



# **ALI 275: The Stimulus of Hope**

## **Session Two**

Choose one point from the two articles for reading.

Explain why you think it is an important point.

# Agenda

- Discussion of articles
- The mindset of Hope
- Wrong types of hopes:
  - long, unfounded hopes
  - hope in people (Dua #28)

## Points from the articles

**Lessons of hope from History:** The story of Nabi Yaqub. Stories of other Prophets; Nabi Ibrahim (a), Nabi Ayyuba (a). . . . all show the strength of hope in their lives. Battles in the life of the Holy Prophet (s); Uhud, Khandaq . . .

**Hope as a blessing from God.** Make use of this blessing and turn to it in difficult times.

**Hope of being accepted by God.** Our sins and drifting away should not make us despair. So long as we repent and turn to Allah, there is hope that He will accept us.

# The Mindset of Hope

Having hope means:

1) Being grateful for what you have

*If you are grateful, I will increase you in blessings. (14:7)*

2) Knowing that things will get better

*With every difficulty there is ease (94:6)*

3) Keeping a bigger picture in mind

*God knows and you don't know. (2:216)*

4) Working towards something better

*Human being will have nothing except what he strives for.  
(53:39)*

# Wrong types of Hopes

1) Long, unfounded hopes

ذَرَّهُمْ يَأْكُلُوا وَيَتَمَتَّعُوا وَيُلْهِمُ الْأَمَلُ ۖ فَسَوْفَ يَعْلَمُونَ

Leave them that they may eat and enjoy themselves and (that) hope may beguile them, for they will soon know.

**Sura Hijr, 15:3**

Whoever is certain that he will one day leave his beloved ones, go back to the earth, encounter the accounting, and will need what he has sent forth, he becomes free (of the world) by having **less hopes** and **more action**.

**Imam Ali (a)**

Mizanul Hikmah, H#724



It is enough to say that one of the biggest obstacles in the way of the awakening that leads one to forget his destination and neglect his journey and deadens his will and resolution is the feeling that there is plenty of time for the journey, that if one does not set out today he may do it tomorrow, if not this month then the next and so on.

Such a state of **extended and outstretched hope**, together with a false assurance of unlimited life and unbounded availability of time, make man oblivious of his ultimate goal, the Hereafter, and prevent him from preparing for the unavoidable journey and securing provisions for it, ultimately leading him to completely forget the Hereafter and his goal.

Imam Khumayni

Forty Hadith – The tenth Hadith

## Wrong types of hope create

- 1) Ghaflat or heedlessness
- 2) Apathy and laziness
- 3) Complacency, lack of progress
- 4) Hard heartedness
- 5) Inclining towards the world
- 6) Forgetting the Hereafter

# Wrong Types of Hope

## 2) Hope in people

I have seen that all of good (khayr) is gathered in cutting off hopes from what people have. And whoever hopes for nothing from people and turns to Allah for all his affairs, Allah will answer him (suffice him) for all things.

**Imam Zaynul Abidin (a)**



Hoping from people means:

- 1) Not understanding that all good comes only from Allah. People may sometimes be the means through which He sends, but it comes from Him.
- 2) Giving people a status they do not deserve.

## From Rumi

Knock, And He'll open the door

Vanish, And He'll make you shine like the sun

Fall, And He'll raise you to the heavens

Become nothing

and He'll turn you into everything.