REFLECTIONS ON *BARAKAH* FOR REORIENTATION IN OUR TIME

MUHAMMAD SA'IDU JIMADA

COPYRIGHT © SAD-TAYY FOUNDATION, 2026

Copyright is hereby granted to any interested body or person to circulate, transmit or reproduce this book on NON-PROFIT basis in whatever form (hard or soft copy), provided it will be in this form and content of presentation.

First Published: July, 2026

Published by
SADAQATU TAYYIBATUN FOUNDATION
Post Office Box 2630,
Minna, Nigeria.
nigerians.sadtayyfoundation.org
jimada.sadtayyfoundation.org
sadtayyfoundation.org

REFLECTIONS ON *BARAKAH* FOR REORIENTATION IN OUR TIME

Barakah or blessings are exclusively the gift of Allah to whosoever He pleases. This is absolutely unknowable without being taught by He, alone, who owns and gives it. It essentially establishes the possible positive connection between a believer and Allah (SWT). This is how a believer becomes of Allah and Allah connects with His creation. It indicates that Allah is good, full of mercy and compassion, because He does not deny those who reach out to Him and can independently grant it as He pleases.

In Islam, it is a bonus *Rahma*. The *Rahma* of Allah covers the entirety of His creations. The indicator of this is that anything can enjoy the *Rahma* of *Hayyu* as He is the *Al-Hayyu* and *Al-Qayyum*. Men can move, breath and act, by His *Rahma*. The Fire kindled to burn Ibrahim (AS) cooled instead of burning him, on instruction to do so. Jannah and Hell Fire argued over who is superior, He settled it for them, as equals, with the difference that Hell Fire will host the arrogant, ungrateful and disobedient. Jannah will host the humble and obedient. The womb asked for blessings for whoever keeps kinship and a curse over whoever destroys it. Allah granted it. Musa (AS) resorted to Allah over the evident approach of Pharaoh and his men. He asked him to strike the Nile with his staff, and it opened a path for their escape, but it closed up to consume the enemies of Allah and Musa (AS).

All creations therefore enjoy the *Rahma* of Allah (SWT).

But believers are opportune to the bonus *Rahma* of Allah in this livelihood and His exclusive mercy in the hereafter, for those who end up striving for His pleasure.

As a result, the only source of all *Rahma* is Allah. And the veil for KNOWING and ENJOYING the *barakah* are His Messengers and His Guidance respectively.

For We assuredly sent amongst every People a Messenger, (with the Command), "Serve Allah, and eschew Evil"; of the People were some whom Allah guided, and some on whom error became inevitably (established). So, travel through the earth, and see what was the end of those who denied (the Truth). Qur'an 16:36.

To Rasul (SAW),

Verily We have sent thee in truth, as a bearer of glad tidings, and as a warner: and there never was a people, without a warner having lived among them (in the past). Qur'an 35:24.

Therefore, there is no compulsion in Islam. The Messenger of Allah (SAW) and his inheritors have the simple honourable duty of conveying the true and right message only. Guidance is the business of Allah, according to the choice of man.

Thou art no other than a warner. Qur'an 35:23.

It is true thou wilt not be able to guide every one, whom thou lovest; but Allah guides those whom He will and He knows best those who receive guidance. Qur'an 28:56.

But if they turn away, say: "Allah sufficeth me: there is no god but He: On Him is my trust; He the Lord of the Throne (of Glory) Supreme!" Qur'an 9:129.

Thus, with Islam and Rasul (SAW), Mankind and Jinns are offered the benefit of worship as our purpose. Muhammad (SAW), the embodiment of Qur'an is the *Rahma* of Allah to us.

Ye have indeed in the Messenger of Allah a beautiful pattern (of conduct) for any one whose hope is in Allah and the Final Day, and who engages much in the Praise of Allah. Qur'an 33:21.

And till the Day of Judgement, Qur'an and Hadith remain the connection, for *barakah*.

