

# HADITH

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Subject **Reward and Sins**

Level : **Intermediate**

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: إِذَا أَحْسَنَ أَحَدُكُمْ إِسْلَامَهُ: فَكُلُّ حَسَنَةٍ يَعْمَلُهَا تُكْتَبُ لَهُ بِعَشْرِ أَمْثَالِهَا إِلَى سَبْعِ مِئَةٍ ضِعْفٍ، وَكُلُّ سَيِّئَةٍ يَعْمَلُهَا تُكْتَبُ لَهُ بِمِثْلِهَا. ((مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ)).

On the authority of Abu Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him), who said: The Prophet ﷺ said: "If any of you improves his Islam (practice of the religion), every good deed he performs will be written for him as tenfold up to seven hundredfold. And every bad deed he performs will be written for him as it is." [agreed upon].

## The Narrator:

Abu Hurairah's name is Abdul Rahman ibn Sakhr Al-Dawsi from the tribe of Daws. He came from Yemen to Medina in the 7th year AH to embrace Islam. He was known as Abu Hurairah because he used to carry a kitten in his sleeve. He narrated the most hadiths from the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. He said about himself: "I divide the night into three parts: a third in which I sleep, a third in which I pray, and a third in which I recall the hadiths of the Messenger ﷺ." Abu Hurairah would pray for a third of the night, his wife for another third, and his daughter for another third. Abu Hurairah passed away in the year 59 AH at the age of 78, may Allah be pleased with him.

## The Explanation:

### **Good and bad deeds for Muslims:**

When someone embraces Islam and his Islam becomes good by entering it sincerely for the sake of Allah, both outwardly and inwardly, free from doubts and illusions, fully aware of Allah's greatness and His closeness and oversight; every good deed he performs—such as giving charity to the poor, maintaining kinship ties, supporting orphans, aiding the oppressed, reciting Quran, and glorifying Allah after prayers—Allah, the Exalted, commands His angels to write it for him as tenfold up to seven hundredfold of reward. This means it becomes tenfold to up to seven hundredfold in reward. The term "fold" refers to the multiplication of the thing. The increase does not stop at seven hundred times, as apparent from this hadith. Rather, it goes beyond that to many multiples, as indicated in another hadith, in which the Prophet said, "Allah writes for him ten good deeds up to seven hundredfold to many multiples." This is supported by Allah's saying:

**وَاللَّهُ يُضَاعِفُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ**

"And Allah multiplies for whom He wills".

### **The sins**

When it comes for sins such as delaying prayer beyond its time, speaking ill of people, harming the neighbors, severing kinship ties, stealing and looting people's wealth, mocking or defaming people—is written for him as one bad deed unless Allah forgives it, as mentioned in the hadith of the Prophet ﷺ narrated by Abu Sa'id Al-Khudri: "The bad deed is written as it is unless Allah forgives it."

This proves Allah's great mercy towards His slaves and His special care for them, granting them immense favor and utmost leniency. We should thank Allah for multiplying the reward for every good deed a Muslim does up to ten, to seven hundred and perhaps up to many more folds, but when he/she commit a sin, He only records it as one sin.

### Good and bad deeds for non-Muslims:

As for the disbeliever, if a non Muslim performs good deeds intending to draw himself closer to Allah, like paying charity or maintaining kinship, they are recorded in his book of good deeds but remain suspended. If he embraces Islam and dies as a Muslim, he is rewarded for all of them. If he does not embrace Islam and dies as a disbeliever, his deeds are not accepted, nor does he receive their reward. Instead, he benefits only in this world, such as an increase in wealth or offspring or being granted health and well-being. In the Hereafter, there is no reward for a disbeliever, and it is as if he did nothing, as it is clear by Allah's saying:

**وَقَدِمْنَا إِلَىٰ مَا عَمِلُوا مِنْ عَمَلٍ فَجَعَلْنَاهُ هَبَاءً مَّنثُورًا**

"And We will regard what they (the disbelievers) have done of (good) deeds and make them as dust dispersed."

### Lessons derived from the hadith:

1. The reward for a good deed is multiplied tenfold up to seven hundredfold and beyond.
2. Allah's immense mercy and generosity towards His servants and His favor upon them, as He records one bad deed for each sin committed.
3. The encouragement to perform acts of obedience and compete in doing good deeds.