In a society that is becoming increasingly greedy for wealth and power, and increasingly insensitive to the poor and weak among us, we wanted to take a moment and reflect on some teachings of Islam and the Guidance and Wisdom given to us pertaining to some situations we may face.

This World will not Last, But the Hereafter is Forever

“O my people! Truly, this life of the world is nothing but a (quick passing) enjoyment, and verily, the Hereafter that is the home that will remain forever.” [Al-Qur’an 40:39]

“Whatever is with you, will be exhausted, and whatever with Allah (of good deeds) will remain.” [Al-Qur’an 16:96]

The Value of this World in the Eyes of Allah

“Jabir ibn Abdullah reports that the Prophet (peace be upon him) once went through the market, entering from its upper side. People were with him walking on his either side. As he walked, he saw a dead goat with its two ears cut off. He held it by the remaining part of one ear and, addressing his companions, he said: “Who of you would like to have this for one dirham?” They said: “We do not like to have it for anything whatsoever. What shall we do with it?” He asked again: “Would you like to have it anyway?” They answered in the negative. He repeated this last question three times. They added in answer: “We would not like to have it at all! Had it been alive, it would be of little value because of its cut ears. How could it be worth anything when it is dead?” The Prophet said: “By Allah, the whole of this world is, in Allah’s sight, of lesser value than this (dead goat) is to you.” (Al-Bukhari, Muslim, Ahmad)

Beware of Competing over this World

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said, “By Allah, it is not the poverty about which I fear in regard to you but I am afraid in your case that (the worldly) riches may be given to you as were given to those who had gone before you and you begin to vie with one another for them as they vied for them. And these may destroy you as these destroyed them.” (Sahih Muslim, Book #042, Hadith #7065).

Why do we Hate Death?

One of the Umayyad Khalifa’s asked Ibn Hazm, “Why do we fear death?” Ibn Hazm replied, “Because we hate to go from what we have built to what we have destroyed.”

Worry about the Hereafter, not this World

‘Uthman ibn ‘Affan said, “Worrying about the dunya (this world) is a darkness in the heart, while worrying about the Hereafter is a light in the heart.” (Preparing for the Day of Judgement by Imaam Hajar Al-'Asqalani)

Ibn Qayyim Al-Jawziyyah said, “This dunya is like a shadow. If you try to catch it, you will never be able to do so. If you turn your back towards it, it has no choice but to follow you.”
**Why We Should Love the Poor:**

It is known that the first followers of the Prophets were always the poor, the sick, and the weak. While society has always shunned such people, it was always Allah’s Mercy who honored them by making them the first to believe and support His Messengers. Aside from that, for those of us whom Allah, Al-Wahhab (The Bestower) has granted bounty - those less fortunate than ourselves offer us a chance of gaining rewards and increasing our status with Allah if we help them. Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) himself loved the poor so much he made the following prayer, followed by golden advise:

*The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: “O God, grant me life as a poor man, cause me to die as a poor man and resurrect me in the company of the poor.” His wife asked him why he said that, and he replied: “Because (the poor) will enter Paradise (before) the rich. Do not turn away a poor man, even if all you can give is half a date. If you love the poor and bring them near you, God will bring you near Him on the Day of Resurrection.”*  
 *(Al-Tirmidhi, Hadith 1376)*

Today more than ever, the poor, sick, and weak are looked down upon as a burden while the rich and powerful are looked up to in society. What we need to understand is that everything comes from Allah, who is Al-Ghani (The Rich) and Al-Muqtadir (The Powerful), and all that matters in His eyes is a person’s faith and character. Allah (SWT) highlights this lesson in Surah Al’Abasa:

*“The Prophet frowned and turned away. Because there came to him the blind man, [interrupting]. But what would make you perceive, [O Muhammad], that perhaps he might be purified, Or be reminded and the remembrance would benefit him? As for he who thinks himself without need, To him you give attention. And not upon you [is any blame] if he will not be purified. But as for he who came to you striving [for knowledge] While he fears [Allah], From him you are distracted. No! Indeed, these verses are a reminder; So whoever wills may remember it.”*  
 *(Al-Qur'an, 80: 1-12)*

May Allah, Al-Hadi (The Guide), make us love whom He loves, and Guide us to the actions that will be most Pleasing to Him. ◆

