

MOMBASA

A K H L A Q I Y Y A T

ST. 11-12

TOPIC: 'TAWAKKUL' (TO RELY UPON)

AGE: 14-16 YRS.

LESSON: NO.38

Prophet Yusuf (A.S.) was bestowed by Allah with the knowledge of how to interpret dreams. Whilst in prison in Egypt, he was approached by two young people who were also in prison. They related their dreams and requested for their interpretation. To the one who said that he dreamt seeing birds eating out of the food he carried over his head, the Prophet told him that he was going to be executed. To the second who dreamt that he was squeezing a bunch of grapes he told him that he was soon going to be released and appointed as water-supplier in the court of the king of Egypt. The Prophet also told him that when in presence of the king, he should remember him as still in prison i.e. recommend the release of Prophet Yusuf. This meant drawing away from his Tawakkul - reliance upon Allah.

The Arch-angel Gibrael descended from heaven and brought this message from Allah:

"Oh Yusuf! Who made you the handsomest of all?" "My Lord!" replied Yusuf
 "Who made you the most beloved to your father out of all your brothers?"
 "My Lord" replied Yusuf. "Who sent the caravan near the well and rescued you from it?" "My Lord" replied Yusuf. "Who saved you from the tricks of the women (of Egypt)?" "My Lord" replied Yusuf. Gibrael then added "Your Lord says what has caused you to take your desire to a created being and not Me (your Creator)? So for this slip on your part, you will have to spend further seven years in prison."

MEANING 'Tawakkul' means to rely upon, to put trust in someone. When the word is used in relationship to Allah, it means to rely upon Him and consider Him as sufficient to protect us, to accept his guardianship and supervision.

FROM THE HOLY QUR'AN

"FAMAN TAWAKKAL ALALLAH
 FAHOWA HASBOH"

"And whoever trusts in Allah, He is sufficient for him" (sura Talaq V.3)

To put trust in and rely totally upon Allah means having no hope whatsoever on anyone else other than Him. He who does this perfectly would always naturally receive Allah's total attention and also be helped by Him. It is a conviction - a strong belief that no one can harm or benefit anyone without the knowledge and will of Allah.

"INNA LLAILA YOHIBBOL MUTAWAKKILEEN" "And surely Allah loves those who rely upon Him" (Sura Ale I, an V.159)