

PEARLS OF WISDOM

Maulana Wahiduddin Khan



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Maulana Wahiduddin Khan

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“

1

People often take up reading
the book of life without
learning its language.

”

“

2

One who has a book
with him is never alone.

”

“

3

Life is a long tiring tale;
only he can study it successfully
whose attention always stays focused
on the tale's next paragraph.

”

“

4

One who can conquer oneself can
easily find victory over others.

”

“

5

What is maturity?
Maturity is the ability to live
with things we cannot change.

”

“

6

Wishing to have more than
what you deserve is as good
as disqualifying yourself from
what you rightfully deserve.

”

“

7

If you are strong from within
even after losing everything,
rest assured that you have not
yet lost anything.

”

“

8

A new morning follows every evening, but only he can find it who waits until it comes.

”

“

9

Despite being of any magnitude,
a defeat always happens to be
temporary. It can always be turned
into success by better planning.

”

“

10

One person says, “night has fallen”,
whereas another would say,
“morning is yet to come”.

”

“

||

Chasing after the impossible,
you lose what is possible.

”

“

12

Children's sandcastles collapse in less
time than it takes for their making.

”

“

13

Everyone has lost his yesterday;
success is destined for one
who does not lose his today.

”

“

14

What is sympathy?
Sympathy is your pain in my heart.

”

“

A light gray L-shaped line that starts horizontally to the right of the opening quote and then turns 90 degrees downward.

15

Our past and present may lie in
ruins, but our future is still secure.

A light gray L-shaped line that starts vertically to the left of the closing quote and then turns 90 degrees horizontally to the right.

”

“

16

In this world, no sunset is final,
for every sunset is destined to be
followed by a new sunrise,
provided man dares to turn
his evening into morning again.

”

“

A light gray L-shaped line starting from the right of the opening quote, extending horizontally to the right and then vertically downwards.

17

Success knocks at the door,
but only once.

A light gray L-shaped line starting from the left of the closing quote, extending horizontally to the left and then vertically upwards.

”

“

18

To concede defeat is the expression
of one's determination to try again
to win what one has lost.

”

“

19

There is no greater sacrifice than
that of one's own opinion.

”

“

20

If you have found your beginning,
you can find your end;
another name for the right ending
is the right beginning.

”

“

A light gray L-shaped line that starts horizontally to the right of the opening quote and then turns 90 degrees downward.

21

Opportunities do slip away,
but they never vanish.

A light gray L-shaped line that starts vertically to the left of the closing quote and then turns 90 degrees horizontally to the right.

”

“



22

Defeat is a delay,
but not failure.



”

“

23

The fool said:

“I have wasted my past and present.”

The wise man replied:

“But your future is still safe.”

”

“

24

Not to fall is not a miracle;
the miracle is that you fall
and stand up again.

”

“

25

Do not make haste;
hastening doubles the delay.

”

“

26

If you do not sow in time,
you cannot harvest
at the harvesting time.

”

“

27

A wise man thinks
before taking action;
a stupid man thinks afterwards.

”

“

28

If you wish to raise your dream palace
from top to the ground, in the end,
you will not find anything except
a pile of debris.

”

“

29

Strategic retreat is the first phase
of planned action.

”

“

30

Nothing can make the sun rise early,
but everyone wishes his life's
morning to dawn early.

”

“

31

Wise is he who forgets
the faults and wrongs of others
and keeps his faults in mind.

”

“

32

If you arrive at the station late,
you cannot complain about the train
that departed without picking
you up.

”

“

33

A small container cannot hold much water. Similarly, a small heart cannot achieve great success.

”

“

34

A single push cannot ground a wall.
An effort to do so may, however,
hit your head.

”

“

35

A step taken with insufficient preparation further complicates the problem.

”

“

36

Experience is what we learn from
others, for our expertise always
comes at the cost of loss.

”

“

37

Today's sunset must rise the next day,
but most people do not wait until
the upcoming day.

”

“

38

The most successful war is when
the enemy is disarmed and left
with no fighting power.

