

Questions from Habib `Umar's Internet Lessons on Tazkiyah

Lesson 6 in Imam al-Haddad's "Beneficial Counsels"

(9th Muharram 1432/ 5th December 2011)

Answered by **Sayyidi al-Habib `Umar bin Hafiz** (may Allah preserve him and benefit us by him).

- 1) **Someone from Jordan asked: when I use public transport, the bus drivers often play music at high volume to the extent that I can hear and understand all the words, even though I try not to listen. It is difficult not to due to the volume. What is your advice for us?**

The advice is to occupy the heart with remembrance of Allah Most High throughout your journey, regardless of the volume of the songs. You must also truly ask Allah to change the state of public transport so that people are not heedless of Allah and are not listening to words which are offensive or of no benefit but rather they listen to things which are good and beneficial. This can be done through thinking how you can come to an agreement with public transport drivers or their companies to encourage them to play good and beneficial things for people to listen to. These are all concerns of the caller to Allah Most High, whose desire to replace that which is evil for that which is good through his intentions and efforts.

You must also divert your heart to reflect on the next life and your connection with Allah Most High and His Messenger (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Occupy yourself with remembrance, glorifying Allah, praising Him and exalting Him (saying *Allahu Akbar*, *Subhan Allah*, *Alhamdulillah*), or sending peace and salutations upon the Messenger (peace be upon him) – and the volume and sound of songs or anything else will not harm you.

2) Someone from the UAE complains: our lower selves have caused us endless problems and prevented us from drawing close to Allah. Whenever we take one step forward, we take several steps backward. How can I purify myself and my heart?

Continue. Continue to attend gatherings of goodness, continue to remember Allah, and continue following lessons such as these. As long as Allah Most High sees that you are sincerely turning to Him, then nothing that has been mentioned will prevent Allah from bestowing His forgiveness upon the true believer, and enveloping him in His generosity, purifying him, raising him and changing his state for the better. The believer must be sincere and remain firm. Regardless of the number of times he lapses or slips into heedlessness, he must always repent and continue to seek Allah by remembering Him, attending gatherings, and following beneficial lessons such as these. Through these things he readies himself to receive the mercy and generosity of his Lord, who will then change his state for the better.