

Hadhrat Mawlānā Rashid Ahmad Gangohi (rahmatullāhi alayhi) and the Quality of his Salāh

Hadhrat Mawlānā Rashid Ahmad Gangohi (rahmatullāhi alayhi) was a very great alim, Hadhrat was not only a very learned scholar but he also excelled in spirituality (connection with Allāh Ta'ālā). Hadhrat was a very close friend of Hadhrat Mawlānā Qāsim Nānotwi (rahmatullāhi alayhi), the founder of Dārul Uloom Deoband.

Mawlānā Abdul Rahmān Khaurjāwi (rahmatullāhi alayhi) says, “I once came to meet Hadhrat in Gangoh during the month of Ramadhān. Hadhrat would lead tarāwih salāh. Once, whilst Hadhrat was leading, he starting reciting the verses in which Allāh urges mankind to fear him. Despite half the congregation not knowing the translation of the Qur'ān, Hadhrat's fear of Allāh manifested in his recitation. Due to this, the entire congregation was either crying or shuddering.”

Mawlānā Abul-Khayr (rahmatullāhi alayhi) has mentioned, “It is so disheartening to see that people did not recognize Hadhrat's calibre. I have heard from countless reliable sources that Hadhrat would cry the whole night over a single āyah, and that āyah was:

“(The day of qiyāmah will be) The day when secrets will be examined (and people will either be rewarded or punished). Then, there shall neither be any power (to defend) nor assistance for man (against Allāh's punishment).” (86: 9,10)

Due to the fear of this day, Hadhrat would cry. And his taqwā and fear of Allāh would show in his recitation.

(Fathers and Sons of Deoband: pg 42)

Moral

One of the most important worship that one can do is salah. Not only should we strive to ensure all our salah are performed with jama'ah but also try to improve our individual salah. From the many ways we could do that, one very easy method is to learn the translation of the Qur'an in the guidance of the ulama, especially the last 10 surahs. Thereafter, during salah, one should concentrate on the meaning. To help build our understanding of the Qur'an, we must try and sit in the duroos of the ulama. The more we improve the quality of salah, the more we will see our connection with Allah strengthening.