”

“

39

The road is closed only for one
who does not know how to walk;
the pleasant breeze gives
this message every day.

”

“

40

People engrossed in petty issues
only prove they cannot achieve
anything significant in their lives.


”

“

A light gray L-shaped line that starts horizontally to the right of the opening quote and then turns vertically downwards.

41

If you want to hide your secret from
your enemy, do not talk about it,
even with your friend.

A light gray L-shaped line that starts vertically to the left of the text and then turns horizontally to the right.

”

“

42

Ships are safe in the harbour,
but they are not meant for
that purpose.

”

“

43

The secret of life is that man must
know that with every flower,
there is a thorn and with every thorn,
a flower.

”

“

44

If man could learn a lesson from
others' mistakes, he would never
commit a mistake himself.

”

“

45

For a man to achieve anything worthwhile in life, he has to work towards it in a planned and methodical manner.

”

“

46

To have a flower, you must know
how to handle the thorns.

”

“

47

How beautiful is the Taj Mahal of words, the storm of facts washes it away like a pile of straws blown away by the wind.

”

“

48

One who cooks his food
in a wooden pot will never be able
to fill his belly.

”

“

49

Holding others responsible for
your disaster proves that you were
unaware of your vulnerability.

”

“

50

To appeal to a powerful enemy
for justice is like asking the rock
to give you water.

”

“

51

Anger is a negative response
to any given situation.

”

“

52

Think, think, think;
there must be a better way.

”

“

53

If one has missed a train,
one can always take another,
but people often forget this
when they lose one chance
in their life's race.

”

“

54

A wise man is one whose competitor
comes to know about his plan only
after it is accomplished.

”

“

55

Wise is he who agrees to accept less than what he rightfully deserves and stays ready to give others more than what they justly deserve.

”

“

56

Only that person arrives at his
destination who is willing to tackle
the obstacles in one's path
successfully.

”

“



57

The formula for de-stressing:
forget the past and re-plan the future.



”

“

58

If two people quarrel, both are at fault; had the innocent one withdrawn himself from the spot, the brawl itself would not have taken place.

”

“

59

Man himself is supposed to pay the price of his mistake, but after committing a mistake, he tries to find someone else to pay for his fault.

”

“

60

Forget
whatever you have lost
so that
you may avail of what is left
with you.

”

“

61

What is loss?
To miss an opportunity!

What is gain?
To avail of the opportunity!

”

“

62

You can, in a moment, raise your dream palace, but raising a building, in reality, is not possible without a long strenuous effort.

”

“

63

Life's problems are solved by
employing a rational strategy,
not by making complaints.

”

“

64

Misfortune always enters through
the door which we have left open.

”

“

65

People know what to speak,
but a wise man also knows
not to speak.

”

“

66

The silence of an elephant is a
thousand times stronger than
the barking of a dog.

”

“

67

Petrol and water are alike,
but petrol ignites a fire
while water extinguishes it.

”

“

68

What is loss?
It is a failure to act on time!

”

“

69

A wise man expects everything
from himself, and a fool expects
everything from others.

”

“

70

Excessive words cannot compensate
for your lack of practical ability.

”

“

71

One who does not listen to others'
difference of opinion is not to be
counted as a learned man.

”

“

72

Everything can be earned
through sheer hard work,
not simply through wishing.

”

“

73

If you do not know how to speak,
then learn to keep quiet because
keeping quiet is as important as
speaking.

”

“

A light gray L-shaped line that starts horizontally to the right of the opening quote and then turns 90 degrees downward.

74

Deprivation can lead you to progress
if it awakens your latent potential.

A light gray L-shaped line that starts vertically to the left of the text and then turns 90 degrees horizontally to the right.

”

“

75

Fragrance does not need to prove
its presence by a proclamation.

”

“

76

This world is a world of competition;
if you do not get ahead of others,
others will get ahead of you.

”

“

77

Think before taking revenge;
revenge too will be avenged.

”

“

78

If you speed up your vehicle
where you must apply brakes,
it would be driven towards
the graveyard instead of
the destination.


