

## The Causes Of Downfall And Ruin

**The causes of downfall and ruin-المهلكات والموبقات والمحرقات**

1. Three things cause [one's] ruin: obedience to women, yielding to rage and submitting to lustful desires.

.. ثَلَاثُ مُهْلِكَاتٍ: طَاعَةُ النِّسَاءِ، وطَاعَةُ الغَضَبِ، وطَاعَةُ الشَّهْوَةِ

2. Three things cause ruin: boldness in front of the ruler, trusting a disloyal person and tasting poison as an experiment [to see how effective it is!].

.. ثَلَاثَةُ مُهْلِكَةٍ: الْجُرْأَةُ عَلَى السُّلْطَانِ، وَأَتِمَانُ الْخَوَانِ، وَشُرْبُ السَّمِّ لِلتَّجْرِيَةِ<sup>2</sup>

3. Three things break one's spirit and cause downfall: poverty after wealth, humiliation after dignity and loss of loved ones.

.. ثَلَاثُ هُنَّ الْمُحْرِقَاتُ الْمُوْبِقَاتُ: فَقْرٌ بَعْدَ غِنَى، وَذُلٌّ بَعْدَ عَزٍّ، وَفَقْدُ الْأَحِبَّةِ<sup>3</sup>

4. Three things weaken one's spirit: loss of loved ones, poverty in a strange land and unending hardship.

.. ثَلَاثٌ يَهُدُونَ الْقُوَى: فَقْدُ الْأَحِبَّةِ، وَالْفَقْرُ فِي الْغُرْبَةِ، وَدَوَامُ الشِّدَّةِ<sup>4</sup>