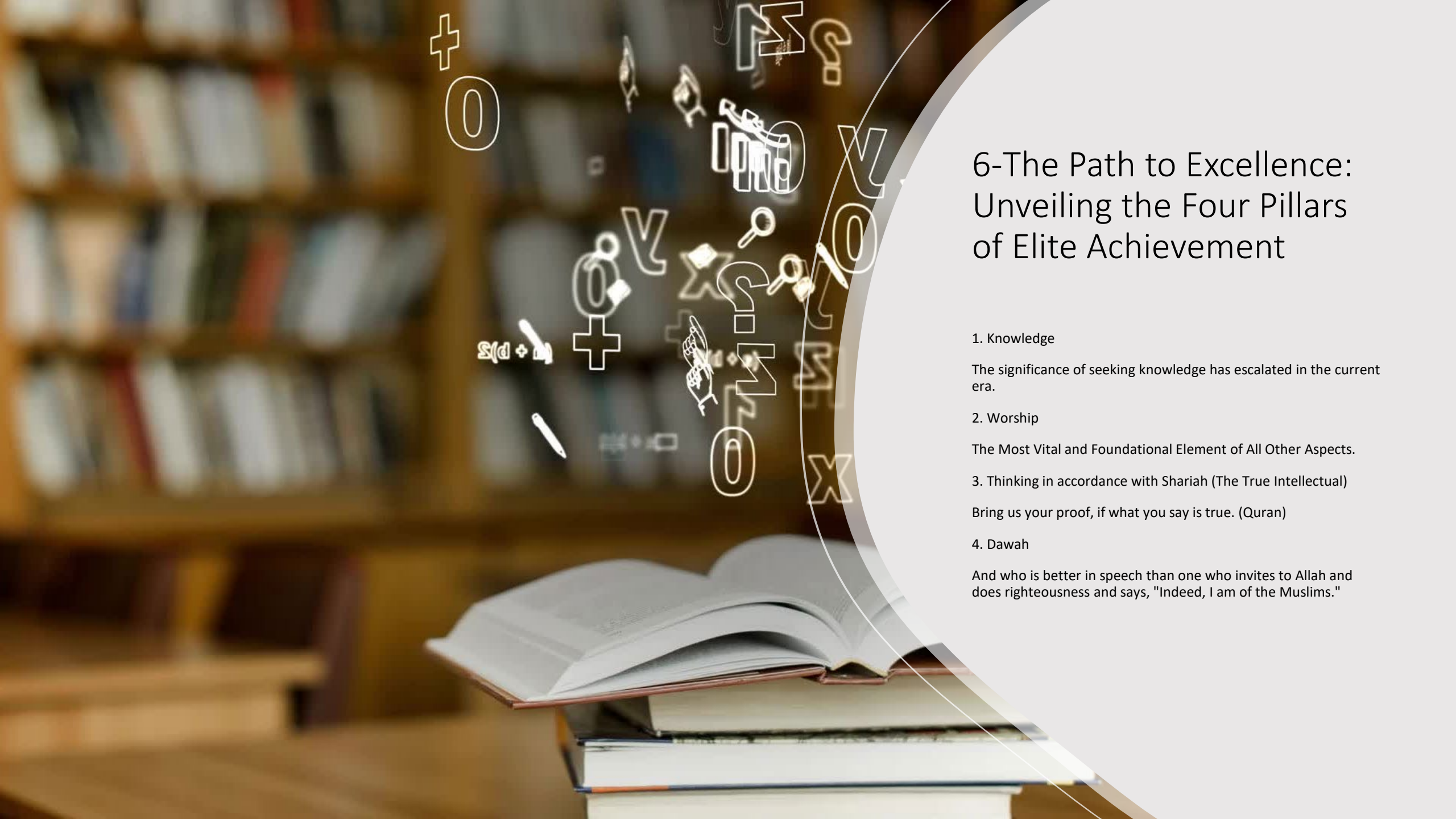


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He is the One who has revealed the Book (the Qur'ān) to you. Some verses are Muḥkamāt (of established meaning), the Book's principal verses, and others are Mutashābihāt (whose definite meanings are unknown).

Now those who have perversity in their hearts go after such part of it as is mutashābih, seeking (to create) discord, and searching for its interpretation (that meets their desires), while no one knows its interpretation except Allah; and those well-grounded in knowledge say: "We believe therein; all is from our Lord." Only the men of understanding observe the advice.