”

“



79

Wise is the man who can live in peace
with things he cannot change.



”

“

80

If you wish to be successful in
this world, first develop the courage
to welcome failures.

”

“

81

Nothing is impossible in this world
of God. The only thing impossible is
striving to achieve the possible
by using impossible means.

”

“

82

Recognition always comes
after rejection.

”

“

83

The secret of success for
a person is that he does not lose
his rationality even at the height
of his emotional moments.


”

“

A horizontal line starting from the opening quote, extending to the right, and then a vertical line extending downwards.

84

When you face darkness, do not
curse it. Instead, light the candle,
and the darkness will disappear.

A horizontal line starting from the left, extending to the right, and then a vertical line extending upwards.

”

“

85

No seed can suddenly become a whole tree; similarly, it is not possible for someone to suddenly reach his destination.

”

“

86

Question: How long will the big fish continue to swallow the small fish?

Answer: Till the time the small fish makes itself large enough not to fit into the mouth of the big fish.

”

“

87

‘Difficult’ is an excuse
that history never accepts.

”

“

88

The harsh truth of life is that
you cannot ask someone else to pay
the price for your wrongdoing.

”

“

89

Do not be afraid of difficulties,
for it is the difficulties that go into
the making of a man.

”

“

90

Progress is the result of man's hard work, but many consider others' destruction the nearest step to their progress.

”

“

91

Patience is not inaction;
patience is another name
for planned action.

”

“

92

A foolish man often starts waiting
for the end of a journey that
he has not yet begun.

”

“

93

To find something, you shall always have to lose something. However, people are never ready to lose. That is why most people cannot even become finders.

”

“

94

Holding others responsible for all
your woes results in hatred and
frustration while holding yourself
accountable for them inspires you
to act and achieve your goal.

”

“

95

Tolerance is not cowardice;
it is a principle of life.

”

“

96

People generally do not utilise
themselves a hundred per cent,
which is why they fail in their plans.

”

“

97

Success lies on the other side of
patience, but generally, people search
for it on this side of patience.

”

“

A light gray L-shaped line starting from the right of the opening quote and extending horizontally to the right, then turning 90 degrees downward.

98

The secret of success is that man
learns the art of failure management.

A light gray L-shaped line starting from the left of the closing quote and extending horizontally to the left, then turning 90 degrees upward.

”

“

99

To be successful, a man has to exert himself; while for failure, he has to do nothing; it is itself running towards him.

”

“

100

The cause of man's failure always lies within himself, but he often searches for that in others.

”

“

101

Change yourself; your luck will
change on its own.

”

“

102

The most straightforward way to
keep yourself safe from others'
evil design is to keep others safe
from your ill will.

”

“

103

Complaining against others generally
turns out to be an admission of one's
incompetence.

”

“

104

Man's impatience is his enemy's
greatest weapon; stupid is he who
himself would provide this weapon
to his enemy.

”

“

105

There is only one plan to survive in this world: every man should have a large graveyard wherein he would keep on burying the faults of others.

”

“

106

The greatest secret of success is
patience, and the greatest secret of
failure is impatience.

”

“

107

The most unimportant word in
collective social life is “I”, and the
most important is “We”.

”

“

108

To say “I was wrong”
is the way to success.

”

“

109

The most successful way of avenging
one's enemy is to forgive them.
However, very few people know
this secret of success.

”

“

110

Always consult others in all matters;
consultation protects against loss.

”

“

111

The only way to save yourself
from the mischief of others is not to
get provoked despite provocation.

”

“

112

If your roof is weak, you cannot
prevent it from being hit by a flood,
no matter how much hue and cry
you may raise.

”

“

113

Not fighting is the most successful
war, but only a few people know
how to fight such a war.

”

“

114

High status is always achieved
by elevating yourself, not by
shouting slogans.

”

“

115

Good luck asks: Is prudence present
inside the house by knocking on
everyone's door?

”

“

116

In their silent language, flowers
proclaim: stay amongst men
like flowers.

