

A brief introduction to the compiler¹

By: Mahboob Ahmad Qamaruzzamaan

الحمد لله حق حمده و الصلاة و السلام على خير خلقه محمد و آله و
أصحابه من بعده

Birth and hometown

My honourable father, Hadhrat Moulana Qamaruzzamaan Sahib Allahabadi was born in Sha'baan, 1352, corresponding to December, 1933. He was born in a place by the name of Karisath, in the district of Mau. His respected father's name was Sultaan Ahmad Khaan, who passed away in the year 1419 AH. He was the son of Muhammad Nadheer Ahmad Khaan, who was deemed, in his village, as righteous. He was also punctual with the remembrance of Allaah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى and his recitation of the Qur'aan.

¹ My honourable brother, Moulana Maqbool Ahmad Qaasmi has, in the beginning of the first part of "Tadhkirah Muslih-ul-Ummat رَحِمَهُ اللهُ", written a brief biography of my father. It is really worth reading. May Allaah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى grant him the best reward.

Hadhrat Moulana would go with the honourable Qaari Ameen Az'har Sahib رحمۃ اللہ علیہ¹ to Fatahpoor, Tal Narja, in the district of Mau, in order to spend time in the company of Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat Moulana Shah Wasiyyullaah Sahib رحمۃ اللہ علیہ. He would occasionally take our father with him to visit Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رحمۃ اللہ علیہ and to ask him to make Du'aa for him.

Maasha Allaah! His honourable mother was also pious. Her name was Zaib-un-Nisaa and she was the daughter of the honourable Rahmatullaah Khaan Sahib رحمۃ اللہ علیہ (who was a resident of Sukarya Kalaan, in the district of Balya). The honourable Rahmatullaah Khaan رحمۃ اللہ علیہ was also a pious man who was diligent with regards to Salaah and fasting. He would also call others to perform Salaah.

¹ Hadhrat Qaari Sahib رحمۃ اللہ علیہ was a Khaleefah of Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رحمۃ اللہ علیہ and he was also my father's full paternal uncle. Mention has specifically been made of him in the fifth volume of "Aqwaal-e-Salaf", that can be read. His sons were Moulana Qaari Muhammad Mubeen Sahib (Khaleefah of Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رحمۃ اللہ علیہ), Moulana Qaari Irshaad Ahmad Sahib and Moulana Haafidh Anwaar Ahmad Sahib. These individuals were very fortunate to have had a pious father, as well as a pious mother, on account of which they were most likely favoured with piety as well. All praise is due only to Allaah سبحانہ و تعالیٰ and all favours are only from Him.

His acquirement of knowledge

Hadhrat initially, in the Islaamic elementary school of his village, studied until the second level. Thereafter, he continued his studies from the third level in a governmental school in the town of Ghosi and passed his middle level in the year 1947.

Hadhrat then enrolled in a Daar-ul-'Uloom in Mau, in order to acquire knowledge of the Arabic and Persian languages. He remained there for approximately three years and studied Persian books such as "Aamad Naamah", "Gulzaar wa Bustaan", "Gulistaan", "Bostaan", "Akhlaaq-e-Muhsini", "Anwaar-e-Suhaili", etc. He also studied Arabic literature such as "Meezaan wa Munsha'ib", "Panj Ganj", "Ilm-us-Seeghah", "Noor-ul-Eedaah", "Kifaayat-ul-Mutahaffidh", etc.

His noble teachers

Hadhrat's teachers were as follows:

- The honourable Moulana Qaari Ameen Az'har Sahib Karisaathwi رحمہ اللہ.
- The esteemed Moulana 'Abdul Ghaffaar Sahib Sanbhali رحمہ اللہ.

- Headmaster of Daar-ul-'Uloom Mau, Moulana Mufti Nizaam-ud-Deen Sahib رحمۃ اللہ علیہ.
- The honourable Moulana Qaari Riyaasat 'Ali Sahib رحمۃ اللہ علیہ.
- Moulana Hakeem Manzoor Ahmad Sahib Kopaganji رحمۃ اللہ علیہ.
- Moulana Sheikh Muhammad Sahib رحمۃ اللہ علیہ from Mau.

Marriage

Meanwhile, in the year 1370 AH, Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, my Nana, got his daughter, 'Aqeelah Khaatoon (who was a true reflection of her name²), married to my father.

Thereafter, our father remained in the company of Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رحمۃ اللہ علیہ (our Nana). He

¹ Thereafter, in the fulfilment of the request of Hadhrat Hakeem-ul-Islam Qaari Muhammad Tayyib Sahib رحمۃ اللہ علیہ and the command of Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, Mufti Nizaamuddeen رحمۃ اللہ علیہ assumed the post of issuing Islamic rulings in Daar-ul-'Uloom Deoband. He occupied that post right until the end and passed away in the year 1420 AH.

