

# Protection From the Tricks of the Shaitan

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*Tricks of the shaitan for the General People*

The shaitan comes in different ways to different groups. We must understand his tricks, so that when we observe the behavior of people, we can recognize them, and not let it disturb us.

The shaitan will treat the student of knowledge in a different way from the rest of the people, because his knowledge is a protection, so the shaitan will have to work harder with him.

The following points are given by Ibn Jowzi (1126-1200)

The Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم said :

يأتي الشيطان أحدكم فيقول : مَنْ خلق كذا ؟ مَنْ خلق كذا ؟ حتى يقول : مَنْ خلق ربك ؟ فإذا بلغه ، فقولوا : الله أحد . الله الصمد . لم يلد ولم يولد . ولم يكن له كفواً أحد ، ثم لينقل عن يساره ثلاثاً ، ويستعذ بالله من الشيطان الراوي : أبو هريرة | المحدث : الألباني | المصدر : صحيح الترغيب

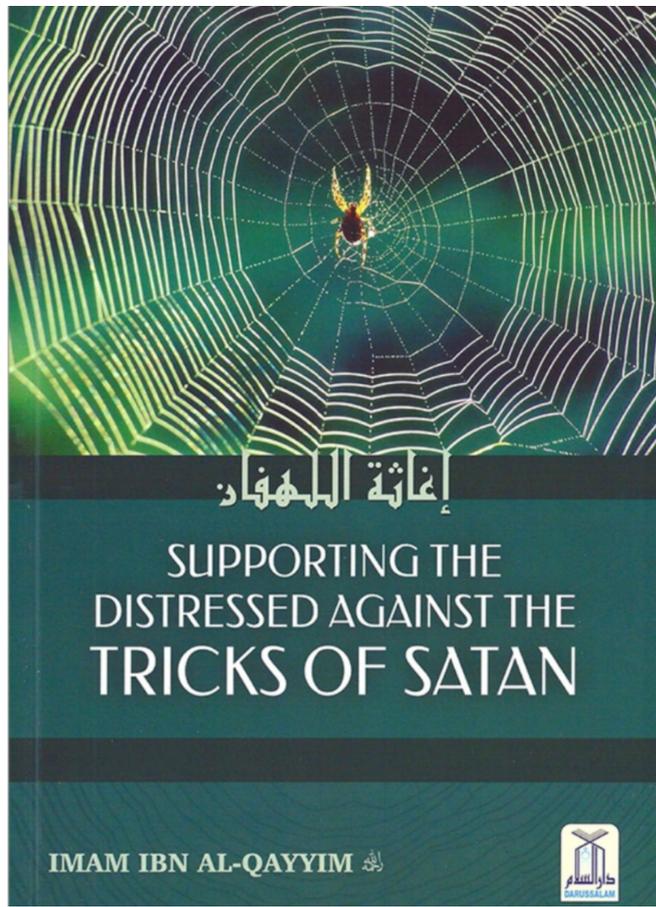
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Shaitan comes to one of you and says, 'Who created so-and-so?' 'till he says, 'Who has created your Lord?' So, when he inspires such a question, say : 'Allah is One, Allah is the Self-Sufficient Master, there is no one like Him', then dry spit on your right three times, and seek refuge with Allah from shaitan.

The shaitan will try to make you question :

- The existence of Allah, who created Him. The solution is to proclaim your belief and seek refuge with Allah.
- The attributes of Allah. Shaitan will tell you to judge them by your senses and try to compare with human beings.
- Debate and doubt your Lord.

■ The people will be led to imagine Allah



## التكفير في ذات الله

### ① Denying the presence of Allah

Shaitan will come to a person, and make him indulge into debating that if Allah created everything, who created Allah. So the person will think of this and may deviate. The answer to this controversy is to say آمنتم بالله ورسوله ► I believe in Allah and His Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم, and seek refuge from the accursed shaitan.

A man came to Abu Hurayrah رضي الله عنه and started questioning him about Allah. So Abu Hurayrah put his fingers in his ears and recited Surah Al-Ikhlās, because he didn't want to put himself into a test.