”

“

117

The art of rejection is easy,
but only a great mind can accept it.
Acceptance is a phenomenon
of maturity.

”

“

118

Envy eats up one's good deeds
as the fire eats up wood.

”

“

119

Seeing a problem as a problem is
a problem. However, if you see
a problem as a normal event,
there is no problem.

”

“

120

The cost of great work is to humble yourself; generally, people do not agree to humble themselves; which is why they cannot do any significant work.

”

“

121

When envy and arrogance enter
into man, wisdom goes out.

”

“

122

The essence of religion is to fear God
and to like for others what you want
for yourself.

”

“

123

What is unity?
To live unitedly despite having
differences.

”

“

124

Your critic is your best adviser.

”

“

125

Impatience is reflected in a hasty response to a situation, while a well-considered, well-thought-out response is what patience is all about.

”

“

126

The cost of disrespecting others
is to be held disrespectful
in the eyes of God.

”

“

127

A significant sign of a man being
flawless is that he does not search
for flaws in others.

”

“

128

Peace means normalcy,
and normalcy provides such
opportunities as favour
the growth of a healthy
environment.

”

“

129

If the bricks are scattered,
they are a pile of debris,
but when bricks mutually unite,
they become a building assuming
the shape of a strong fort wherein
nations seek refuge.

”

“

130

The truthful beginning always ends
on truth, and the false beginning
always ends on falsehood.

”

“



131

Everyone has excuses,
but the living does not use excuses.



”

“

132

The way to escape thorns is not to get entangled with them; instead, one should cautiously move away from the place of thorns.

”

“

133

Only those who prove to be giver
members of society can establish
themselves in life.

”

“

134

To conquer an enemy by force is
half a victory, but to conquer him
by love is a complete victory.

”

“

135

Only he knows how to speak
who knows how to keep silent.

”

“

136

Everyone wants to grow his tree separately. That is why humanity's garden does not grow.

”

“

137

Life is more precious for it to be
used for a lesser purpose than
for some great one.

”

“

138

Most stupid is he who would lose
something great for something small.

”

“

139

You cannot separate the thorns
from the flowers, even if you run
a bulldozer over them.

”

“

140

Man has been created to succeed,
but he fails due to negligence.

”

“



141

Discontent is the first step in
the progress of a man or a nation.



”

“

142

A man should give out fragrance like
the flowers and shine like the sun.
This is the world's daily message
in silent language.

”

“



143

Self-knowledge is the beginning
of self-improvement.



”

“

144

If you want to move mountains,
you must, first of all, learn
to move particles.

”

“

145

A defeatist mentality
is shaped by history.

A positive mentality
shapes history.

”

“

146

It is easier to blame others than
to accept responsibility for oneself.

”

“

147

If man could but know the hopeful
circumstances of tomorrow,
he would never lose heart over
the unfortunate events of today.

”

“

148

No one is so powerful that
he can harm others without
harming himself.

”

“

149

Error is the discipline through
which we advance.

”

“

150

The day will, in any case, end in
twelve hours, whether you make
good use of it or waste it.

”

“

151

Crisis is part of life. But you cannot
deal with crisis without patience.

”

“

152

Many people fail to recognise
opportunity because it comes
disguised as hard work.

”

“

153

The hopeful man sees success in
failure, sunshine in the storm.

”

“

154

It is not difficult for one who can
conquer himself to conquer others.

”

“



155

In prosperity, caution;
in adversity, patience.



”

“

156

Life is an ongoing trial.
After falling ten times, rising
the eleventh time is success.

”

“

157

No one puts out other people's
lamps. It is the lack of oil that puts
them out.

”

“

158

Man has a hidden treasure
within him.
Difficulties and setbacks
bring it forth.

”

“

159

The false man bows
before power.
The true man bows
to the argument.

”

“

160

Success depends on the ability to
convert unfavourable circumstances
into favourable ones.

”

“



161

No one fights for another: everyone
has to fight life's battles himself.