² The meaning of the word, "Aqeelah", is recorded in the dictionary, "Al-Mu'jam-ul-Waseet", as, "an honourable wife", "a dignified woman" and "a woman who conceals herself from all strange men". All of these meanings fully apply to our mother. May Allaah سبحانہ و تعالیٰ have mercy upon her.

studied under our Nana رحمہ اللہ right up until Saheeh-al-Bukhaari. Together with that, our Nana also taught him numerous books of Tasawwuf (Islaamic mysticism). A few of those books are as follows:

- Al-Khair-ul-Katheer
- Taf'heemaat-e-Ilaahiyyah
- Al-Qowl-ul-Jameel
- Tasneefaat-e-Hadhrat Shah Waliyyullaah Sahib Muhaddith Dehlawi رحمہ اللہ
- Irshaad-ut-Taalibeen, by Qaadhi Thanaa-ullaah Panipati رحمہ اللہ
- Qasd-us-Sabeel, by Hakeem-ul-Ummat, Moulana Ashraf 'Ali Thaanwi رحمہ اللہ
- Tarsee'-ul-Jawaahir-il-Makkiyyah, by Sheikh 'Abdul Ghaniyy Raafi'ee Traabloosi رحمہ اللہ
- Mathnawi of Moulana Room رحمہ اللہ, etc.

Unfortunately, Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رحمہ اللہ, due to the advent of an unpleasant incident in his locality of Fatahpoor Taalnarja, adopted residence at Moulana Nithaarullaah's and Moulana Amjadullaah's house. There, by the will of Allaah ﷻ, abundant service of Islaam and Tareeqat took place. Hadhrat stayed for a few days at the home of Moulana Hakeem Wasiyy Ahmad Sahib رحمہ اللہ as well. It was during that stay of his, that the state of his health became unfavourable, on

account of which my honourable grandfather moved to Allahabad. For a few days, he stayed in the town, Husn Manzil, at the house of Haji Muhammad Shafee`-ullaah Sahib and Haji `Abdul Waheed Sahib. It was there that this lowly one was born. Thereafter, due to the good offices of the honourable Haafidh Doctor Salaah-ud-Deen Siddeeqi Sahib, a spacious house was purchased in Bakhshi Bazaar, Allahabad. My grandfather, together with his entire family, thereafter moved to that house.

All praise is due only and solely to Allaah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى.

Education

Alhamdulillah, from his very student days, as per the command of Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, Hadhrat used to teach books of a high calibre, like Jalaalain, Taudeeh Talweeh, Mukhtasur-ul-Ma`aani and Noor-ul-Anwaar.

After the passing away of Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, Hadhrat taught the entire Bukhaari Shareef, together with other lofty books. From amongst his graduates were Moulana Irshaad Ahmad Sahib, Moulana Anwaar Ahmad Sahib, Moulana Muhammad Arshad Banaarasi and Moulana Soofi Zaheer-ud-Deen Sahib. On the occasion of the completion of Bukhaari

Shareef, Hadhrat Moulana Sayyid Zuhoor-ul-Hasan Sahib, Khaleefah of Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رَحْمَةُ اللهِ، came from the Khaanqah in Thaanah Bhawan and Moulana Hakeem Muhammad Mas'ood Sahib Ajmeri came from Bombay.

All praise is due only and solely to Allaah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى.

His abundant work

My honourable father, together with learning and teaching, also saw to the recording and arrangement of my honourable grandfather's lectures and advices. Hence, numerous topics have been published in the written work, "Ma`rifat-e-Haq".

As per the command of my honourable grandfather (may Allaah ﷻ have mercy upon him), my father also served in the field of issuing Islaamic rulings. When my grandfather would occasionally perceive my father to be somewhat tired and exhausted, he would say, "Why are you agitated now? Later on, when the work becomes even more, then your agitation will be something considerable".

Hence, based on the saying, "A knowledgeable person does not speak according to his whims, but due to experience and encounters", my father is always

occupied with different types of tasks. All praise is due only to Allaah ﷻ! He carries them all out with efficiency and proficiency.

By the will of Allaah ﷻ, from the year 1412 AH until 1421 AH, during the blessed month of Ramadhaan, he has continuously, in the vast Masjid of Madrasah Daar-ul-'Uloom Kanthaariyah, Bharooch, been establishing an I'tikaaf programme, together with a Khaanqah programme. During that time, he daily delivers numerous talks on Qur'aan, Hadeeth and Tasawwuf. Local, as well as foreign seekers, participate in droves and derive benefit. That is only the grace of Allaah ﷻ that He grants to whomsoever He wishes.

Permission

My honourable father was not merely connected to my Nana رحمه الله (grandfather) as a son-in-law or as a student. He was also his Mureed (spiritual disciple) and had pledged allegiance upon his hands. Therefore, my grandfather رحمه الله paid special importance to his education and spiritual nurturing.

After having full reliance upon him, together with issuing him with permission to narrate all the Ahaadeeth

that he was taught, he was also issued him with permission to transmit the Sunnah Adhkaar and the Awraad and Wazaa'if (daily recitations) of the Soofis.

Thereafter, other senior spiritual mentors also honoured him with Ijaazat (permission) and Khilaafat (spiritual vicegerency).