Over and above the common *Rahma* of Allah, it is His encompassing attribute of *Rahma* that makes the offer of *barakah*, the bonus, on twin terms. The first facet is invitation by glad tidings for those who voluntarily respond by believing and submitting. The second facet is by warning, to deter us from ignoring and abandoning the *barakah*, the stepping stone to qualifying for His special mercies in the hereafter. This is because He has granted us *Hayyu,* the soul, the body, the mind to live by deliberate choices. Praise be to Allah the most Compassionate, the most Merciful.

Has there not been over Man a long period of Time, when he was nothing (not even) mentioned? Verily We created Man from a drop of mingled sperm, in order to try him: So, We gave him (the gifts), of Hearing and Sight. We showed him the Way: whether he be grateful or ungrateful (rests on his will). For the Rejecters we have prepared chains, yokes, and a blazing Fire. As to the Righteous, they shall drink of a Cup (of Wine) mixed with Kafur. A Fountain where the Devotees of Allah do drink, making it flow in unstinted abundance. They perform (their) vows, and they fear a Day whose evil flies far and wide. Qur'an 76:1-7.

Barakah thus has a basis. The bonus *Rahma* over the common has a basis. The basis is LIVING. It is Discipline or Compliance with the Guidance of Allah and Rasul (SAW). And this must be based on the True and Right Knowledge of the Guidance. The best opportune members for this were the believers and companions of the generation of Muhammad (SAW).

Narrated 'Abdullah: The Prophet (SAW) said, "The best people are those of my generation, and then those who will come after them (the next generation), and then

those who will come after them (i.e. the next generation), and then after them, there will come people whose witness will precede their oaths, and whose oaths will precede their witness." Bukhari.

And those Foremost (in Faith) will be Foremost (in the Hereafter). These will be those Nearest to Allah: In Gardens of Bliss: A number of people from those of old, And a few from those of later times. Qur'an 56:10-14.

Abu Sa'id al-Khudri reported: The Prophet (SAW) said, "Do not insult my companions. If one of you were to spend the likes of mount Uhud in gold, it would not reach a small portion of theirs or even half of that." Bukhari and Muslim.

The Qur'an is revealed for RECITATION, STUDYING, LEARNING, LIVING and TEACHING. It is not meant for shelf collection or decoration or archiving. The revelation is *Rahma* for all the worlds. Its recitation attracts rewards. Indeed, out of *Rahma*, struggling to recite it correctly attracts more reward. These are for the illiterate. Studying it to learn attracts immense reward. Living it is a duty and meeting point for ALL and enables the *barakah* of spiritual uplifting as well as guidance. As for the learned who live and teach it, THEY ARE THE BEST.

In Rasul (SAW), who was ORPHANED, NEITHER READ NOR WROTE AND CAME IN THE TIME OF IGNORANCE, Allah made him independent, provided him with an honourable family and support of sincere companions. He made him the Last Messenger and revealed the Qur'an to him. He opened up his being to manifest and veiled truths. He made him a model with common freedoms like any of us and in obedience to His Guidance. Muhammad (SAW) threaded the Path, for anyone who chooses to follow, as there is no compulsion in Islam.

He who obeys the Messenger, obeys Allah: But if any turn away, We have not sent thee to watch over their (evil deeds). Qur'an 4:80.

Abu Huraira reported: The Prophet (SAW) said, “What I have prohibited for you, avoid it. What I have commanded you, do it as much as you can. Verily, those before you were ruined only due to their excessive questioning and contradicting their prophets.” Bukhari and Muslim.

Malik reported: The Messenger of Allah (SAW) said, “I have left you with two matters which will never lead you astray, as long as you hold to them: the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of his Prophet.” Al-Muwaṭṭa.

This is why and how, the only PATH for *barakah*, the bonus *Rahma* and the ultimate mercy of Allah is understandable and pursuable, by only LIVING BELIEVERS BY TRUE AND RIGHT KNOWLEDGE OF THE GUIDANCE AS WELL AS ITS DISCIPLINE OR ORIENTATION.