”

“

162

Complaint is the origin of every evil.
Complaint leads to hate; hate leads to
enmity, and enmity leads to violence.

”

“

163

When a piece of wood breaks up,
it breaks into two or many parts.
However, there is no question of
defeat and destruction for a living
being. When a live amoeba breaks up,
it becomes two living amoebae.

”

“

164

It is a wise man who learns
from his own mistakes.

”

“

165

The world is a testing ground for
wisdom. It is not a political platform
for protests and clamour.

”

“

166

It is possible to usurp something,
but keeping a possession that is not
rightfully yours is impossible.

”

“

167

It is bad to do evil. However, it is
worse to hate the evil-doer.

”

“

168

Man has to pay the price for his faults, however much he tries to find someone who will pay the price for his mistakes.

”

“

169

The wind carries away the scattered particles of sand, causing them to float all around.

However, when these particles of sand join together to make a mountain, no tempest is strong enough to shake them.

”

“

170

Be large of heart and succeed.
Be small of heart and fail.

”

“

171

The ordinary person lives in his
greatness. The believer lives in
the greatness of God.

”

“

172

Man is born to succeed,
but he makes himself a failure
due to his negligence.


”

“



173

The world is full of friends.
Someone is your actual friend;
another is your potential friend.



”

“

174

Accept the status quo in
controversial matters and
divert your activities to the
non-confrontational field.

”

“

175

People are equal as regards respect,
but they are different in the roles
they play in life.

”

“

176

The secret to success in life is to plan
one's time and energy wisely and
to avail of the opportunities
within one's reach.

”

“

177

If you want to succeed in this world,
the first thing you have to do is
display enough courage
to welcome failures.

”

“

178

Tolerance is one of the greatest
factors in stabilising human
relationships.

”

“

A horizontal line extending from the opening quote to the right, followed by a vertical line extending downwards.

179

To live in a state of happiness,
you must learn the difference
between need and desire.

A horizontal line extending from the left to the closing quote, preceded by a vertical line extending upwards.

”

“

180

No seed turns into a tree by leaps and bounds. Similarly, a person cannot reach his destination without travelling for the requisite period.

”

“



181

The secret of success lies in man's
learning the secret of failure.



”

“

182

If your building is weak, you cannot
prevent it from being washed away
by the flood.

”

“

183

When two different ideas clash,
a third idea emerges. So take
the difference as an intellectual
challenge, and it will certainly
be a blessing for you.

”

“

184

Do not rail at the darkness.
Light a candle, and the darkness will
itself disappear.

”

“

185

Wisdom lies in knowing what is possible and what is not possible in terms of the circumstances.

”

“

186

A two-word success story—
work works.

”

“

187

If someone pelts you with stones,
do not quarrel with him. Instead,
raise yourself to such a height that
the stones cannot reach you.

”

“

188

If you have a good excuse,
don't use it.

”

“

189

With peace, one can achieve what
one cannot achieve with violence.

”

“

190

Evil can have no beginning but from
pride nor any end but in humility.

”

“

191

Whoever seeks to obtain small
benefits at the risk of great dangers is
like a fisherman using a hook of gold;
should it come off, no catch would
compensate for the loss.

”

“

192

He who has no mission in life
is the poorest of all.

”

“

193

The only initiative worth taking is
one which will yield positive results.

”

“

194

It is not because things are difficult
that we do not dare; they are difficult
because we do not dare.

”

“

195

Success is never final,
and failure is never fatal.
It is courage that counts.

”

“

196

Maturity is perseverance, sweating
out a project despite setbacks.

”

“

197

Tension is another name
for taking a wrong choice.

”

“

198

You have removed most of
the roadblocks to success when
you have known the difference
between motion and direction.

”

“

199

The word “shortcut” may apply to
the world of roads and footpaths.
However, there are no shortcuts
in the struggle of life.

”

“

200

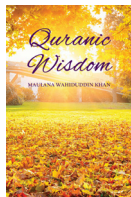
Starve the problems,
feed the opportunities.

