

## Honour And The Honourable

### الشرف وذو الشرف–Honor and the honorable

1. Honor is attained by earnest endeavors not by worn-out bones [of one's ancestors].<sup>1</sup>

.. الشَّرَفُ بِالْهَمِّ الْعَالِيَةِ لَا بِالرِّمِّ الْبَالِيَةِ<sup>1</sup>

2. The greatest honour is humility.

.. أَعْظَمُ الشَّرَفِ التَّوَضُّعُ<sup>2</sup>

3. The best honour is good etiquette.

.. أَفْضَلُ الشَّرَفِ الْأَدَبُ<sup>3</sup>

4. The most honourable of honours is knowledge.

.. أَشْرَفُ الشَّرَفِ الْعِلْمُ<sup>4</sup>

5. The best honour is doing good to others.

.. أَفْضَلُ الشَّرَفِ بَذْلُ الْإِحْسَانِ<sup>5</sup>

6. The best honour is desisting from harming others and doing good to others.

.. أَفْضَلُ الشَّرَفِ كَفُّ الْأَذَى، وَبَذْلُ الْإِحْسَانِ 6

7. Honour is a virtue.

.. الشَّرَفُ مَزِيَّةٌ 7

8. Honour is doing good to one's kinsfolk.

.. الشَّرَفُ إِصْطِنَاعُ الْعَشِيرَةِ 8

9. Indeed honour is only attained by intellect and etiquette, not because of wealth and lineage.

.. إِنَّمَا الشَّرَفُ بِالْعَقْلِ وَالْأَدَبِ، لَا بِالْمَالِ وَالْحَسَبِ 9

10. The ladder of honour is humility and generosity.

.. سُلَّمُ الشَّرَفِ التَّوَاضُّعُ، وَالسَّخَاءُ 10

11. The honour of a believer is his faith and his prestige is by his obedience [to Allah].

.. شَرَفُ الْمُؤْمِنِ إِيْمَانُهُ، وَعِزُّهُ بِطَاعَتِهِ 11

12. The honour of a man is his integrity and his beauty is his magnanimity.

.. شَرَفُ الرَّجُلِ نَزَاهَتُهُ، وَجَمَالُهُ مُرُوَّتُهُ 12

13. One who knows the significance of his honour safeguards it from the lowliness of his base desires and falsity of his aspirations.

.. مَنْ عَرَفَ شَرَفَ مَعْنَاهُ صَانَهُ عَنْ دَنَاءَةِ شَهْوَتِهِ وَزُورِ مُنَاهُ 13

14. Holding on to comprehensive merit (or merits) is from the perfection of honour.

(.. مِنْ كَمَالِ الشَّرَفِ الْأَخْذُ بِجَوَامِعِ الْفَضْلِ الْفَضَائِلِ 14).

15. Honour is not perfected except through generosity and humility.

.. لَا يَكْمُلُ الشَّرَفُ إِلَّا بِالسَّخَاءِ وَالتَّوَاضُّعِ<sup>15</sup>

16. The honourable person is the one whose attributes are honourable.

.. الشَّرِيفُ مَنْ شَرُفَتْ خِلَالُهُ<sup>16</sup>

17. The peripheries are the sitting places of the honourable.

.. الْأَطْرَافُ مَجَالِسُ الْأَشْرَافِ<sup>17</sup>

18. The honourable person is not made reckless by the status he attains, even if it becomes as great as a mountain that is not shaken by strongest winds; and the lowly is made careless by the most inferior position, just as the grass that is moved by the passing breeze.

- ذُو الشَّرَفِ لَا تُبْطِرُهُ مَنْزِلَةٌ نَالَهَا، وَإِنْ عَظُمَتْ كَالْجَبَلِ الَّذِي لَا تُزَعِّعُهُ الرِّيحُ، وَالدَّنِيُّ تُبْطِرُهُ أَدْنَى مَنْزِلَةٍ كَالْكَلَاءِ<sup>18</sup> الَّذِي يُحَرِّكُهُ مَرُّ النَّسِيمِ.

19. The honourable one never oppresses [others].

.. مَا جَارَ شَرِيفٌ<sup>19</sup>

<sup>1</sup>. One should not consider himself honourable just because of his lineage.

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