

Ignorance

الجهل Ignorance

1. Ignorance and miserliness are bad and harmful.

.. الْجَهْلُ، وَ الْبُخْلُ، مَسَاءَةٌ، وَمَضَرَّةٌ¹

2. Ignorance in a human being is more harmful than gangrene [is] to the body.

.. الْجَهْلُ فِي الْإِنْسَانِ أَضَرُّ مِنَ الْأَكْلَةِ فِي الْبَدَنِ²

3. Ignorance is a balky mount; whoever rides it stumbles and whoever accompanies it is led astray.

.. الْجَهْلُ مَطِيَّةٌ شَمُوسٌ، مَنْ رَكَبَهَا زَلَّ، وَمَنْ صَحَبَهَا ضَلَّ³

4. Ignorance of merits is one of the grossest demerits.

.. الْجَهْلُ بِالْفَضَائِلِ مِنْ أَفْبَحِ الرِّذَائِلِ⁴

5. The greatest calamity is ignorance.

.. أَعْظَمُ الْمَصَائِبِ الْجَهْلُ⁵

6. The worst ailment is ignorance.

.. أَسْوَأُ السُّقْمِ (الْقِسْمِ) الْجَهْلُ⁶

7. The greatest ignorance is the ignorance of a person about himself.

.. أَكْثَرُ الْجَهْلِ جَهْلُ الْإِنْسَانِ أَمْرَ نَفْسِهِ 7

8. The greatest ignorance is making enmity with the powerful, befriending the immoral and trusting the traitor.

.. أَكْثَرُ الْجَهْلِ مُعَادَاةُ الْقَادِرِ، وَمُصَادَقَةُ الْفَاجِرِ، وَالتَّيَقُّنُ بِالْغَادِرِ 8

9. Ignorance is a curse.

.. الْجَهْلُ وَبَالٌ 9

10. Ignorance is [a form of] death.

.. الْجَهْلُ مَوْتُ 10

11. People are enemies of that which they are ignorant of.

.. النَّاسُ أَعْدَاءُ مَا جَهِلُوا 11

12. Ignorance is the most harmful foe.

.. الْجَهْلُ أُنْكَى عَدُوٍّ 12

13. Ignorance makes one stumble.

.. الْجَهْلُ يُزِلُّ الْقَدَمَ 13

14. Ignorance spoils the Hereafter.

.. الْجَهْلُ يُفْسِدُ الْمَعَادَ 14

15. Ignorance is the [primary] source of evil.

.. الْجَهْلُ مَعْدِنُ الشَّرِّ 15

16. Ignorance is an ailment and a chronic disease.

.. الْجَهْلُ دَاءٌ وَعِيَاءٌ 16

17. Ignorance attracts peril.

.. الْجَهْلُ يَجْلِبُ الْغَرَرَ 17

18. Ignorance is the root of all evil.

.. الْجَهْلُ أَصْلُ كُلِّ شَرٍّ 18

19. Ignorance is the worst disease.

.. الْجَهْلُ أَدْوَى الدَّاءِ 19

20. Ignorance corrupts all matters.

.. الْجَهْلُ فَسَادُ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ 20

21. Ignorance makes one stumble and brings regret.

.. الْجَهْلُ يُزِلُّ الْقَدَمَ، وَيُورِثُ النَّدَمَ 21

22. Ignorance causes the living to die and perpetuates misery.

.. الْجَهْلُ مُمِيتُ الْأَحْيَاءِ، وَمُخْلِدُ الشَّقَاءِ 22

23. Verily you will not attain any goal by ignorance, nor will you achieve any goodness by means of it, nor will you realize any of your wishes in the Hereafter through it.

.. إِنَّكُمْ لَنْ تُحْصِلُوا بِالْجَهْلِ أَرْبَاءً، وَلَنْ تَبْلُغُوا بِهِ مِنَ الْخَيْرِ سَبَبًا، وَلَنْ تُدْرِكُوا بِهِ مِنَ الْآخِرَةِ مَطْلَبًا 23