”

BOOKS, BOOKLETS AND LEAFLETS OF MAULANA WAHIDUDDIN KHAN

BOOKS

Quranic Wisdom



The book helps readers derive wisdom from the Quranic verses by extracting universal principles and applying them to effectively manage life's problems and concentrate on higher goals.

[Click Here to Read Now](#)

Religion and Science

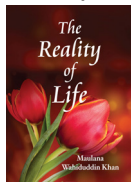


In the book, the author, using the scientifically accepted inferential argument, proves religious truths like the existence of God, prophethood and life after death.

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BOOKLETS

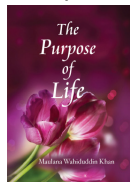
The Reality of Life



The book explains that man harbours unlimited desires in his heart, but these desires remain unfulfilled. Desires can only be fulfilled in eternal Paradise if one lives one's life as per the creation plan of God in this world.

[Click Here to Read Now](#)

The Purpose of Life



The book explains the creation plan of God, told by God through His prophets throughout human history, that this life is a test. After death, God will mete out rewards or punishments commensurate with the record of human beings on earth.

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LEAFLETS

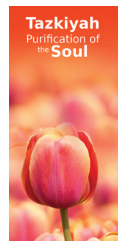
God-Oriented Life



The leaflet explains that the concept of God provides man with an ideology in which loss is turned to gain and in which adversity brings with it good tidings. Submission to God and living a God-oriented life is the only way of life for both man and the universe.

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Tazkiyah: Purification of the Soul



Tazkiyah, to a modern man refers to reform or deconditioning and reengineering his mind to make him capable of seeing reality 'as it is' and thus become a positive, intellectually developed personality.

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BOOKS, BOOKLETS AND LEAFLETS OF MAULANA WAHIDUDDIN KHAN

BOOKS

Principles of Islam



The book gives an introduction to Islam to address the modern mind, giving the teachings of Islam as principles explained in the Quran and the Hadith, the sayings and deeds of the Prophet of Islam.

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Discovering God

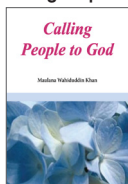


The theme of the book is *maarifah*, i.e., the realization of God. The journey of realization begins with a questing spirit and only the one who is sincere in this journey can find God.

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BOOKLETS

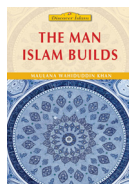
Calling People to God



The book explains the essence of dawah work which has been termed in the Quran as 'the call to God'. The Call to God aims at bringing people closer to their Creator and Sustainer.

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LEAFLETS

The Creation Plan of God



The leaflet explains the creation plan of God, that the real aim of creation is to select those who are fit to inhabit the world of Paradise. Evil people will not be selected to inhabit Paradise.

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The Ideology of Spirituality



The leaflet explains that spirituality is based on contemplation or reflection or pondering, which has all to do with intellectual activity. Spirituality teaches us to convert negativity into positivity through the art of conversion.

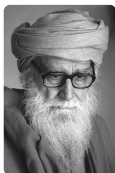
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The book collects the pearls of wisdom from the pen of Maulana Wahiduddin Khan, guiding people toward right thinking. The greatness of humanity lies in our ability to think. We believe first, then act. We will decide on the right course of action if we have the right review. Life is a series of experiences. The readiness to learn lessons from our experiences, and those of others, help us to develop intellectually and succeed. It is our level of thinking which determines our success or failure. Success is the result of right thinking. Think right, do right, and succeed.



Maulana Wahiduddin Khan (1925-2021) was an Islamic scholar, spiritual guide, and an Ambassador of Peace. He authored over 200 books and recorded thousands of lectures giving the rational interpretation of Islam in the modern idiom. His English translation, *The Quran* is widely appreciated as simple, clear and in contemporary style. He founded Centre for Peace

and Spirituality—CPS International in 2001 to re-engineer minds toward God-oriented living and present Islam as it is based on peace, spirituality, and co-existence. Maulana breathed his last on 21 April 2021 in New Delhi, India. His legacy is being carried forward through the CPS International Network.

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