A great fortune

Even after the permission of my respected Nana رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, due to his extreme desire, my father turned his attention to Hadhrat Moulana Muhammad Ahmad Sahib Partaab Gadhi Naqshbandi Mujaddidi رحمۃ اللہ علیہ. After just a few days, he was vested the robe of Ijaazat and Khilaafat (permission and spiritual vicegerency).

In that manner, my honourable father had already attained permission from Hadhrat Muslih-ul-Ummat رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, who was Chishti and Saabiri and now, on account of the permission from Moulana Partaab Gadhi رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, attained a link with both the chains, i.e. Chishti and Naqshbandi. Rather, he became a conglomeration of all four chains of Tasawwuf. That is because from the era of Hadhrat Shah Waliyyullaah Sahib Muhaddith Dehlawi رحمۃ اللہ علیہ, every Sheikh (spiritual mentor), no matter what Silsilah (spiritual

chain) he was from, would accept allegiance in all four chains and would also grant permission and Khilaafat in all four. The reason for that was so that every Sheikh could, in accordance with the chain that the seeker was most compatible with, teach and educate him and prescribe specific forms of the remembrance of Allaah ﷻ for him.

Basically, my father spent seventeen years in the company of Hadhrat Nana Sahib ﷻ and twenty-four years in the company of Hadhrat Moulana Muhammad Ahmad Sahib ﷻ. Very few people are blessed with such a fortune.

During those interims, my father would get special opportunities to serve and host the other 'Ulamaa and spiritual mentors who would visit these two pious personalities. In that manner, my father would derive benefit from numerous other 'Ulamaa as well, such as Moulana 'Abdul Baari Nadwi ﷻ, Moulana Habeebur-Rahmaan A'zmi ﷻ, Hadhrat Moulana Sayyid Abul Hasan 'Ali Nadwi ﷻ, Hadhrat Moulana Abraar-ul-Haq Sahib ﷻ, Hadhrat Moulana Hakeem Muhammad Akhtar Sahib ﷻ, as well as many others.

Glad tidings

Hadhrat Moulana Muhammad Ahmad Sahib رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, on numerous occasions, in front of different people, would address my father and say, "Moulana! I will not go to Jannah without you!" Those words were similar to the words that Hadhrat Mujaddid Alf-e-Thaani رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ said to King Jahaangeer, i.e. "Without you, I will not go to Jannah!" Subhaanallaah Ta'aala! What great glad tidings isn't that for all of us, that such a pious person, who was a reviver of Islaam, said such words!

Written works

Maasha Allaah! My honourable father has authored numerous important books. Some of those books are "Aqwaal-e-Salaf" (Sayings of the pious predecessors), comprising of six volumes, "Tadhkirah Muslih-ul-Ummat رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ" (Biography of Muslih-ul-Ummat رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ), comprising of two volumes, "Faizaan-e-Mahabbat" (The spiritual effulgence of love), "The Islaamic system of raising children", "Wasiyyat-ul-Aadaab" (The bequest of etiquettes) and "Guldistah-e-Adhkaar" (Bouquet of Adhkaar), that was previously published in condensed form and is now, by the grace of Allaah سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى, being republished with more

beneficial points and additions. An addition was made to the title of the book as well, by titling it, "Riyaadh-us-Saalikeen Min Ahaadeeth Sayyid-il-Mursaleen", i.e. "Gardens of the Saalikeen, from the Ahaadeeth of the leader ﷺ of all the Ambiyaa ﷺ".

May Allaah ﷻ make this book a true reflection of its name and may He accept it. Aameen.

Maasha Allaah! Our honourable brother, Moulana Muhammad `Abdullaah Qaasmi (May Allaah ﷻ safeguard him) is, this time around, very diligently attending to having this publication done with an exquisite title and outstanding typing.

May Allaah ﷻ ease the path for this publication to be executed according to His desire. Aameen.

Together with that, it is our great fortune that our honourable Hadhrat Moulana Abraar-ul-Haq Sahib ﷻ has written a few words of approval regarding the book. Those few words are, for us, weightier than one hundred registers. May Allaah ﷻ handsomely reward him.

Also, the loving and honourable Moulana Taqiyyuddeen Sahib Daamat Barakaatuhum has written an extremely comprehensive and exquisite introduction to this book.

May Allaah ﷻ grant Moulana the best reward for that. Aameen.

Together with that, I am also indebted to those people who evened the path for the completion and publication of this book, both in terms of educational, as well as monetary contributions. A few of them are Moulana Mufti Zain-ul-Islaam Sahib, Moulana Mujeeb-ul-Ghaffaar Sahib (lecturer in Hadeeth at Maz'har-ul-'Uloom Banaaris), Moulana Maqsood Ahmad Sahib Qaasmi, Qaari Abdus-Sattaar Sahib Aachorwi, Moulana Ahmad Ibraaheem Malawi, etc. May Allaah ﷻ grant them all the best of rewards. Aameen.

May Allaah ﷻ grant us all the ability to practice upon this book with sincerity, may He accept this effort and assertion of my father and may He also grant him an increase in health and strength. Aameen!

Mahboob Ahmad Qamaruzzamaan Nadwi

24th Dhul Qa'dah 1421

19th February 2001