- Reflect upon the role models in your life, evaluate them based on these qualities, and seek guidance from a scholar if you find yourself uncertain.
- Expand your horizons and enrich yourself by embracing the role models of the past.
- Look at the positives of those in front of you
- The Prophet ﷺ is the Exemplary Role Model, and one should strive to emulate every aspect of his noble character.
- The Role Model aspect of your life should encompass your Akhlaaq (character) and Imaani (faith-related) qualities, extending beyond mere ideology.
- Do not solely rely on listening to their lectures; seek and embrace their advice.
- You can have Role Models for specific actions, as well as a Role Model for your ideology and worldview. However, the ultimate and complete Role Model is the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).
- Finally, you can become a Role Model. (For this we will have to study and strive...)



6-The Path to Excellence: Unveiling the Four Pillars of Elite Achievement

1. Knowledge

The significance of seeking knowledge has escalated in the current era.

2. Worship

The Most Vital and Foundational Element of All Other Aspects.

3. Thinking in accordance with Shariah (The True Intellectual)

Bring us your proof, if what you say is true. (Quran)

4. Dawah

And who is better in speech than one who invites to Allah and does righteousness and says, "Indeed, I am of the Muslims."



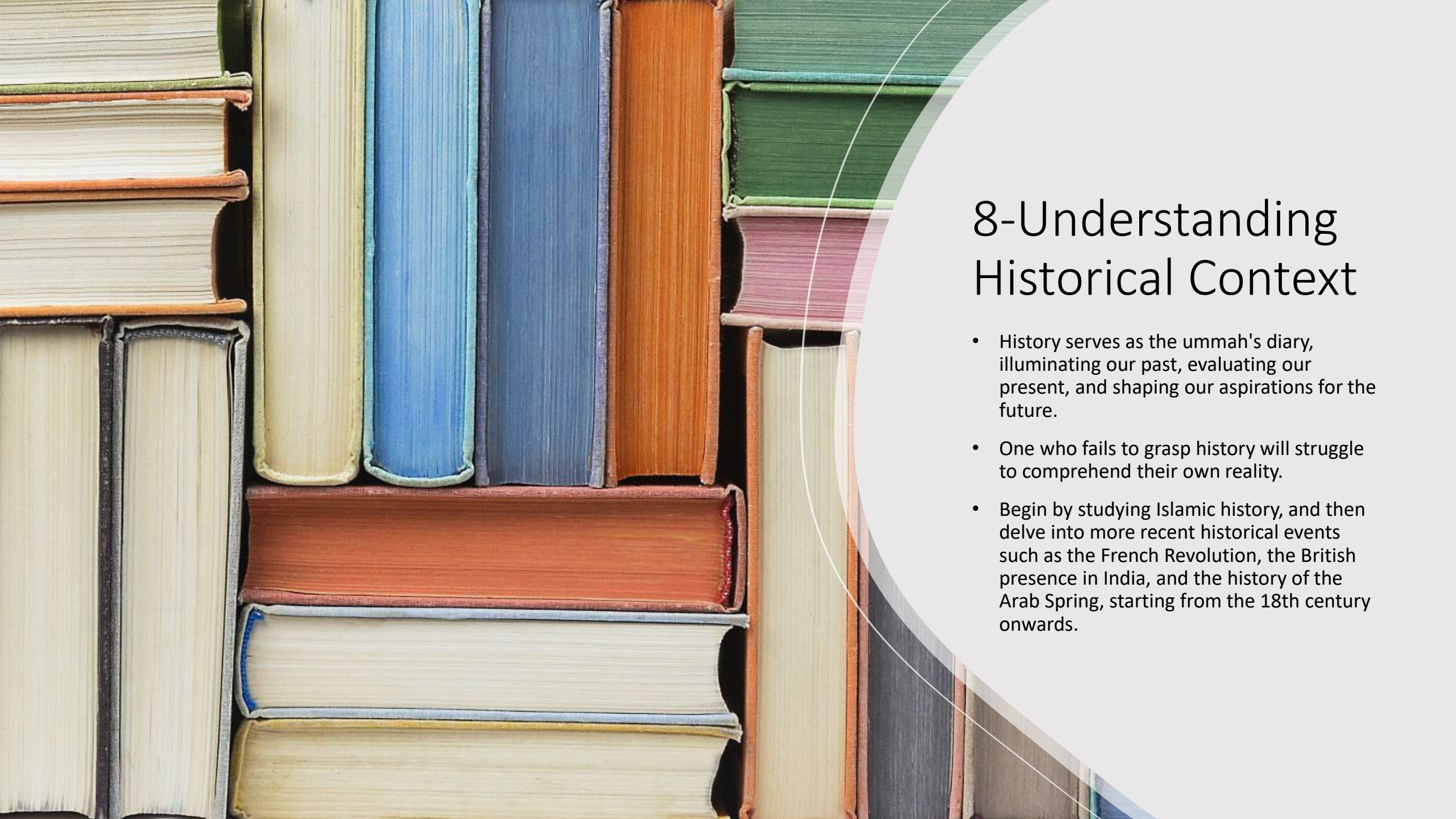
Cognitive Chaos and Organizing Information