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**Donate Sadaqah Monthly**

“A’isha (may Allay be pleased with her) narrated that, “The most beloved action to Allah’s Apostle (pbuh) was that whose doer did it continuously and regularly.” *(Bukhari Vol. 8 Book 76 #469)*

**Sadaqah in the form of Sacrifice**

*Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said, “Give the Sadaqah without delay for it stands in the way of calamity,” (Tirmidhi #1887)*

A meal including meat is a luxury that many poor people throughout the world can seldom enjoy. Each year, tens of thousands of poor families are provided with meat via Hidaya Foundation’s Sadaqah in the form of Sacrifice project, which is performed year round. Sacrifice and distribution of meat to the poor is usually performed within 3 - 4 days of donor’s request. It costs $100 for a goat, and $350 for a cow.

Sign up for automatic monthly donation towards Sadaqah in the form of Sacrifice, feed the poor, and may Allah (SWT) provide continuous protection to you and your family.

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**Orphans Projects**

*The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said, “I and the person who looks after an orphan and provides for him, will be in Paradise like this,” putting his index and middle fingers together. [Sahih Al-Bukhari, 73:34]*

Hidaya Foundation supports approximately 6,400 orphan children and their widowed mothers on a monthly basis under two projects:

**Widow/Orphan Support:** For $20 per month, all the basic needs are met for a household of orphans and widows.

**No Orphan without Education:** For $10 per month, all educational needs are met for each orphan child.

Sign up for automatic monthly donation towards taking care of the weakest of society and may Allah (SWT) reward you with Paradise and the company of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

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Set up a monthly donation at: www.hidaya.org/automatic-monthly-donation ◆
The overall lifestyle of modern society has changed dramatically from how mankind has lived since the dawn of time. One of the biggest changes has been the industrialization of water. While this has been a cause of great convenience for people in developed urban areas, people living in underdeveloped rural areas of the world can’t say the same. They are living the same harsh lifestyles as before, only the nature around them which their ancestors have always lived off of has become polluted and destroyed. Cut-off water sources due to dams and redirection of natural water sources result in stagnant and dirty water left behind. The poor have no choice but to bathe in and consume this dirty water. As a result they contract illnesses, which are usually curable, but with no access to health care, often leads to death, especially in children.

Under the Clean Drinking Water Project, Hidaya Foundation works to get clean water to people in need under 3 efforts:

**Water Hand Pumps** - In poor areas where the water table is shallow (130 ft. or less), Hidaya installs water hand pumps. The average cost of installing a hand pump in South Asia, along with maintenance of the hand pump for 5 years is approximately $200. The cost of the installation of a hand pump in East Africa is upwards of $1,200.

**Delivery with Water Tanker** - Hidaya has started delivering water to the masses via water tanker in some cities with dense populations that lack adequate fresh water. These 1,200 gallon tankers are filled with fresh water from our own wells and make deliveries 3 times daily. It costs just $15 to fill and deliver water for each round from a water tanker.

**Deep Wells** - Hidaya is making efforts into the installation of deep wells (3,000 ft. or more) in areas that are densely populated and in desperate need for fresh water. Such wells along with pumps and purification plants can cost over $30,000.

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**Did you know?**
- In 2008, for the first time ever, more people lived in cities than in rural areas.
- 13% of people on earth don’t have clean drinking water
- 38% of people on earth lack adequate sanitation
- Standing shoulder to shoulder, all 7 billion people on earth would fill just the city of Los Angeles, so it’s not space we need it’s balance (in solving the world’s resource problems).

Source: 7 Billion Video, National Geographic Magazine (www.youtube.com/watch?v=sc4HxPxNrZ0)

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**Clean Drinking Water**

Close to half of all people in developing countries are suffering at any given time from a health problem caused by water and sanitation deficits.

United Nations Human Development Report

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**One Million Trees**

Planting trees is a Sadaqah Jariah, or perpetual charity.

The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) said, “If any Muslim plants any plant and a human being or an animal eats of it, he will be rewarded as if he had given that much in charity.” (Sahih Al-Bukhari Vol. 8, Number 41)

Hidaya plants a majority of seedlings each year in joint-projects with young students and poor villagers. This is an effort to sustain long-term improvement of the environment, while instilling a love and respect for it. In addition to teaching how to plant and care for the seedlings, Hidaya also teaches the benefits trees provide.

