

In The Name of Allaah, The Most Merciful, The Bestower of Mercy.

**Firstly**, we say to Rebecca: Indeed, there is no harm in knowing one's lineage, cultural background, tribe or clan. Allaah [The Most High] said:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتَقْوَاهُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ  
خَبِيرٌ

O mankind! We have created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know one another. Verily, the most honourable of you with Allah is that (believer) who has the most Taqwah. Verily, Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware. [Surah Al-Hujuraat. Verse 13]

[لِتَعَارَفُوا] – that you may know one another]: Meaning: So that you may know one another and how close you all are to one another in lineage, but not out of boastfulness. Then Allaah informed us that the most elevated amongst them [i.e. the children of Aadam] are those who fear Allaah the most. The Prophet [salla-laahu-alayhi-wasalam] said: “Learn your lineages so that you can maintain ties of kinship. (1)

**Therefore, ascription to a tribe and a nation is affirmed in Islaam. The companions of the Prophet [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam] used to ascribe themselves to their tribes and their people in the presence of the Messenger [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam], and he never disapproved of that. (2)**

The Messenger (ﷺ) said: Indeed, Allaah [The Most High] has removed from you the pride of the pre-Islamic period and its boasting about ancestors. One is only a pious believer or a wretched sinner. You are sons of Adam and Adam (was created from) dust. Let the people abandon boasting about their ancestors, for they are merely fuel in Jahannam; or they will become more insignificant in (the sight of) Allah than the beetle which rolls dung with its nose. (3)

Every civilization is judged based on its piety and adherence to the path of the Messengers, because achievements in this worldly life alongside disbelief is nothing but a cause of external loss and misery in the Hereafter. Allaah [The Most High] said:

وَلَقَدْ بَعَثْنَا فِي كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ رَسُولًا أَنْ آعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَاجْتَنِبُوا الطَّاغُوتَ فَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ هَدَى اللَّهُ وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ حَقَّتْ عَلَيْهِ الضَّلَالَةُ فسيروا في الأرض فانظروا كيف كان عاقبة المكدبين

And verily, We have sent among every Ummah (community, nation) a Messenger (saying): "Worship Allah (Alone), and avoid (or keep away from) Taghut (all false deities, etc. i.e. do not worship Taghut besides Allah)." Then of them were some whom Allah guided and of them were some upon whom the straying was justified. So travel through the land and see what was the end of those who denied (the truth). [Surah An-Nahl. Verse 36]

Allaah [The Exalted] said:

أولم يسيروا في الأرض فينظروا كيف كان عاقبة الذين من قبلهم وكانوا أشد منهم قوة وما كان الله ليُعجزه من شيء في السموات ولا في الأرض إنه كان عليما قديرا

Have they not travelled in the land, and seen what was the end of those before them, and they were superior to them in power? Allah is not such that anything in the heavens or in the earth escapes Him. Verily, He is All-Knowing, All-Omnipotent. [Surah Al-Faatir. Verse 44]

Allaah [The Exalted] stated about the Fir'awn and his people:

كَمْ تَرَكُوا مِنْ جَنَّاتٍ وَعُيُونٍ  
وَزُرُوعٍ وَمَقَامٍ كَرِيمٍ  
وَنَعْمَةٍ كَانُوا فِيهَا فَاكِهِينَ  
كَذَٰلِكَ وَأَوْرَثْنَاهَا قَوْمًا آٰخَرِينَ  
فَمَا بَكَتْ عَلَيْهِمُ السَّمَاءُ وَالْأَرْضُ وَمَا كَانُوا مُنظَرِينَ  
وَلَقَدْ نَجَّيْنَا بَنِي إِسْرَءِيلَ مِنَ الْعَذَابِ الْمُهِينِ  
مِنْ فِرْعَوْنَ إِنَّهُ كَانَ عَالِيًا مِّنَ الْمُسْرِفِينَ

How many of gardens and springs do they [Fir'aun's (Pharaoh) people] left! And green crops (fields etc.) and goodly places, and comforts of life wherein they used to take delight! Thus (it was)! And We made other people inherit them (i.e. We made the Children of Israel to inherit the kingdom of Egypt). And the heavens and the earth wept not for them , nor were they given a respite. And indeed We saved the Children of Israel from the humiliating torment, from Fir'aun (Pharaoh); Verily! He was arrogant and was of the Musrifun (those who transgress beyond bound in spending and other things and commit great sins). [Surah Ad-Dukhaan. Verses 25-31]

Also read here about the people of Saba:

<https://salaficentre.com/2020/03/31/1-substituted-beautiful-thankfulness-with-ugly-ingratitude-lesson-to-learn-from-the-fate-of-the-people-of-saba/>

<https://salaficentre.com/2020/04/01/2-substituted-beautiful-thankfulness-with-ugly-ingratitude-some-mighty-blessings-in-the-land-of-saba-prior-to-its-destruction/>

**This is the first affair Rebecca must be reminded of!** The achievements of different civilizations will not be of any virtue in the next lifge if they were trangressors and disbelievers in their Lord and Creator [Allaah - (The Mighty and Majestic)].