- The “Mufti Google” does not offer the precise course you require.
- We find ourselves jumping from course to course.
- This tendency often leads us to overestimate our qualifications.
- Why is this so important? If we guide ourselves correctly, we will:
 1. Respect knowledge
 2. Appreciate the Educated
 3. Become Educated

Adding to the Previous Slide

- We will truly value this when we embark on the path of knowledge. (This can be facilitated through a specific course)
- As Muslims, it is crucial for us to comprehend the significance of knowledge (Ilm) and its inherent connection to Shariah (Islamic law).
- Treasure Time, Nurture Noble Aspirations, Embrace the Message of the Prophet (Alaihe Salam), Implement Your Knowledge, Safeguard Your Religion, Engage with the Concerns of the Muslim Ummah, Seek the Hereafter, and Foster Unity.





8-Understanding Historical Context

- History serves as the ummah's diary, illuminating our past, evaluating our present, and shaping our aspirations for the future.
- One who fails to grasp history will struggle to comprehend their own reality.
- Begin by studying Islamic history, and then delve into more recent historical events such as the French Revolution, the British presence in India, and the history of the Arab Spring, starting from the 18th century onwards.



9-Navigating Temptation, Love, and Marriage

1-Before Marriage.

In the era we live in, temptations have never been as readily accessible as before, especially prior to marriage. The ease of engaging in sinful acts is abundant, while the costs associated with marriage have become increasingly burdensome.

How do we Save Ourselves?

- Acknowledge the consequences that arise from succumbing to one's desires.
- The allure presented by temptation-filled films and similar media is nothing but a deceptive mirage.
- Do not allow yourself to be confined by worldly matters, instead, preserve your dignity and integrity.
- Surround yourself with virtuous companions.
- Embrace the opportunity to marry at a young age, whenever feasible.
- Fast to control and overcome your desires.
- Realize that love before marriage is often an illusionary dream.

9-Navigating Temptation, Love, and Marriage

2-Marriage.

Prioritize educating yourself about marriage before entering it, and fully immerse yourself in your studies.

A woman is married for four things: for her wealth, for her lineage, for her beauty or for her piety. Select the pious, may you be blessed! (Hadith)

Improve yourself in the following:

1-completing the Faraaidh

2-Obedience to Parents

3-Staying away from sins

4-Good character

Seek an increase in these aspects while also seeking a spouse in accordance with Shariah (Islamic law). Furthermore, consider participating in a facilitated course during the pre-marriage stage.

3-After Marriage.

We have some time for this Insha Allah so at that time we can discuss this in-depth ;).



10-Guidance and Righteousness

- LAST BUT MOST IMPORTANT
- Another 1 Million \$ Question is how do I recognise if one is/I am on the Haqq?
- While this topic has been previously addressed, it is crucial to emphasize the significance of understanding the concept of Tawfiq (divine facilitation or success).
- Recognition existed even among the disbelievers (Kuffar).
- So how do we attain Tawfiq?

10-Guidance and Righteousness

1. Safeguard yourself against the influences that hinder guidance (Hidayah).

I shall turn away from My Ayat (verses of the Quran) those who behave arrogantly on the earth, without a right, and (even) if they see all the Ayat (proofs, evidence, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.), they will not believe in them. And if they see the way of righteousness (monotheism, piety, and good deeds), they will not adopt it as the Way, but if they see the way of error (polytheism, crimes and evil deeds), they will adopt that way, that is because they have rejected Our Ayat (proofs, evidence, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) and were heedless (to learn a lesson) from them.