Abu Hurayrah reported: The Messenger of Allah (SAW) said: Allah (SWT) said: Whosoever shows enmity to someone devoted to Me, I shall be at war with him. My servant draws not near to Me with anything more loved by Me than the religious duties I have enjoined upon him, and My servant continues to draw near to Me with supererogatory works so that I shall love him. When I love him I am his hearing with which he hears, his seeing with which he sees, his hand with which he strikes and his foot with which he walks. Were he to ask (something) of Me, I would surely give it to him, and were he to ask Me for refuge, I would surely grant him it. I do not hesitate about anything as much as I hesitate about (seizing) the soul of My faithful servant: he hates death and I hate hurting him. Bukhari.

Salman al-Farisi reported: The Prophet (SAW) said, “Allah Almighty says: If My servant comes near to Me by a handspan, I come near to him by an arm’s length. If he comes near to Me by an arm’s length, I come near to him by the length of a fathom. If he comes to Me walking, I come to him running.” Tabarani.

In other words, the prohibitions and injunctions of Allah are the non-negotiable foundation. The Sunnah of Rasul (SAW), completes the requirements that Guarantee *barakah*.

The first or foundation basis for *barakah* are Iman and Salat. This is why scholars prioritize Tauhid. This is why a volunteer for jihad asked for the guidance of Rasul (SAW), whether to take the Shahada before proceeding or after returning? He told him to take the Shahada FIRST. He went and was martyred. Iman is the exercise of voluntary will to believe and submit. Salat is the personal forum with Allah (SWT). The only thing that makes it superior is when it is in congregation. Those who guard it most IN ALL OF ITS FACETS are best in Fasting, Hajj and Sadaqat, because they are driven by Ihsan. This is why all believers are EQUAL before Allah except by the grades of the FEAR OF ALLAH by each. This is why those who believed and obeyed in the generation of Rasul (SAW), earned multiple rewards over later generations for the same act. And among believers, some are rewarded in tens, some in seventies, some in thousands, some without measure. Level of true and right knowledge along with quality of discipline make the difference.

Thus, if a believer is consciously, effortfully, constantly with Allah (SWT), he will be covered by *barakah* and will not be a loser, regardless of seeming evident immediate negative drawbacks or challenges. For example, when he fights on command of Allah, he will either overcome the enemy or get martyred. Aishah (RA) was asked about the character of Rasul (SAW) and she said, the instructions of the Qur'an. His pleasure and anger are dictated accordingly.

Abu Yahya Suhaib bin Sinan reported: The Messenger of Allah (SAW) said, "How wonderful is the case of a believer; there is good for him in everything and this applies only to a believer. If prosperity attends him, he expresses gratitude to Allah

and that is good for him; and if adversity befalls him, he endures it patiently and that is better for him". Muslim.

Umar ibn al-Khattab reported: The Messenger of (SAW) said, "If you were to rely upon Allah with reliance due to Him, He would provide for you just as He provides for the birds. They go out in the morning with empty stomachs and return full." Tirmidhi.

Barakah is necessarily attractive to any unbiased creature, and with the discretion of Allah, the believer can appear magical. This is why the magicians of Pharaoh submitted to Musa (AS). Such believers therefore make the best companion. Rasul (SAW) and Abubakar are the best example.

In relation to our leaders at any level, who are fellow believers, as well as those who are not, WE HAVE THREE LEVELS OF RESPONSIBILITIES. The first is to correct what is wrong with action legally, if you are in the position to do so. The second is to advise the leader, comprehensively, by evaluating the subject, to define the challenge and the solution. The third is to dissociate oneself by not supporting what is wrong with ideas or actions.

Abu Sa'id al-Khudri reported: The Messenger of Allah (SAW) said, "Whoever among you sees evil, let him change it with his hand. If he cannot do so, then with his tongue. If he cannot do so, then with his heart, which is the weakest level of faith." Muslim.

This is because Islam is sincerity.

