

The friends of Allah are created to remove difficulties (Dafi' al-Balaa')

- (1) ‘Abdullah ibn ‘Umar radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“Indeed Allah relieves difficulties for 100 neighbours due to a pious Muslim living near them”.¹

- (2) Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“If it were not for those servants of Allah who offer Salah and milk drinking children and four-legged grass eaters, then surely Allah would punish you and it would be a strong punishment”.²

- (3) Sa’d bin Abi Waqqas radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“It is only due to your elders that you are given help and sustenance”.³

- (4) ‘Ubada radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

¹ al-Mu’ajjam al-Kabir, Tabrani; Mu’alim, Baghawi

² Sunan Bayhaqi; Tabrani

³ Bukhari

“There are 30 *Abdal* in my ummah. It is only due to them that the world continues. It is only due to them that rainfall occurs for you and it is only due to them that you receive help”.⁴

- (5) ‘Ali al-Murtada radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“There are 40 *Abdal* in Sham (Syria). When one dies, Allah replaces him with another. It is only because of them that rain falls and only due to them that enemies are defeated. It is because of them that punishment is waived from the people of Sham”.⁵

- (6) ‘Awf ibn Malik radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“The *Abdal* are in Sham. It is due to their *barakah* that people get help and it is only due to them that sustenance is provided”.⁶

- (7) Anas bin Malik radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“The world will never cease to have at least 40 *awliya* (saints) who will be similar to Sayyiduna Ibrahim Khalil Allah ‘alaihi salam. It will be due to them that you will get rainfall and due to them that you shall receive help”.⁷

⁴ al-Kabir, Tabrani

⁵ Ahmad

⁶ al-Kabir, Tabrani

⁷ al-Awsat, Tabrani

- (8) Abu Huraira radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“Thirty people who will be similar to Ibrahim ‘alaihi salam will always remain on the Earth. It is thanks to them that your pleas will be heard and due to their *barakah* that rainfall will happen”.⁸

- (9) ‘Abdullah ibn Mas’ud radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“There shall always be 40 men in my ummah whose hearts will be similar to the heart of Ibrahim ‘alaihi salam. Allah will remove difficulties from the people due to them. Their title will be *Abdal*”.⁹

- (10) Anas radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“When Allah wishes to do good with a person, He uses the person to remove difficulties from the people”.¹⁰

- (11) ‘Abdullah ibn ‘Umar radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

⁸ ibn Hibban fi Tarikh

⁹ Abu Nu'aym fi Hulya

¹⁰ Shu'b al-Iman, Bayhaqi

“There are some people of Allah whom Allah selects so that they may remove difficulties from the creation. People in a bad state will come to them for their needs. Such people are free from the punishment of Allah”.¹¹

- (12) Anas radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“When Allah wishes to do good with a person, He makes the person towards whom people turn for their needs”.¹²

- (13) ‘Abdullah ibn Mas’ud radiyallahu ta'ala 'anhu narrates that Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam said:

“There are 300 friends of Allah in the creation whose hearts are like that of Prophet Adam ‘alaihi salam. There are 40 whose hearts are similar to the heart of Musa ‘alaihi salam and 7 whose hearts are similar to the heart of Ibrahim ‘alaihi salam. There are 5 whose hearts are like that of Jibra’il and 3 whose hearts are like that of Mika’il and one whose heart is like the heart of Israfil. When he (whose heart is like Israfil) dies, then one of the three whose heart is like Mika’il replaces him and one of the five (whose hearts are like Jibra’il) replaces him. One of the seven replaces one of the five, one of the forty replaces one of the seven and one of the three-hundred replaces one of the forty and a normal Muslim replaces one of the three-hundred. It is due to these 356 *awliya* that creation are given life and killed, due to them rain falls, vegetation grows and difficulties are removed”.¹³

¹¹ al-Kabir, Tabrani

¹² Musnad al-Firdaus

¹³ Abu Nu’aym fi Hulya; ibn Asakir