## التكفير في ذات



resembling the creation, the actions and attributes of the human beings. The seeker of knowledge will not fall for this trap, because he knows that this is forbidden, and that Allah does not resemble anyone. But the one who is ignorant of this will picture the hands and shin of Allah, His anger and laughter. So they will make pictures of gods, and statues. This is from the shaitan.

■ They will complain and argue with Allah, about the decree, question it. The people of knowledge know that this is not the way to interact with Allah, they know the manners required. But the person without this knowledge is open to the attack of the shaitan. So he will question why the provision of the disbeliever is so abundant, why something which he dislikes happened to him, even though he is praying and fasting and obeying Allah.

## مخالفتهم العلماء وتقديمهم المتزهدين

### ② Disagreeing with the scholars and going towards the ascetic

The person will compare the seeker of knowledge and the ascetic, and the shaitan will make the ascetic seem more attractive. The reality is that the scholar is more elevated than the ascetic, there are many ahadeeth which tell us this. The lifestyle of the ascetic seems more honourable to the normal people, because they forsake the dunya. They will consider the ascetic higher than a seeker of knowledge, who will be living a normal life. The shaitan will tell them that the seeker of knowledge is living comfortably, using the dunya. This is so that the people don't become attracted to seeking knowledge. The scholar will also tell people what is haram and halal, and this also will not attract people.

## قدمهم العلماء

### ③ Demeaning the scholars

The people will attack the person with religious knowledge. So a doctor will be praised for working all day and night, but a seeker of knowledge will be criticized for neglecting her family, and wasting time acquiring knowledge; she will be attacked from all directions.

The shaitan finds the ignorant people easier to mislead, so he will put obstacles on the way to acquiring knowledge. He will make the person sleep, making it difficult to get to the classes. Sometimes her car won't start, and the shaitan will put in her mind that Allah doesn't want her to go, that she is not suitable to learn. The shaitan wants more people to remain ignorant, so that he can easily mislead them. To acquire knowledge is obligatory; we must learn about shirk and innovations, so that we can avoid them.

So the shaitan will make the people pick faults with the scholars, and search for their mistakes. They will criticize the scholars for leading normal lives. This is why the Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم specifically went to the souqs, to show the people that it is fine to lead a normal life, to use the dunya for your comfort.

The shaitan will incite the people to look at the seeker of knowledge, and question why she dyes her hair, why she blow-dries them, why she goes to the malls, eats at restaurants, shops at Global Village....

Islam is against asceticism, Allah wants us to live normal lives, to use the dunya which Allah gave us as a bridge to go to Allah. Allah does not want us to become nuns and monks, forsaking the normal human needs.

Another way the people may demean the scholars is by ignoring the resident scholar, and honouring a visiting scholar. This is ingratitude.

## الغرور بالنسب

### ④ To be proud of the lineage

The shaitan will make the people think it is enough for them to be from a renowned family, and that they don't have to work and struggle to reform themselves.

## إعتمادهم على خلة خير

### ⑤ Depending upon righteous companions

The shaitan will tell them that it is enough for them to have righteous friends, which will take them to Jannah. So they will relax and not strive to do good deeds.

## إعتماد على النافلة وإضاعة الفريضة

### ⑥ Depending upon voluntary worship, while neglecting the obligations

We see people running eagerly for taraweeh, while neglecting the Isha' congregation. They focus on qiyam, while not waking up for Fajr.

## حضور مجالس الذكر

### 7 Being present in the study circles

The shaitan will encourage the person to attend the study circles, and cry when she hear the lectures. Then the shaitan will tell her this is enough, this is your action, you don't have to change. Just listen and cry and leave. The shaitan will put it in her mind that this is the goal of the seeker of knowledge, and after that she can go back to life. So the people will go or study circles for years and never change, never improve themselves. They will listen as an audience, enjoying the show, and leaving after the popcorn is finished. They believe religion is only emotions.