Tamim Al-Dari reported: The Prophet (SAW) said, "The religion is *naseehah* (sincerity)." We said, "To whom?" He (SAW) said, "To Allah, His Book, His Messenger, and to the leaders of the Muslims and their common folk." Muslim.

A leader is not perfect. He must know and admit this. And leadership is not according to his whims, but for the benefit of the collective, according to laid down rules and the definitions of IDENTITY GUIDANCE. Anything less is animalistic. The support with sincerity is a door for the *barakah* of Allah to flow in. This will not apply to a RESISTANT Leader and a careless supporter, who is only greedy for material benefits from the leader. A Muslim leader who is a resistor is a Hypocrite. And he is more dangerous than an unbeliever.

The Hypocrites will be in the lowest depths of the Fire: no helper wilt thou find for them. Qur'an 4:145.

In Nigeria, where most of us are believers, either Muslims or Christians and will mostly continue to be in the leadership of this country, our understanding of the *Rahma* and *Barakah* of Allah is very critical, to minimize religious rascality. In the first place, Islam and Muslims have the same roots of their faith with Christians and the Jews. Muhammad (SAW) was primarily directed to straighten the unbelievers. This is why, for any Christian or Jew who accepts Islam, he gets double reward. The window of *barakah* is more open to us than the foolish think, and will want us to believe. Therefore, Nigeria as a country of largely IDENTITY DISCIPLINED Muslims and Christians is the sincere foundation for our collective safety and prosperity.

Ordinary prosperity livelihood in itself is NOT NECESSARILY A SIGN OF *BARAKAH*. This is because OUR ONLY MEASURE FOR PROSPERITY IS THE NUMBERS AND THE SEEMING QUALITY ASSOCIATED WITH THE NUMBERS. For example, per capital income is one cloudy index. It relates the number of citizens to the average share of the commonwealth in the structure of employment and rewards or productivity.

But it remains only a mathematical reality, because the REAL STRUCTURE AND SPREAD OF LIVELIHOOD has been melted into factors or variables. And the indicators are the SYSTEMATIC CONTROLS THAT ENSURE THE SEEMING REALITIES ARE KEPT. These include, a strong police service, swift investigative machinery, supportive judicial arrangements, manipulating educational and media resources, etc.

Accordingly, livelihood prosperity requires even more control because THE MEASURES HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE STATUS OF IDOLS FOR WORSHIP. But it only serves the least percentage that benefits most and rightly fears the repercussions of its INJUSTICE AND OPPRESSION. This is why factors like price control, inflation controls, digital monitoring, ratio of security personnel to the citizens, tax regimes follow suit. Education gets monetized, teaching gets structured with licensing called certification, legal control of employment.

AGAINST OUR EFFORTS and the reduction of *barakah*, OUR HEALTH is supported by hospitals in different grades, drugs, professionals, funding, researchers, managers, administrators, etc. OUR FOODS AND DRINKS ARE NOT SPARED. We perceive that quality-of-life rests on the ratio of our numbers, needs and wants against the facilities and funds that have become DETERMINANTS of our history. We create and generate chemicals for fast and abundant yields, preservation of products and keying them for money, profits and controls. We have advanced to genetical modification of ourselves, animals and foods. Communities, societies and nations are living in suspicion and fear of destroying each other in the global village.

But the quality of our lives is really degenerating, in spite of all the efforts and advancements. We are weaker in health. How many people do not need drugs in three months? While new borns are victims of vaccines, the youths are milled for

the slavery of the self created idolized livelihood systems of structures, processes, institutions, etc. The adults are optimally used and retire into payment of pensions and battling with their health. The supposedly best are on health maintenance of autoimmune diseases that are life threatening. This meets up with the viruses of corruption that run across the systems, to amass more money to save one's prosperity. Public leaders steal from commonwealth. Drug factories and business partners along with health professionals manage fake drugs, for continuous and increasing or even addictive needs. Agriculture, foods and drinks are the feeders for health needs. The banks are growing with interest tricks. The leadership is more authoritative, more powerful, more intolerant, more corrupt and more oppressive.

