

*Road to*

# GOOD FRIENDSHIP

**By: Abdul Malik Al-Qasin**



PUBLISHERS BY  
DARUSSALAM

# The Road to Good Friendship

---

By: Abdul Malik bin Muhammad Ibn Abdur Rahman Al-Qasim

Translated by: Jalal Abualrub

---

## **ALL RIGHTS RESERVED:**

No part of this book may be reproduced or utilized in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording or by any information storage and retrieval system, without the permission of the publisher.



## **Contents**

Publishers Note .....	5
Introduction.....	6
Who is Friend?.....	7
An excellent friendship, brotherhood and companionship! .....	17
Love in Allah .....	21
Several Reminders about the Subject of this Book.....	29

*In the Name of Allah the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.*

*"Muhammad (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) is the Messenger of Allah. And those who are with him are severe against disbelievers, and merciful among themselves. You see them bowing and falling down prostrate (in prayer), seeking Bounty from Allah and (His) Good Pleasure. The mark of them (i.e., of their Faith) is on their faces (foreheads) from the traces of prostration (during prayers). This is their description in the Taurat (Torah). But their description in the Injeel (Gospel) is like a (sown) seed which sends forth its shoot, then makes it strong, and becomes thick and it stands straight on its stem, delighting the sowers, that He may enrage the disbelievers with them. Allah has promised those among them who believe and do righteous good deeds, forgiveness and a mighty reward (i.e., Paradise)." (48:29)*

## **Publishers Note**

All the praises and thanks are due to Allah, the Rubb of the worlds, and may Allah exalt the mention of the Prophet Muhammad, the chosen, the trustworthy, and the mention of his Household and all of his Companions.

The Road to Good Friendship is very enlightening booklet by Abdul-Malik Al-Qasim, a renowned religion scholar and an expert of Arabic language.

Islam is the message of welfare. There are obligatory rights and duties among the relatives, neighbors, working - partners and friends in Islam and these all human rights have described in the Book of Allah and Ahadith (sayings of the Prophet Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him). In addition, our Salaf have many good examples not only for the Muslim society but also for the other religion peoples. In this, book, the author has collected good examples and advices of the Salaf that will encourage the readers for a good friendship.

In view of its importance, Darussalam has rendered this booklet into the English language with prior permission from the author. Brother Jalal Abualrub accepted the task of translation, and performed it very well.

Finally, I am grateful to all brothers who have contributed in bringing about this valuable book. May Allah accept our sincere efforts regarding the propagation of His religion throughout the world, and bestow on us His blessings to fulfill our resolution in this regard - Amin!

**Abdul Malik Mujahid**  
General Manager

## **Introduction**

All thanks and praises are due to Allah, Lord of all that exists, and may Allah's peace and blessings be on Muhammad, the most honorable Messenger and Prophet.

Islam is the religion of purity, brotherhood, kindness and affection, as is evident .by the many Ayat in the Book of Allah the Exalted, and the many Ahadith in the Sunnah of His Messenger that legislate these types of honorable conduct that Islam brought. In this book, I collected several examples of stories and tales of good company and friendship by our Salaf, [The Salaf are the Companions, the Tabi'in (second generation of Companions), and the third generation of Islam, are the best people as the Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) described them] because of the importance of being in good company and associating with righteous people, especially in the present time.

'The Road to Good Friendship' is a small but beneficial booklet.

I ask Allah the Exalted to help us fulfill the rights and obligations of sincere brotherhood and to gather us and our loved ones as righteous companions under the shade of His Throne.

**Abdul Malik ibn Muhammad Ibn Abdul Rahman Al-Qasim**

## Who is Friend?

In the life of the world, while travelling through the various stages of life, man needs good friends, associates and companions to provide comfort and righteous company on the road and throughout the journey that every one must and shall take and go on. One's company and friends he or she associates with are a source of help and relief when disasters strike, feeling elated when one is elated and sad when one is sad, if they are true and righteous friends whom Allah has endowed with a religious nature, as well as, good behavior and exalted conduct. This company is, and must be, of the righteous, sincere, advising, good mannered, truthful and religious Muslim.

There is no doubt that good conduct produces the fruits of affection, kindness and comfort, and the better one's conduct becomes, the tastier and sweeter the fruit becomes. Allah has often mentioned favorably ties of affection and closeness between companions, providing that their companionship is built on the basis of piety, Islamic religion and love of Allah. Furthermore, Allah has reminded Prophet Muhammad (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) and the believers of His great Bounty and Favor that:

﴿لَوْ أَنفَقْتَ مَا فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا مَّا أَلْفَتْ بِين قُلُوبِهِمْ وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ أَلْفَ بَيْنَهُمْ﴾ [الأنفال: ٦٣]

*"If you (Muhammad Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) had spent all that is in the earth, you could not have united their hearts, but Allah has united them." (8:63)*

Allah has also admonished and outlawed division:

﴿وَأَعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا وَاذْكُرُوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ إِذْ كُنْتُمْ أَعْدَاءً فَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِكُمْ فَأَصْبَحْتُمْ بِنِعْمَتِهِ إِخْوَانًا وَكُنْتُمْ عَلَى شَفَا حُفْرٍ مِنَ النَّارِ فَأَنْقَذَكُمْ مِنْهَا كَذَلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ آيَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ﴾ [آل عمران: ١٠٣]

*"And hold fast, all of you together, to the Rope of Allah (i.e., this Qur'an), and be not divided among yourselves, and remember Allah's Favour on you, for you were enemies one to another but He joined your hearts together, so that, by His Grace, you became brethren (in Islamic Faith); and you were on the brink of a pit of Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus Allah makes His Ayat clear to you, that you may be guided." (3: 103)*

Further, the Messenger of Allah (SWT) said:

«إِنَّ أَقْرَبَكُمْ مِنِّي مَجْلِسًا أَحْسَنُكُمْ أَخْلَاقًا الْمُؤْتُونَ أَكْنَفًا، الَّذِينَ يَأْلِفُونَ وَيُؤْلَفُونَ» .

*"Verily, those among you who will have the closest seats to me (on the Day of Resurrection) are they who have the best conduct, who are humble, who easily get along and are easy to get along with. (At-Tabarani)" [Al-Ihya', vol. 2, p. 171]*

Having feelings of love for Allah's sake and brotherly ties in the religions are two of the best acts of obedience and worship. Furthermore, there are conditions and guidelines that qualify Muslims to be among those who love each other for Allah's sake, and rights to fulfill in this regard that will purify brotherhood from all impurities and evil plots of Satan, in addition to, drawing closer to Allah, the

Exalted. Moreover, by preserving these rights and obligations, one will earn the highest grades and ranks (with Allah). [Al-Ihya', vol. 2, p. 171]

Know that not everyone is suitable to be a friend. Abu Hurairah (May Allah be pleased with him) narrated that the Messenger of Allah (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

«الرَّجُلُ عَلَى دِينِ خَلِيلِهِ فَلْيَنْظُرْ أَحَدَكُمْ مَنْ يُخَالِلُ» .

*"Man is on the religion of his companion, so let one of you choose whom to befriend." (Ahmad, Abu Dawud and At-Tirmidhi, An-Nawawi rendered this Hadith authentic)*

There are signs, qualities and indications that help one distinguish and choose whom to befriend and associate with according to what one desires from friendship or companionship.

There are religious and material gains to look for in any friendship or association. Material gains include earning money, fame or just friendship and companionship. Religious gains from friendship include learning religious knowledge and imitating righteous actions and statements, so that one might be helped to repel all types of impurity that might attack the heart and hinder from performing the acts of worship.

Therefore, dear Muslim, choose a friend or a companion who is wise, good mannered and righteous, who is neither a sinner, innovator in the religion or fond of this life. [Al-Ihya', vol. 2, p. 186]

Allah has praised good company and made it one of the reasons behind earning Paradise. The Messenger of Allah (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

«إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَعَالَى يَقُولُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ: أَيْنَ الْمُتَحَابُّونَ بِجَلَالِي، الْيَوْمَ أُظِلُّهُمْ فِي ظِلِّي يَوْمَ لَا ظِلَّ إِلَّا ظِلِّي» .

*"Allah the Exalted will declare on the Day of Resurrection: 'Where are those who loved each other for the sake of My Grace? This Day, I shall shade them under My Shade, when there is only My Shade.'" (Muslim)*

In addition, the Messenger of Allah (SWT) said:

«سَبْعَةٌ يُظِلُّهُمُ اللَّهُ فِي ظِلِّهِ يَوْمَ لَا ظِلَّ إِلَّا ظِلُّهُ: إِمَامٌ عَادِلٌ، وَشَابٌّ نَشَأَ فِي طَاعَةِ اللَّهِ، وَرَجُلٌ قَلْبُهُ مُتَعَلِّقٌ بِالْمَسْجِدِ إِذَا خَرَجَ مِنْهُ حَتَّى يَعُودَ إِلَيْهِ، وَرَجُلَانِ تَحَابَّا فِي اللَّهِ اجْتَمَعَا عَلَيَّ ذَلِكَ وَتَفَرَّقَا عَلَيْهِ . . .» .

"Allah will give shade to seven, on the Day when there will be no shade but His. (These seven persons are): 1. A just ruler; 2. A youth who has brought up in the worship of Allah (i.e., worships Allah sincerely from childhood); 3. A man whose heart is attached to the mosque (i.e., worships Allah sincerely from childhood) from the time he leaves it until he goes back to it (for the next prayer); 4. Two persons who love each other only for Allah's sake and they meet and part in Allah's cause only; 5. A man who refuses the call of a charming woman of noble birth for an illegal sexual, intercourse with her and says: 'I am afraid of Allah; 6. A person who practices charity so secretly that his left hand does not know what his right hand has given (i.e., nobody knows how much he has given in charity);