For example, did you know that trees provide such benefits as?
- Trees produce oxygen and absorb carbon dioxide
- Trees help keep the air clean
- Trees are effective sound barriers and reduce noise pollution
- Trees provide shade and coolness
- Trees reduce wind speeds
- Trees reduce soil erosion and conserve rain water
- Trees beautify the land and increase property values
- Trees help purify the land from harmful chemicals (by absorbing pollutants and reducing levels as timber is harvested)
- Trees provide sanctuary for wildlife, and assist in economic development (timber, fruit, etc.)

Since 2008, Hidaya has planted over 260,000 seedlings under the One Million Trees project.

It costs just $1 to plant a tree, please donate to benefit the creation and may you receive long lasting rewards.

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**Support Hidaya Schools**

Hidaya Foundation is currently operating 38 schools. Below is a breakdown of the students in these schools who are receiving an education through this project:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Grade</td>
<td>1,228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Grade</td>
<td>671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Grade</td>
<td>331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Grade</td>
<td>420</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Grade</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,280</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It costs about $120 to run a classroom of approximately 40 students for each month.
Hidaya’s 2012 Accomplishments

With the Blessings of Allah (SWT) and the support of our donors, in 2012, Hidaya served nearly a million people in need. Alhamduillah, we would like to thank our donors for their generous support, may Allah accept it. Here are some highlights of our accomplishments in 2012:

**Spread Education**: Supported over 3,000 students monthly

**No Orphan without Education**: Increased monthly sponsorship to over 6,100 orphans

**Hidaya Institute of Farming and Agriculture**: Trained dozens of individuals in agriculture and farming

**Support Hidaya Schools**: Operated 39 schools, with 3,229 students

**Basic Computer Skills**: Educated hundreds of students to acquire basic computer skills at Hidaya Institute of Science and Technology (HIST).

**Software Development Training**: Educated hundreds of students in Software Development, including ASP, JAVA, and PHP technologies at HIST

**System Administration Training**: Educated hundreds of students in System Administration Training including LINUX and Microsoft technologies at HIST

**Disaster Relief**: Responded to Pakistan heavy rains and floods, provided assistance to families in Syria and Burma, and continued with ongoing relief efforts in East Africa

**One Million Meals**: Distributed 28,000 dry ration packages to approximately 64,000 individuals in South Asia and Africa

**Marriage Support**: Supported 153 young women with their marriages

**Widow/Orphan Support**: Increased monthly sponsorship to over 2,800 widows and their orphan children

**Container Shipment Project for In-Kind Donations**: Shipped 10 containers filled with relief supplies worth over $167,063.50

**Sadaqah in the Form of Sacrifice**: Sacrificed 1,415 goats and 235 ox on behalf of our donors and distributed the meat to benefit over 35,000 families

**Aqiqah**: Sacrificed 198 goats on behalf of our donors and distributed the meat to benefit nearly 2,300 families

**Fidya**: Distributed 4,882 dry ration packages to benefit nearly 29,300 poor individuals

**Kaffara**: Distributed 1,148 dry ration packages to benefit nearly 7,000 poor individuals

**Sadaqat-ul-Fitr**: Distributed 1,274 dry ration packages to benefit nearly 7,650 individuals

**Qurbani**: Arranged for 3,439 shares of Qurbani on behalf of our donors benefiting nearly 129,130 individuals throughout Pakistan, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Sudan (to Eritrean Refugees), Sierra Leone, and Guinea

**One Million Trees**: Planted nearly 88,400 seedlings

**Clean Drinking Water**: Installed 512 water hand pumps which benefitted nearly 2,800 people, and distributed nearly 5,476,800 liters of water via water tanker benefiting well over 100,000 individuals

**Medical Assistance**: Supported 524 poor patients to receive treatment

**Medical Camps**: Held 88 medical camps and treated 8,422 poor patients

**Farmer Assistance**: Distributed seed to benefit 2,286 farmers

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**Independent Auditor’s Report for Fiscal Year 2012**

With the Blessings of Allah, on April 9, 2013, Hidaya Foundation successfully completed its 2012 financial audit. A copy of the audited financial statements (as well as previous year statements) are available for review at: [www.hidaya.org/financials](http://www.hidaya.org/financials)

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**Board of Directors**

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