Take our beloved Abuja, the centre of our leadership capacity expression. The public water system is NOT TRUSTED. The few best are on boreholes. Majority of the fools are on bottled water, ignorant of the consequences of gradual plastic absorption, for their health. Public electricity does not serve the best, who have become hopeless of the reliability and service. This is in spite of the banditry of power sharing for more profits. Solar power is the option. Indeed, Lagos has considered capturing those on independent solar alternatives with taxes BUT NOT THOSE ON GENERATORS YET. Kaduna attempted taxing those on boreholes but it failed. Moreover, the children to succeed this generation are ever more contracted to nannies or schools. And Abuja is increasing its security capacities to make it safe. The medical facilities and services in Abuja mirror how sick the population is, with not even a bruise treatment or malaria is cheap. And it is the root centre of our commonwealth corruption. The best bet of Abuja is NOT THE PEOPLE, THE HUMANS, THE CITIZENS, but the ROADS, THE HOUSES, THE OFFICES, THE BRIDGES AND THE COST OF LIVING. All the glitters are really only on the outside, a covering of underneath rot and pains.

We are blind, deaf, dumb and sealed, to recognize that even with ailments, in respect of which what is required for its avoidance or treatment preceded it and should be sought for, the knowledge of differentiation between what is true and right against what is false is the solution. Natural accidental ailment like malaria can be treated and a means of *kaffara*. Acquiring sexually transmitted disease can be treated but does not have to be *kaffara*. Affection by spiritual spell can be treated, may or may not be *kaffara*. The consequence of the anger of Allah may be lifted by repentance and reform. The curse of Allah has no treatment, if **not avoided.**

The short sighted and twisted minded will say: Is all the advancement evil? What will be the consequences of pulling all of these down? How logical and sensible will it be, other than destruction? These can be improved upon.

The simple point is that IF WE WERE DRIVEN BY OUR IDENTITY KNOWLEDGE AND DISCIPLINE, things will definitely have been better, easier and MORE HUMANE. The *Barakah* of Allah would have lessened the crassness of the process.

What philosophy, science or knowledge will deny the superior quality of life in the undeveloped state of our society? With less hospitals and no specialist ones. With enrolment into primary school without exposure to nannies or kindergarten or nursery. With relationships leading to marriage without applications or matching agents. With businesses without banks. With nutritional value of agricultural products without modern inputs, whether fruits, crops, poultry, animals or medicinal plants. WE SIMPLY FAILED IN INDEPENDENT TRANSFORMATION, IDENTITY DISCIPLINE AND COPYING FROM OTHERS OR ADMITTING OFFERS.

The second point is that our population is not the challenge. We imbibed this concept by simply swallowing what we are taught without evaluating it, because of our identity bankruptcy. Those that we COPY from are just discovering that the size of the earth is not static. They are increasingly discovering nations beneath us. They are confronted by the excesses of their freedoms, like in the production of armaments. The advancement into cloning has become frightening when humans are made. This is why even today, the so-called domestication or nationalization of some aspects of our lives have not been useful. Neither the politics nor the economics. Ideas, methods, products are not necessarily FITTING for all identities. Those who have no identity logically have nothing to lose, even if a matter is self destructive.

And be ye not like those who forgot Allah; and He made them forget their own souls. Such are the rebellious transgressors! Qur'an 59:19.

Verily Allah will not deal unjustly with man in aught: It is man that wrongs his own soul. Qur'an 10:44.

The best indicator of our challenges is the pervasive hypocrisy of our leaders who believe. When they claim to know the truth and their attention is to be drawn to their mistake, they avoid the person, deny him access, abuse him or resist the truth or set it aside. It applies to parents, teachers, researchers, employers, directors, board members, Chief executives, political leaders, religious leaders, business leaders, etc. They are either ignorant or audacious. They dress up with lies. They betray trust. They do not keep their words. They can be quarrelsome or oppressive.

