

# Humbleness

- Opposite to arrogance تواضع,
- وضع “he laid it” becoming lowly, humble
  - False belief in ourselves (publicly or inside us)
  - perceives a merit in himself and is overcome by a **sense of pleasure, exultation, and vanity** *'ujb*.
  - Feeling important; superior to others كبر
    - Others are lacking
- 1. *Kibr* on account of possessing true faith and belief.
- 2. As opposed to it is the pride in invalid faith and false belief .
- 3. Pride on account of good qualities and praiseworthy attributes.
- 4. Pride in moral vices and undesirable qualities.
- 5. Pride in one's righteous deeds and devotional exercises.
- 6. Pride in sinful and wicked deeds.

- Removing arrogance
  - Gives stronger sense of servitude to Allah
  - Humbleness required for servitude

# Humbleness

- Thinking of:
  - Our position in this world
  - Absolute dependence on Allah
  - All that we have are from Him
- Our attitude towards others
  - Thinking they're better
  - Good qualities we're unaware of
  - Bad qualities in ourselves that may manifest (and undo all actions)

# Humbleness

- Allah's request to Prophet Moses
  - To have a meeting
  - Bring with him a person whom he thinks is inferior to him
  - Thought:
    - Believers: may be better than me
    - Sinful: may be better than me
    - Came across a sick dog lying on ground: but he never disobeyed Allah
  - Would have lost position with God if he brought that dog

# Humbleness

- Prophet Muhammad (s)
  - Never claimed superiority
  - Never believed he was special after all successes
  - Never claimed anything was from himself
  - Attributed all gifts to Allah
  - Felt he was the poorest person, in need of Allah
- Actions:
  - Sat as part of circles in masjid
  - Played with the children
  - Helpful
  - Listened

*“Among them are those who torment the Prophet, and say, ‘He is an ear.’ Say, ‘An ear that is good for you. (9:61)*

# Humbleness

- **Conduct**

وَعِبَادُ الرَّحْمَنِ الَّذِينَ يَمْشُونَ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ هَوْنًا وَإِذَا خَاطَبَهُمُ الْجَاهِلُونَ قَالُوا سَلَامًا

*The servants of the All-beneficent are those who walk humbly on the earth, and when the ignorant address them, say, 'Peace!'*  
(25:63)

- **Consequences**

مَنْ تَوَاضَعَ لِلَّهِ رَفَعَهُ اللَّهُ وَ مَنْ تَكَبَّرَ خَفَضَهُ اللَّهُ

“The one who tries to be humble for the sake of God, God will elevate him.”

Al-Kāfi V.2 P.122

- Real superiority lies humbleness rather than worldly possessions

# Humbleness

- “Humbleness is for a man **to be content to sit** in any place and not a particular place, to **greet those he meets**, to **leave disputation** even if he is right, and to **not like to be praised** for piety.”

Imam al-Sadiq (a) The Scale of Wisdom: 7443

- “He who humbles himself for Allah, Allah will **raise** him such that he is **weak in himself but strong** in the eyes of others. And he who is haughty, Allah will **degrade** him such that he will be **small in the eyes of others** and **big** in his own....”

Prophet Muhammad (s) The Scale of Wisdom: 7445

# Humbleness

- **When do we admire a humble person the most?**  
Hadiths.

- **“The best of people is a worshipper who humbles himself when in a high position.”**

Prophet Muhammad (s) The Scale of Wisdom: 7431

- **“Blessed be he who humbles himself before Allah without having any deficiency, and who humiliates himself without poverty.”**

Prophet Muhammad (s) The Scale of Wisdom: 7432

- **“How good is the humbleness of the wealthy before the poor in seeking what is with Allah, and better than this is the pride of the poor before the wealthy in relying solely on Allah.”**

Imam Ali (a) The Scale of Wisdom: 7439

- Humbleness
  - Thinking less of yourself?
    - Thinking of yourself as less.
  - Thinking you're important?
    - Perhaps yes.
    - Thinking you're the most important. No.
  - Too humble that it does my harm?
    - Fail to put ideas forward. Ideas to influence, change, guide others, etc.
- Scenario:
  - Someone genuinely says "You're the best / such a good person / ..."
    - First, show gratitude
    - Second, give credit to those helped you get to where you are