**Secondly**, Rebecca stated, this civilization (i.e. Dadan) **dates back more than 2,700 years and pre-dates the Nabataean civilization as well as the Roman presence in the Arabian Peninsula, was once the capital for the Dadan and Lihyan Kingdoms and is considered to be one of the most developed 1st-millennium BCE cities of the Arabian Peninsula.** She also stated that **"History and heritage are at the heart of the Dadan district and its upcoming Kingdom's Institute. With its enduring sense of mystery, perpetuated by its magnetic red rocks, the**

**institute intends to pay homage to Saudi Arabia's past".**  
<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1851271/lifestyle>

Therefore, we ask Rebecca: Were these people followers of Prophet Ibraaheem [peace be upon him] or amongst those who corrupted his path and started worshipping Laat, Uzza and Manaah?! If they were monotheists who adhered to the path of Prophet Ibraaheem, then indeed every believer supplicates for those believers who have preceded, but if they were worshippers of Laat, Uzza and Manaah or disbelievers, then indeed their affair is not exalted in the twinkling of an eye. Iyaad Bin Huimaar Al-Mujaashi'ee [may Allaah be pleased with him] said that Allaah's Messenger [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him] said: **"Verily, my Lord told me that I should teach you that which you do not know and which He has taught me today - that the property which I (i.e. Allaah) have conferred upon them is lawful for them. I (Allaah) have created My servants as one having a natural inclination to the worship of Allah but it is Satan who turns them away from the right religion and he makes unlawful what has been declared lawful for them and he commands them to ascribe partnership with Me, although he has no justification for that. And verily, Allah looked towards the people of the earth and hated them - Arabs and the non-Arabs, except some remnants from the People of the Book".** (4)

Therefore, we remind Rebecca that if these people were not from those Arabs who adhered to the religion of pure monotheism conveyed by Prophet Ibraaheem [peace be upon him], then indeed there is nothing to be excited about regarding their affair; rather as Muslims we are only grateful to Allaah because He removed some of our forefathers from **Al-Jaahiliyyah** and entered them into **Al-Islam**. Hudhaifah Bin al Yamaan [may Allaah be pleased with him] said, **"People used to ask the Messenger of Allaah [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him] about the good times, but I used to ask him about bad times fearing lest they overtake me. I said, 'O Messenger of Allaah! We were in a state of Al-Jaahiliyyah and evil, and then Allaah brought us this good [time through Islam], is there any evil time after this good one?' He said, 'Yes'....**(see full hadeeth and explanation here: <https://salaficentre.com/2019/08/27/admonition-from-the-hadeeth-of-hudhaifah-people-used-to-ask-the-messenger-of-allaah-about-the-good-times-but-i-used-to-ask-him-about-bad/>)

Al-Allaamah Saaleh Al-Fawzaan [may Allaah preserve him] said, "Al-Jaahiliyyah is derived from al-Jahl [ignorance]. It is the absence of knowledge, and the intent behind it is the state of affairs before Islaam. The state of affairs before the advent of Muhammad [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam] is [referred to as] Al-Jaahiliyyah, because the people were in a state of [extreme] ignorance and misguidance in affairs related to worship, mutual dealings, food consumption, marriage and other than that. They were in [extreme] ignorance and misguidance due to the long period between Eesaa and Muhammad [i.e. the absence of a Messenger].

This was a period of over four hundred years in which the divine message ceased. The divine message was obscured, whilst ignorance and misguidance became widespread. The people worshiped idols, trees, stones, false deities, the Jinn and humans. They worshiped the Angels, the Awliyaa and the righteous people, and they were upon divergent paths.

And with regards to the affair of halaal and haraam, they did not distinguish between good and filth; rather they used to deal in usury. The usury of the pre-Islamic era of ignorance was that when they settled a debt with a debtor, they would say, "Either you settle the debt, or we increase the debt and double the time it [should be paid]." This was the Pre-Islamic Usury and it used to be predominant in their mutual dealings. They used to gather wealth through forbidden means-through pillage, plunder, robbery and devouring people's wealth through falsehood.

