

Five Keys to Being a Friend of Allah

From the Advices of Shah Hakim Akhtar ؒ

Shah Hakim Muhammad Akhtar ؒ (d. 2013) was among the righteous and pious shaikhs of recent times. He was the disciple of Shah Abdul Ghani Phulpuri ؒ (d. 1963) and later on became the disciple of Shah Abrarul Haq Hardoi ؒ (d. 2006), both of whom were disciples of Hakim al-Ummah Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanvi ؒ (d. 1943). Shah Hakim Akhtar's ؒ life, manners, and advices have shaped and touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of Muslims worldwide. It would not be farfetched to say that millions of Muslims have benefitted from him, whether directly or indirectly through his students, some of whom became the greatest scholars of our times, such as: Maulana Abdul Hamid Ishaq (the principle of Darul Uloom Azaadville in South Africa), Maulana Fazlur Rahman al-A'zami (one of the great Hadith scholars of our time), our late shaikh, Maulana Harun Abbasomar ؒ (d. 2020), and numerous others.

Shah Hakim Akhtar ؒ has stated in his speeches that whoever engages in the following five actions shall become a friend of Allah:

1. Remain in the company of the friends of Allah ؒ.
2. Constant engagement with the remembrance of Allah ؒ.
3. Guard oneself from sin.
4. Abstain from those things which lead to sin.
5. Be steadfast upon the sunnah of the messenger of Allah ﷺ.

Seemingly simple, these actions require discipline, patience, and dedication. Allah ؒ alone can make these tasks easy for whomsoever He wishes. May He make us from among them.

”میری پوری زندگی کا نچوڑ ہے کہ پانچ کام کر لو، ولی اللہ بن جاؤ گے۔“
اور فرمایا کہ ”میں نے علماء کے لیے ان پانچ کا وزن بھی بابِ مفاعلہ پر رکھا ہے:
(۱) اہل اللہ کی ”مصاحبت“ (۲) ذکر اللہ پر ”مداومت“ (۳) گناہوں سے ”محافظة“
(۴) اسبابِ گناہ سے ”مباعدت“ (۵) سنتوں پر ”مواظبت“