24. It is through ignorance that every evil is instigated.

.. بِالْجَهْلِ يُسْتَنَارُ كُلُّ شَرٍّ 24

25. Many an ignorance is better than forbearance (or knowledge).

(.. رَبَّ جَهْلٌ أَنْفَعُ مِنْ حِلْمٍ) عَلِمَ 25

26. Ward off ignorance with knowledge.

.. رُدُّوا الْجَهْلَ بِالْعِلْمِ 26

27. Too much ignorance is destructive.

.. زِيَادَةُ الْجَهْلِ تُرْدِي 27

28. The worst affliction is ignorance.

.. شَرُّ الْمَصَائِبِ الْجَهْلُ 28

29. Counter ignorance with knowledge.

.. ضَادُّوا الْجَهْلَ بِالْعِلْمِ 29

30. The outcome of ignorance is loss; and the joy of the envious does not last.

.. عُقْبَى الْجَهْلِ مَضَرَّةٌ، وَالْحَسُودُ لَا تَدُومُ لَهُ مَسَرَّةٌ 30

31. The pinnacle of ignorance is for a person to brag about his ignorance.

.. غَايَةُ الْجَهْلِ تَبْجُجُ الْمَرْءَ بِجَهْلِهِ 31

32. Many a revered person has been humiliated by his ignorance.

.. كَمْ مِنْ عَزِيرٍ أَذَلَّهُ جَهْلُهُ³²

33. Ignorance suffices as ignobility.

.. كَفَى بِالْجَهْلِ ضِعَةً³³

34. It suffices as ignorance for a person to be ignorant about himself.

.. كَفَى بِالْمَرْءِ جَهْلًا أَنْ يَجْهَلَ نَفْسَهُ³⁴

35. It suffices as ignorance for a person to be pleased with himself.

.. كَفَى بِالْمَرْءِ جَهْلًا أَنْ يَرْضَى عَنْ نَفْسِهِ³⁵

36. It suffices as ignorance for a person to laugh without [a reason for] amusement.

.. كَفَى بِالْمَرْءِ جَهْلًا أَنْ يَضْحَكَ مِنْ غَيْرِ عَجَبٍ³⁶

37. It suffices as ignorance for a person to be ignorant of his limits [and standing in society].

.. كَفَى بِالْمَرْءِ جَهْلًا أَنْ يَجْهَلَ قَدْرَهُ³⁷

38. It suffices as ignorance for a person to be ignorant of his flaw.

.. كَفَى بِالْمَرْءِ جَهْلًا أَنْ يَجْهَلَ عَيْبَهُ³⁸

39. It suffices as ignorance for a person to be ignorant about his own faults and to malign people for that which he [himself] cannot turn away from.

.. كَفَى بِالْمَرْءِ جَهْلًا أَنْ يَجْهَلَ عُيُوبَ نَفْسِهِ، وَيَطْعَنَ عَلَى النَّاسِ بِمَا لَا يَسْتَطِيعُ التَّحَوُّلَ عَنْهُ³⁹

40. It suffices as ignorance for a person to forbid people from that which he performs himself.

.. كَفَى بِالْمَرْءِ جَهْلًا أَنْ يُنْكِرَ عَلَى النَّاسِ مَا يَأْتِي مِثْلَهُ⁴⁰

41. The language of ignorance is impoliteness.

.. لِسَانُ الْجَهْلِ الْخُرْقُ⁴¹

42. One who gets uplifted by ignorance has opposed the intellect.

.. مَنْ اسْتَطَارَهُ الْجَهْلُ فَقَدَّعَصَى الْعَقْلُ⁴²

43. One who fights his ignorance with his knowledge succeeds with the most felicitous victory.

.. مَنْ قَاتَلَ جَهْلَهُ بِعِلْمِهِ فَازَ بِالْحِطِّ الْأُسْعَدِ⁴³

44. Being overcome by ignorance is one of the severest afflictions.

.. مِنْ أَشَدِّ الْمَصَائِبِ غَلَبَةُ الْجَهْلِ⁴⁴

45. There is no poverty like ignorance.

.. لَا فَقْرَ كَالْجَهْلِ⁴⁵

46. With ignorance, no path is purified.

.. لَا يَزْكُو مَعَ الْجَهْلِ مَذْهَبٌ⁴⁶

47. There is no poverty more severe than ignorance.

.. لَا فَقْرَ أَشَدُّ مِنَ الْجَهْلِ⁴⁷

48. There is no abomination more disgraceful than ignorance.

.. لَا سَوْأَةَ أَشْيَيْنِ مِنَ الْجَهْلِ⁴⁸

49. There is no adversity more severe than ignorance.

.. لَامُصِيبَةً أَشَدُّ مِنْ جَهْلٍ 49

50. The cornerstone of ignorance is animosity towards people.

.. رَأْسُ الْجَهْلِ مُعَادَاةُ النَّاسِ 50

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