And with regards to food consumption, they made dead animals and blood lawful; they used to eat dead animals, blood and repugnant things. And with regards to their relationship between one another, they used to kill and fight one another over the most trivial thing. They neither had a leader nor a state. They were either under the authority of tribal systems or under the authority of the Persians and the Romans. The powerful used to encroach upon [the rights of the weak], and an oppressor used to transgress the limits, and no one stopped him. This was the state of affairs in Jaahiliyyah (The Pre-Islamic Period of Ignorance).

They were upon ignorance in all aspects [of life] and the greatest of that [ignorance] was related to worship and creed. They believed in in Shirk, rejected the [Resurrection] and the Divine Message. [Allaah informed us that] they used to say: [مَا أَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ عَلَى نَبِيٍّ مِنْ شَيْءٍ] – Nothing did Allaah send down to any human being (by revelation) 6:91]

This was their state of affairs in Jaahiliyyah [The Pre-Islamic Period of Ignorance]; then, Allaah [Glorified be He and free is He from all imperfections] sent Muhammad [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam] with the Guidance and the Religion of Truth. Allaah stated:

[هُوَ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ] – It is He Who has sent His Messenger (Muhammad) with Al Huda'a (the Guidance) and Deenul Haqq (the religion of truth -Islam) 9:33]

'Huda'a' is beneficial knowledge and 'Deenul Haqq' is righteous action. Allaah (Glorified be He and free is He from all imperfections) sent His Prophet [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam] with beneficial knowledge and righteous action, so that pre-Islamic ignorance ceased to exist for ever and knowledge and guidance appeared.

The 'Jaahiliyyah Aamma' [The Pre-Islamic ignorance that was widespread in the world and touched every aspect of life] has ceased to exist; but it remains amongst some people or some of the tribes, or in some of the lands. This is Jaahiliyyah Juz'iy [partial Pre-Islamic Ignorance]. As for the 'Jahiliyyah Aamma', this has ceased to exist after the advent of the Messenger [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam], but some characteristics of Pre-Islamic ignorance remains with some of the people due to statement of the Prophet [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam], "Among my people there are four characteristics belonging to pre-Islamic period which they do not abandon: boasting of high rank, reviling other peoples' genealogies, seeking rain by stars, and wailing (i.e. for the dead)." [reported by Muslim]." This remains, but it is an aspect of Jaahiliyyah. As for the Jaahiliyyah Aamma, it has ceased to exist. Therefore, it is not permissible to say that the people are in Jaahiliyyah (Pre-Islamic ignorance).

Some [people] say, '[The people] are in a state of Pre-Islamic ignorance that is more severe than the one before the advent of the Prophet [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam]'. The meaning of this [statement of theirs] is a denial of what the Messenger [sallal-laahu-layhi-wasallam] brought – a denial of the Qur'aan, the Sunnah of the Prophet and the abundant knowledge within our hands. Its meaning is that we are in Jaahiliyyah [Pre-islamic ignorance]. This is a mistake, the people are not in Jaahiliyyah, but there remains some of the characteristics of Jaahiliyyah in some individuals- in some nations and tribes; but this is a specific Jaahiliyyah. Therefore, it is obligatory to be acquainted with this affair.

His [Hudhaifah's] statement, '**We were in a state of ignorance and evil**'. What is Evil? Evil is that which the people were upon- shirk, worship of images, eating haraam and other evil deeds before the advent of the Prophet [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam]. These were the evil deeds, but Allaah brought about good [through Islam]. Hudhaifah [radiyallaahu-anhu] said, "And then Allaah brought us this good [time through Islam]." This is an acknowledgement of Allaah's grace, for indeed good [only] comes from Allaah [The Exalted] and He is The One Who guided us. We cannot recognize Good [solely] through our intellects and the knowledge we possess; rather we come to know of it by way of the revelation given to the Messenger [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam]- the Magnificent Qur'aan and the [authentic] Prophetic Sunnah.

The truth is not known through the intellects or habits of [the people], or through blind following and opinions; rather it is known through the revelation sent down by Allaah [The Mighty and Majestic]-the revelation that was communicated through the tongue of His Messenger [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam]. Therefore, this is a rebuttal against those who say that the people are free to hold onto their views and everyone can say what he wants. We say, "No, the people are the slaves of Allaah and their intellects and views are deficient. They must return to the revelation in order to know the truth and reject falsehood."

