



QUESTION & ANSWER BUCKET



UMAR YOOSUFF

Q1

Is there any specific level of knowledge that we need to gain for this programme that will make us effective Da'ees?

Dr Zakir Naik: Da'wah is a broad field, and none can claim that he has got all the knowledge. But the bare minimal knowledge required for a person would be covered in this course. Bare minimal means, if you have this knowledge, you can convey the message of Islam to many people, In Sha Allah.

To do this course, the following criteria was determined for selection of the participants:

1. Fluency in English – Since this programme is in English, fluency was an important criterion. Though we did compromise on this criterion because we wanted participants from different nationalities, and we wanted the training programme to be international. If we had more than one participant from the same nationality, but naturally the person who spoke better English had more chances to be selected.

2. Passion for Da'wah – Passion for doing Da'wah was a very important factor for being selected. Though we know this judgment and interview is subjective.

For example, one of the participants got into it, because he said, "If you don't take me, I'll get a heart attack." I'm a doctor, not that I believed in it literally, but I liked the passion.



3. Knowledge of Islam – If a person is already educated in the field of Islam, having a bachelor's degree from a very well-known Islamic institute or a master's degree or a PhD, the chances of him being effective is more. But if he has a degree and is not passionate, then he would not qualify. Thus, it was a combination of many criteria.

In this course, irrespective whether you have the knowledge or not, if you do your homework properly, the bare minimal knowledge required for you to be at least a Da'ee on a smaller level would be sufficient, In Sha Allah.

ZAMRI VINOOTH

Q2

There are some people who say, "Smart work is much better than hard work." If we find a way to do things in a smart way, why should we do hardwork?

Dr Zakir Naik: To do things in a smart way comes at number three among the requirements for Da'wah to be effective – 'Ask the person who is knowledgeable'.

If for example, you want to do 10 things. You have sought Allah's help and maybe you are taking 10 days to do it. But now you know the smart way to do it, and you're able to do those 10 things in just one day, and you sleep the balance nine days, will you achieve success?

A person who can do 10 days' work in one day, what does he do?



فَإِذَا فَرَغْتَ فَانصَبْ وَإِلَىٰ رَبِّكَ فَارْغَبْ



“Therefore, when you are free (from the immediate task), still labour hard. And to your Lord turn (all) your attention.”

Al Qur'an 94:7-8

You strive in Allah's way, and the moment you finish the work, you strive again.

Thus, a person who learns the technique and can do the work of 10 days in just one day should realise that now if he works for 10 days, he gets 100 points. Points are very subjective; it may be in terms of money as well.

A very good businessman, who maybe working hard and earning \$100 in 10 days, later realises that if he changes his job or uses the right technique, he can earn \$100 a day and if he stops at that, then surely, he will not become Bill Gates.

But we as Muslims, talk in terms of Sawab. If you help 10 people in 10 days, that is alright, but if you realize that you can help 10 people in one day, would you relax for the next nine days? You may get the same Sawab or may be you will get less because Allah gave you the knowledge to help more people and you were relaxing.

To conclude, is what Allah says in the Qur'an that the moment you finish the good work, you strive again.

A person who is a true Mu'min, keeps on striving, irrespective of what the result is. Allah promises that if your striving is correct, you will get results. And the best example is Muhammad (pbuh), the means he had was nothing and the result he got is phenomenal. Today he has more than 2 billion followers all across the world, Masha Allah.



FIRDAUS WONG

Q3

What is the level of dedication that is needed to become a better and effective Da'ee?

Dr Zakir Naik: As far as dedication is concerned, it means you are striving for Sawab.

For example, you want to join an Islamic organisation, and maybe in the previous job you were getting a salary of about \$2,000. But the Islamic organisation says, "We can only afford \$1,000." It is dedication when you leave a \$2,000 job and willing to work for \$1000 because you're striving for Sawab.

Also, if the Islamic organisation says the work timings are 9:00 to 6:00 or 9 to 10 hours a day. If you are only bothered about the salary, you'll work only for that number of hours. The real test is that if the organisation tells you to do something outside your normal working hours and are even not paying you overtime, that is where the dedication counts. If you're doing it for the sake of Allah, the question of working overtime never arises.

That is the reason if you are working for an Islamic organisation, you can never go in a loss. Even if they underpay you, you will get the balance in Aakhirah. If they overpay you and you know you're not worth that much, then you must strive harder. If you are working for the cause of Allah, your main payment is the Aakhirah. No one can pay you better than Allah. It is here the dedication counts.



ABDUL KARIM

Q4

What is your advice for a student who wants to pursue studies and also be a full-time Da'ee?

Dr Zakir Naik: As far as the advice for a person who wants to be a full-time Da'ee is concerned, I give him three options:

1. Join a course or an university where you will get more knowledge or more technique in the field of Da'wah.
2. Or join an organisation where you can practically do Da'wah.
3. Or if you can't find an organisation which you think is on Qur'an and Sunnah or the level you're thinking of, you start your own organization.

The third option is very difficult and is the last.

If someone says, "I want to do Dawah, but I want to finish my studies." I always tell that up to A levels is sufficient. What is required for basic knowledge about the world, you get it up to A levels, after that is specialisation. If you want to be a Da'ee, you either do a course in an Islamic University or join an institute which gives training in Da'wah.

But if you say, "No, I want to become a Da'ee, but I'll do MBA", I will ask, for what? If you say that you want to become a back-end Da'ee and manage an Islamic organisation, that is fine, no problem, this becomes a specialisation. You are joining MBA, so that you can start your own Islamic organisation, that too is fine. But if you're doing science beyond A levels, I will ask for what? "Because Zakir Naik is a doctor."



I did medicine because I thought that was the best profession in the world, that's why I chose to be a doctor. When I found a better profession, after I met Shaikh Ahmed Deedat, I changed my profession. I changed from a doctor of a body to a doctor of a soul.

My son Fariq, if he says, "I want to become a Da'ee like my father therefore I will do MBBS," then I will say to him that you're wasting your time. Neither do I want to send my son to become a doctor, neither does he want to become a doctor.

Some say, "No, because when you give a lecture on Islam and science, people are impressed." I tell them, "What I speak, you don't have to waste five-and-a-half years for it, I can teach you the same in five months." What I speak in lectures is not what I learnt when I was in the medical college, that is superficial. Now, I do my research. When I speak to a person who is a MD or a DM, my MBBS knowledge cannot be a match for a DM. What do I do? I do my research. Even you can do that research being a non-medical person.

Thus, the best advice is, join an institute which will help you excel in the field of Da'wah or join an organisation. Practically start doing Da'wah and not waste your time.