They are largely not embodiment of identity knowledge and discipline. They confuse the ignorant about the difference of *barakah*, **because of the common *Rahma* they enjoy**. They are experts in **selfish** manipulation. THIS IS WHY AND HOW WE HAVE BEEN DRIVING OURSELVES AND THE COUNTRY INTO MORE

MISERY AND CONFUSION. They have eyes but refuse to see. They have ears but do not listen. They have minds but do not reflect. We therefore have Guidance and a model example but are in confusion, frustration and crisis.

The challenge of the solution is with the MAJORITY OF US, ACROSS LEADERS AND THE LED. Every single believer needs to make personal deliberate effort to learn the scripture he identifies with. The relationship between this and the teachings of those we recognize as scholars will produce a sound and responsible understanding for accountable orientation and discipline. This is because it is more honourable to be accountable for what you know and stand on, like the goodly guardian of Rasul (SAW), than to be accounting for what you do not know and stand for. It is even worse to follow another, who does not know where he is taking one to. Consistency is the measure of honour. This required relationship will ENABLE THE SEPARATION BETWEEN THOSE WHO WILL GET THE TRUE GUIDANCE OF ALLAH AND THOSE WHO REALLY DO NOT DESERVE IT.

In Islam, as much as the fate of man rests with Allah, the *Rahma* of personal discretion is the first step and path to SELF ACTUALIZATION AND REALIZATION. This is why Allah specifically cautioned Rasul (SAW) against worrying over anybody's submission. His is to convey the message and it is for Allah to Guide. Thus, Rasul taught that, every believer strives in righteousness, AND IT WILL BE EASY OR HARD ACCORDING TO ONE'S QADR.

The foundation or basic education is in Tauhid and Character. The orientation or discipline to follow up with or build IS LEADERSHIP. And in Islam it begins with SELF, followed by IN RELATION TO OTHERS, like in the family, group, community, workplace, organization and society. So, a hopeless individual is not expected to make a positive member or leader of a family. Anything above will be a

gamble. Identity education for Reorientation of the Ummah is the necessary priority step to the CORRECTION OF OURSELVES AND EVERY OTHER THING. Then we will see and better understand our differences and open the windows for *barakah*.

I accordingly wish to invite anyone interested, to share with me, a modest NON-SCHOLARLY attempt, to the introduction of TAUHID, CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP materials for Reorientation, freely available on the download page of my website **www.sadtayyfoundation.org** Personal attempts in respect of some of my family members are on the LETTERS page of the website.

The ultimate objective of engagement in this process is to enable the best versions of ourselves, by the grace of Allah. Those that do not care or fall out of the will of Allah, **will be the fallouts.**

As for our scholars, the knowledge they share and the differences between them can be better discerned as *barakah* or otherwise. This is because most of the members of the Ummah will not be **just following any learned, like a flock of sheep.**

Our individual, group and organizational or institutional pursuits will be in conscious pursuit of *barakah*. This will be like in research, works and services. Islam and submission is all-encompassing.

Our individual resources will be in pursuit of our prosperity and the pleasure of Allah concurrently.

Our leadership and citizenship will be for the sake of Allah, to enable responsible participation and accountability.

This will make a better Ummah of Nigeria and a better foundation for participation in the history making of our beloved country, in the interest of the safety and welfare of our collective.

The Ummah will have an easy and transparent process of generating RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE leaders, among its members and in relation to others. We will become more saved from **leaders who do not add value to the Ummah and resist to be helped, because they very well know and cannot deny the truth, but are unwilling to be useful because Satan rules them, or the *barakah* of Allah is not with them.**

The knowledge of Allah and the discipline of the Guidance will be the drivers of our livelihood.

In relation to the *Rahma* of Allah that are available to all creatures, Muslims will be evidences of the *barakah* of Allah.

We will become EVER-READY EMBODIMENTS FOR ALLAH.

With the mercy of Allah, we shall individually attain our ultimate objective of Jannah and earliest safety from Jahannam.

Muhammad Sa'idu Jimada **JP**