And his (Hudhaifah's) statement: '**And then Allaah brought us this good (time through Islam)**'. And what is 'Good?' It is Islaam, because of the guidance it contains, [sound] knowledge and the absence of doubts that have pervaded the minds of many people. Allaah brought about this Great Good, [and] this is an acknowledgement of Allaah's blessing, because blessings only come to us from Him [Glorified and Exalted be He]. Indeed, Allaah did not leave us to our intellects and views; rather Allaah is the One Who shows us good and guides us towards it. Allaah [The Exalted] said to His Prophet [sallal-laahu-alayhi-wasallam]:

[قُلْ إِنْ ضَلَلْتُ فَإِنَّمَا أَضِلُّ عَلَىٰ نَفْسِي وَإِنِ اهْتَدَيْتُ فَبِمَا يُوحِي إِلَيَّ رَبِّي إِنَّهُ سَمِيعٌ قَرِيبٌ] -Say: If (even) I go astray, I shall stray only to my own loss. But if I remain guided, it is because of the Revelation of my Lord to me. Truly, He is All-Hearer, Ever Near (to all things)]. (5)

**Thirdly**, we inform Rebecca that the Muslim has a sound path when dealing with the affair of the nations of the past. Al-Allaamah Rabee Bin Haadee al-Madkhalee [may Allaah preserve him] stated, "The attention given to artifacts (or relics) – in this era – in the manner pursued by the Archaeologists was not known during the era of the Prophet's companions [may

Allaah be pleased with them] and the pious predecessors [may Allaah have mercy upon them], but rather the Muslims blindly followed the Europeans and Americans whose greatest goal in studying artifacts (or relics) in the land of the Muslims is to revive (the traits of) pre-Islamic nationalism, such as Pharaonism, (Pan) Babylonianism, Phoenicianism etc And they succeeded to a great extent in actualizing many of these goals and thus arose – in the Muslim lands – the (traits) of pre-Islamic national pride and taking pride in these nationalisms. Indeed, I am amazed with the example of yours [i.e. the one Shaikh Rabee is refuting] regarding the towns of (Prophet) Saaleh and Ukhdood (ie. the people who tortured the believers mentioned in Surah Al-Burooj), which are places (that incurred) Allaah’s anger!!

Imaam Al-Bukhaaree [may Allaah have mercy upon him] said, “Abdullah Bin Muhammad Al-Jufee narrated to us that Abdur Razzaaq narrated to them from Az-Zuhree who narrated from Saalim, who narrated from Ibn Umar [may Allaah be pleased with him and his father], who said, ‘When the Prophet [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him] passed by Al-Hijr, he said, ‘Do not enter the dwelling places of those people who were unjust to themselves unless you enter in a weeping state lest the same calamity as of theirs should befall you’. Then he covered his head and made his speed fast till he crossed the valley”. Yahyah Bin Bukayr narrated to us who said that Maalik narrated to us from Abdullaah Bin Deenaar who reported from Ibn Umar [may Allaah be pleased with him and his father], who said, “Allah’s Messenger [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him] said to his companions who were at Al-Hijr, ‘Do not enter upon these people who are being punished, except in a weeping state, lest the same calamity as of theirs should befall you’”. [Saheeh Al-Bukhaari. Numbers 4419 and 4420]

The two Prophetic reports show the danger of entering the places of those who incurred Allaah’s anger and He destroyed them due to their disbelief, denial of the prophets and what they brought. The Prophet did not permit entry into them [i.e. those places] except for one who fears Allaah and fears His punishment, so he enters them when in need whilst he is in a weeping state. It is feared for the one who enters the dwellings of those who were punished that he would be afflicted with the punishment that afflicted them. It is legislated for the one who approaches those dwellings to go past quickly whilst covering his face as an act of following the example of Allaah’s Messenger [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him].

So, do the Muslim possess understanding – and amongst them the Archeologists and those who encourage them – of what is in this Prophetic guidance that came from one who does not speak out of his own desires [i.e. Muhammad -peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him]? Also, Allaah’s Messenger [peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him] legislated for the one who goes past the valleys of Muhassar to hurry because Allaah destroyed the people of the Elephant over there [i.e. the story of the people of the Elephant – Surah Al-Feel].