10-Guidance and Righteousness

- What are these means?

1. Engaging in acts of oppression, arrogance, and spreading corruption not only obstructs guidance (Hidayah) but associating with individuals who perpetrate such actions further intensifies its negative impact.

And do not incline toward those who do wrong, lest you be touched by the Fire, and you would not have other than Allah any protectors; then you would not be helped. (Quran)

2. Purposely disobeying & neglecting the Commands of the Prophet. (Alaihe Salam)

Do not make [your] calling of the Messenger among yourselves as the call of one of you to another. Already Allah knows those of you who slip away, concealed by others. So let those beware who dissent from the Prophet's order, lest fitnah strike them or a painful punishment.

I am not going to give up doing anything which the Messenger of Allah ﷺ used to do. I am afraid that if I go against his instructions in any matter I shall deviate from the right course (Muslim)

3. Sins

“Verily, when the slave (of Allah) sins, a black spot appears on his heart. When he refrains from it, seeks forgiveness and repents, his heart is polished clean. But if he returns, it increases until it covers his entire heart. And that is the ‘Ran’ which Allah mentioned: ‘Nay, but on their hearts is the Ran which they used to earn.’” (Tirmidhi)

4. Failing to maintain sincerity and truthfulness with Allah.

So, He penalized them with hypocrisy in their hearts until the Day they will meet Him - because they failed Allah in what they promised Him and because they [habitually] used to lie. (Quran)

5. Rejecting the truth (Haqq) when it becomes evident.

And We will turn away their hearts and their eyes just as they refused to believe in it the first time. And We will leave them in their transgression, wandering blindly.

10-Guidance and Righteousness

2- Establishing a profound connection with Allah through unwavering Tawhid (belief in the Oneness of Allah) and abstaining from Shirk (associating partners with Allah).

When the Verse:-- 'Those who believe and mix not their belief with wrong.' was revealed, the Muslims felt it very hard on them and said, "O Allah's Messenger ﷺ Who amongst us does not do wrong to himself?" He replied, "The Verse does not mean this. But that (wrong) means to associate others in worship to Allah: Don't you listen to what Luqman said to his son when he was advising him," O my son! Join not others in worship with Allah. Verily joining others in worship with Allah is a great wrong indeed." (31.13)

3-Wholeheartedly turning to Allah in complete devotion.

Allah guides to Himself those whom He pleases and guides to Himself those who turn (to Him). (Quran)

10-Guidance and Righteousness

4-Hold on Tight to the Quran.

Behold, for I am leaving amongst you two weighty things, one of which is the Book of Allah, the Exalted and Glorious, and that is the rope of Allah. He who holds it fast would be on right guidance and he who abandons it would be in error. Muslim

Allah has sent down the best statement: a consistent Book wherein is reiteration. The skins shiver therefrom of those who fear their Lord; then their skins and their hearts relax at the remembrance of Allah. That is the guidance of Allah by which He guides whom He wills. And one whom Allah leaves astray - for him there is no guide.

5-Mujaahadah

(And those who strive in Our way We will certainly take them to Our paths - 69).

The real meaning of jihad is to put in all efforts to remove the hurdles in the way of faith. These hurdles include those that are put up by the infidels, for which fighting is at the top pedestal and those hurdles that are created by one's own Self and by Shaitan. (Quran.com)

6-Maintain a steadfast grip on Allah.

And how could you disbelieve while to you are being recited the verses of Allah and among you is His Messenger? And whoever holds firmly to Allah has [indeed] been guided to a straight path. (Quran)

10-Guidance and Righteousness

AND FINALLY...

7-Beg Allah For Guidance

O My servants, all of you are astray except for those I have guided, so seek guidance of Me and I shall guide you.

'Ali said that God's messenger told him to say, "O God, guide me and dispose me to do what is right," keeping in mind when asking for guidance his being guided in the right way, and when asking for disposal to do what is right an arrow's faculty of hitting the mark. (Muslim)

، عَنْ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ - أَنَّهُ كَانَ يَقُولُ " اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ الْهُدَى وَالنُّقَى وَالْعِفَافَ وَالْغِنَى " .

It was narrated from 'Abdullah that :

the Prophet (alaihi salam) used to say: "Allahumma inni as'alukal-huda wat-tuqa wal-'afaf wal-ghina (O Allah, I ask You for guidance, piety, chastity and affluence)."

Jazakallah Khairan For
Listening