

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

The life of the leader Uthmaan, founder of the Ottoman Empire, was a life of Jihaad and call to the path of Allaah. The scholars of the religion surrounded him, supervised the administrative planning and implementation of Islamic law in the emirate. Indeed, history has preserved for us Uthman's advice to his son Orkhan, while he was on his deathbed, and that advice contains a guide for civilisation and a methodology based on the divine Islamic path which the Ottomans followed thereafter.

Uthmaan [may Allaah have mercy upon him] stated in his advice:

[1] "O my son! Beware of busying yourself with something that Allaah, the Lord of the worlds, has not commanded, and if you are faced with a dilemma in relation to passing a judgement, then take the advice of the scholars of the religion". [Read here: <https://salaficentre.com/2017/03/17/returning-elders-guidance-times-adversity-followed-path-since-time-sahaabah-shaikh-ubaid/>]

[2] "Be generous to the soldiers. Let not shaytaan deceive you by your soldiers and wealth, and beware of turning away from the people of the Sharee'ah (i.e. the scholars)". [Read here: <https://masjidfurqan.co.uk/2017/11/29/four-categories-of-people-we-might-come-across-on-a-daily-basis/>]

[3] "O my son! You know that our goal is to please Allaah, the Lord of the worlds, and that by way of Jihaad the light of our religion spreads to the different regions, so that the pleasure of Allaah - may He be glorified and exalted - manifests". [Read here: <https://www.abukhadeejah.com/salafi-shaikh-fawzaan-on-jihad-in-our-times-and-the-guidelines-of-jihad-according-to-islam/>]

[4] "O my son! We are not among those who start wars due to a desire to rule and control. We live for Islam and die with Islam. O my son! This is what is worthy of you". [Read here: <https://salaficentre.com/2020/04/19/some-perils-that-accompany-desire-for-leadership/>]

[5] "know O my son! Spreading Islam, guiding people to it, protecting the honour of Muslims and their wealth is a trust, and Allaah - The Almighty - will ask you about it".

Reminder: Responsibility of The Rulers and Their Subjects

Allaah [The Mighty and Majestic] said:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُكُمْ أَنْ تُؤَدُّوا الْأَمَانَاتِ إِلَىٰ أَهْلِهَا وَإِذَا حَكَمْتُمْ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ أَنْ تَحْكُمُوا بِالْعَدْلِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ نِعِمَّا يَعِظُكُمْ بِهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ سَمِيعًا بَصِيرًا

يَأَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولَى الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ فَإِن تَنَزَعْتُمْ فِي شَيْءٍ فَرُدُّوهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَالرَّسُولِ إِن كُنْتُمْ تُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ وَأَحْسَنُ تَأْوِيلًا

Verily! Allah commands that you should render back the trusts to those, to whom they are due; and that when you judge between men, you judge with justice. Verily, how excellent is the teaching which He (Allah) gives you! Truly, Allah is Ever All-Hearer, All-Seer. O you who believe! Obey Allah and obey the Messenger (Muhammad), and those of you (Muslims) who are in authority. (And) if you differ in anything amongst yourselves, refer it to Allah and His Messenger, if you believe in Allah and in the Last Day. That is better and more suitable for final determination. [Surah An-Nisaa. Aayaat 58-59]

The scholars say that the first verse was revealed regarding the rulers – that it is obligated on them to render back the trusts to those whom they are due and that when they judge between the people they do so with justice. And the second verse was revealed regarding those under the ruler's authority, the armies and other than them- that it is obligated on them to obey the rulers who establish justice in their distributions, rulings, military expeditions and other affairs, except when they command one to commit an act of disobedience to Allaah, because there cannot be obedience to the creation in disobedience to Allaah. And if they differ in any matter, they should return to the book of Allaah and the Sunnah of His Messenger. If the rulers do not do this, then they are only obeyed in that which is in agreement with obedience to Allaah and His Messenger, their rights are fulfilled just as Allaah and His Messenger commanded and they are aided in righteousness and piety, but not in sin and transgression. [An Excerpt from 'As-Siyaasah Ash-Shar'iyah 16-18. Slightly paraphrased]

Read here: How do we behave when rulers give precedence to others or become opperssive:

<https://salaficentre.com/2019/07/20/after-me-you-will-see-others-given-preference-to-you-so-be-patient-till-you-meet-me-at-the-haud/> <https://www.abukhadeejah.com/the-tyranny-of-the-rulers-a-reason-for-rebellion/>

[6] "O my son! I am returning to my Lord, and I am proud of you that you will be just to those under your authority and striving in the path of Allaah to spread the religion ordained by Allaah". [Read here: how to treat those under your authority: <https://salaficentre.com/2019/12/15/good-manners-be-firm-but-behave-well-towards-everyone-neither-scorn-anyone-nor-become-overbearing/>]

[7] "O my son! I advise you to adhere to the scholars of the Ummah continuously, take care of them, honour them a lot and consult them, because they do not command you with anything else except good. O my son! Beware of doing something that does not please Allaah - The Almighty, and if something is difficult for you, ask the scholars of the Sharee'ah, because

indeed they will guide you to good". Read here: Returning to the scholars:

<https://salaficentre.com/2017/03/17/returning-elders-guidance-times-adversity-followed-path-since-time-sahaabah-shaikh-ubaid/>

<https://salaficentre.com/2019/08/30/the-scholars-are-three-types-a-brief-clarification-by-shaikh-abdullaah-al-bukhaari/>

<https://salaficentre.com/2020/08/22/ignorant-people-seek-to-replace-the-upright-scholars-when-they-pass-away-but-the-taafatul-mansoorah-will-remain-until-the-day-of-judgement-admonitions-by-shaikh-abdullah-al-bukhaa/>

<https://salaficentre.com/2019/12/29/an-obstacle-to-knowledge-when-the-young-ones-overstate-their-status-and-cut-off-people-from-the-scholars/>

<https://salaficentre.com/2020/02/21/a-trial-that-will-occur-when-the-upright-scholars-pass-away-a-brief-admonition-by-shaikh-abdullaah-al-bukhaari/>

<https://salaficentre.com/2021/04/03/topple-the-upright-scholars-of-islam-legacy-of-colonialists-socialists-innovated-groups-that-ascibe-to-islam-and-khawaarij-by-al-allaamah-rabee-bin-haadee-al-madkhalee/>

<https://salaficentre.com/2017/12/02/15a-excerpts-shaikh-rabees-book-titled-marhaban-yaa-taalibal-ilm-seek-topple-upright-scholars-order-able-propagate-des/>

[8] "know, O my son! Our only path in this world is the path ordained by Allaah and our only goal is to spread the religion ordained by Allaah, and we are neither seekers of status nor worldly things".

[9] "My advice to my children and friends is that they maintain the loftiness of the glorious Islamic religion by carrying on with Jihaad in the path of Allaah. Hold onto the honorable banner of Islam at the top with the most perfect Jihaad. Serve Islaam always, because indeed Allaah [The Mighty and Majestic] appointed a weak servant like me to conquer countries. Go with the statement of pure Islamic monotheism to the furthest countries in Jihaad in the path of Allaah".

[10] "O my son! There is none in the worldly life except that he will submit to death and my life span has approached its end by the command of Allaah. I pass on the affairs of this empire to you and I leave you in the protection of Al-Mawlaa [Allaah - The Protector] and be just in all your affairs". Read: <https://salaficentre.com/2020/10/23/why-do-people-of-sunnah-stand-out-firmly-for-justice-when-rebuking-terrorists-but-french-demagogues-ideologues-and-militant-secularists-transgress-when-doing-the-same/>

This advice was a methodology the Ottomans adrered to - paid attention to Islamic knowledge, Islamic institutions, the army, the military institutions, the scholars and respect for them. The Jihaad brought conquest to the farthest place- reaching there with the banner of the

Muslim army, the Islamic empire and civilization. This abiding advice was the one which the Ottoman rulers followed in their time of strength, glory, might and authority. Uthmaan [may Allaah have mercy upon him] left the Ottoman Empire and its area was 16,000 square kilometers. He was able to find for his emerging state a path through the Sea of Marmara and with his army he was able to threaten the two most important Byzantine cities at that time, namely: Iznik and Pursa. [An Excerpt from Ad-Dawlah Al-Uthmaaniyyah Awaamil An-Nuhood wa Asbaab As-Suqoot. 6/49-51]