So, those who excavate the artifacts (relics) of the people of Aad, Thamood, the Ashaab Al-Ukhdood, the pharoanic and Babylonian artifacts (or relics), do they act based on the guidance of Allaah’s Messenger] or do they blindly follow the enemies of Allaah who set up partnership of exploration for them from the artifacts (or relics) of the destroyed nations in

order to entice (them) to the pride of pre Islamic ignorance. Indeed, I and other than myself have read the numerous boasting of Muslims or those who ascribe to Islam, such as the statement of some of them, “O Misree [i.e. Egyptian]! Be proud of the builders of your glory when people were sleeping”. He boasts about the Pharoanic artifacts (relics) such as the pyramids and other than them. (6)

Allaah [The Most High] said: [فَدُخِلْتُمْ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ سُنَنٌ فَسِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَانظُرُوا كَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ الْمُكذِبِينَ] – Many similar mishaps [troubles, problems] of life were faced by nations that have passed away before you, so travel through the earth, and see what was the end of those who disbelieved]. [Surah Aal Imraan. Verse 137]

Imaam Ibnul Qayyim [may Allaah have mercy upon him] said, “Indeed, there were nations like yourselves before you, so look to their evil end. You have to know that the reason behind their evil end was due to their disbelief in the revelations of Allaah and disbelief in Allaah’s Messengers. They were the forefathers and you are the descendants. The main affair that connects you to each other is your disbelief and the ruling on that disbelief is destruction”. (7)

Imaam Muhammad Bin Saaleh Al-Uthaymeen [may Allaah have mercy upon him] said, “If it is said, ‘What is the benefit in narrating to us the stories of the destroyed nations despite the fact that this Ummah will not be completely destroyed in a manner similar to the destruction of the previous nations before it?’”. **The Answer:** Indeed, this has two benefits: The first benefit is a clarification of Allaah’s blessings upon us that the occurrence of a complete destruction is removed from us, and that were it not for Allaah’s Benevolence we would have been deserving of it. Second, the likeness of the punishment they received may occur in the hereafter for the one who did what they did, if punishment was not received in the worldly life. And this may be understood from the statement of Allaah: “Such is the Seizure of your Lord when He seizes the population of towns while they are doing wrong. Verily, His Seizure is painful and severe. Indeed in that (there) is a sure lesson for those who fear the torment of the Hereafter.” So what is apparent from this Aayah is that what is similar to the punishment they received will happen in the Hereafter, and Allaah knows best. (8)

Finally, rectification of society By Imaam Abdul Azeez Bin Baaz [may Allaah have mercy upon him]: <https://salaficentre.com/2021/01/10/rectification-of-modern-societies-by-imaam-abdul-azeez-bin-baaz-rahimahullaah/>

Religion and Worldly Sciences: <https://salaficentre.com/2020/04/10/the-sound-religion-and-the-worldly-sciences-brief-general-admonitions-from-the-people-of-knowledge/>

The Means to Safety for The Muslim Ummah: <https://salaficentre.com/2019/10/22/an-insight-admonition-regarding-the-path-to-safety-for-the-ummah-by-shaikh-saaleh-al-fawzaan-hafidhahullaah/>

We ask Allaah to keep us firm upon the path of the Prophets and Messengers and guide Rebecca to this path Aameen.

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[Ref 1: Reported by Imaam Tirmidhee (rahimahullaah) Number 1979 & declared authentic by Imaam Albani (rahimahullaah) in Sahih Sunan At-Tirmidhee]

[Ref 2: An Excerpt from ‘Silsilah Ar-Rasaa’il Al-Manhajiyah Fin-Nus’hi Wal Irshaad Wat-Taw’iyah’ pages 47-49’. slightly paraphrased]

[Ref 3: Reported by Imaam Abu Dawud (rahimahullaah)' Hadith Number 5116. Declared 'Hasan' by Shaikh Albaani (rahimahullaah) in his checking of Sunan Abu Dawud. Pages -766-767. Publisher: Maktabah Al-Ma'aarif' 1st edition]

[Ref 4: Saheeh Muslim 2865]

[Ref 5: <https://salaficentre.com/2019/08/27/admonition-from-the-hadeeth-of-hudhaifah-people-used-to-ask-the-messenger-of-allaah-about-the-good-times-but-i-used-to-ask-him-about-bad/>]

[Ref 6: Baraa'atus Sahaabah Al-Akhyaar Min At-Tabarruk Bil Amaakin Wal-Aalathaar. Pages 11-14. Slightly paraphrased]

[Ref 7: Source: I'laam Al-Muwaqqi-een: 1/181]

[Ref 8: Source: Al-Muntaqaa Min Fawaa-idil Fawaa-id 123-124]