

# The efforts of the 'Ulama against the baseless attacks on Hadith

'Allamah Muhammad Yusuf Binnory (rahimahullah) writes:

'The deviant groups of the past made baseless objections against the noble Hadith to which the likes of Imam Abu Hanifah (rahimahullah), Imam Shaf'i (rahimahullah), Imam Ahmad (rahimahullah) and others have given dumbfounding answers. In every era those same objections are presented in a new disguise. The orientalist started their attack from the same front. They had a systematic venture in which they filled the same old poison in new capsules and tried to put it down the throats of the latter generation. At times they claimed that the Hadith was only compiled 200 years after Nabi (sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam) and questioned how could it be reliable? Sometimes they objected against the narrators of the Hadith and at other times they presented logical arguments. By doing so they created doubts in Salah, the times of prayer, zakah, fasting, hajj, qurbani and all the tenants of Din. They made the laws of Shari'ah their targets. They opened the doors of incorrect interpretations on matters like the Angels, Jinn, Satan, the soul [Ruh] etc. In this manner they tried to shake the foundations of Islam. However, the prophetic announcement had already been made:

**"This Knowledge will be transmitted by every just successor who will negate the distortions of the deviated, the plagiarism of the people on falsehood and the false interpretations of the ignoramuses"**

(refer: Tadribur Rawi, vol. 4 pg. 19 and Atharul Hadith, pg. 7)

Alhamdulillah in every era Allah Ta'ala created such men who cleared the Sunnah from the dirt of the deviant. From the time of Imam Shaf'i (rahimahullah) right until Ibn Wazir Yamani (rahimahullah) and Jalaluddin Suyuti (rahimahullah) and from them until now there's ample material available, not only in Arabic and Urdu but in English and other languages as well.

In the past 50 years scholars have added numerous invaluable books on this topic to the libraries. An extensive list of the books authored by the previous scholars is given in my book 'Awariful Minan Muqaddimah Ma'arifus Sunan'.'

(Adapted from: Basair wa 'ibar Vol. 1 Pg. 130-131)

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# Ramadan; a divine opportunity for our reformation

*'Allamah Muhammad Yusuf Al Binnory (rahimahullah) writes:*

'From the beginning of time, Allah Ta'ala selected the month of Ramadan as the season for abundant blessings and divine light (tajalliyat). Whenever Allah Ta'ala sent any gift from the sky for the reformation of humanity, Allah selected the month of Ramadan. The famous books and scriptures of the previous Ambiya were also revealed in this month culminating with the revelation of the Quran.

Ramadan is near. During this month divine light (Nur and Tajalli) of Allah will cover everyone, provisions for forgiveness of man will be made. Allah Ta'ala, the most Generous, will increase His generosity. The doors of Jannah will be opened, the gates of Jahannam will be locked.

**0 one who seeks good, go ahead! 0 one who intends evil, stop!**

Every night countless sinful people are saved from the blaze of Jahannam. For the reformation and cleansing of the evil soul (nafs), Allah Ta'ala has ordained fasting during the day, so that a believer can acquire the highest stages of taqwa and become close to Allah Ta'ala.

During the nights we are encouraged to listen and recite the Quran. By means of the fast, the inner self (nafs) is cleansed and for the enhancement of the soul (ruh), Allah Ta'ala has arranged the recital of the Quran.

It is as though in this blessed month, the [inhabitants of] earth are given a chance to link up with the higher ranked Angels in the skies [*Al-Malaul A'la*].'

(Adapted from Basair wa 'ibar, vol.2 pg.407)

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## The Lofty status of the Companions of Rasulullah (sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam)

The status of the Sahabah (radiyallahu'anhum) was divinely afforded to them by Allah Ta'ala Himself.

The Sahabah (radiyallahu'anhum) are the links between Rasulallah (sallallahu'alayhi wasallam) and the rest of the Ummah.

They tirelessly assisted Rasulallah (sallallahu'alayhi wasallam), learnt the Din from Him (sallallahu'alayhi wasallam) and then passed it on.

For these reasons we; the rest of the Ummah owe them all the respect in the World!

Here are a series of talks on the lofty rank and status of the Sahabah (radiyallahu 'anhum) delivered by my Respected Father; Moulana Haroon Abasoomar saheb (hafizahullah).

[Part one](#)

[Part two](#)

[Part three](#)

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## [Shaykh Binnory; in the eyes of the Senior 'Ulama](#)

Among the signs of divine acceptance, is that Allah Ta'ala places love for an individual in the hearts [and tongues] of his fellow pious contemporaries and the generations that follow.

'Allamah Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory (rahimahullah) was a world renowned Scholar. His high academic rank was approved by one and all.

**For our own inspiration**, hereunder are a few quotations from the 'Ulama of his era – outside the Indo Pak subcontinent- who had acknowledged his excellence. Each one of these Scholars were luminaries par excellence.

### **1. 'Allamah Kawthari (rahimahullah):**

Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) had a close and lengthy relationship with the Grand Hanafi Scholar, 'Allamah Muhammad Zahid Al-Kawthari (rahimahullah). They had exchanged several letters over many years.

'Allamah Binnory (rahimahullah) was actually **the student of Shaykh Kawthari** (rahimahullah). Despite this, 'Allamah Kawthari (rahimahullah) held Shaykh

Binnory in high regard addressing him with words such as:

**Mujahid** in the path of Allah Ta'ala, **Muhaqqiq** (researcher), **'Allamah** (Great Scholar), **unique Muhaddith** (Hadith Master), **Genius** of the time, the coolness of the Scholar's eyes, may Allah keep you alive for the service of knowledge and the benefit of the ummah etc.

A few months before passing away, 'Allamah Kawthari (rahimahullah) ended his last letter to Moulana Binnory with the following words: **'Every beginning has its end** [referring to his own life coming to an end, thus the end of their long relationship in this temporary abode]. **May my soul be with you, I make du'a that all good accompany you, Wa'alaykumus Salam wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh.'**

This collection of letters have recently been published. The many words of praise, in addition to the heaps of du'as that 'Allamah Kawthari (rahimahullah) had for Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) are too many to be quoted in this brief article.

May Allah Ta'ala bless their souls.

## **2. Shaykh 'Abdul Halim Mahmud (rahimahullah) -The rector of Al Azhar University at that time:**

'I was fortunate to meet my honourable brother, Shaykh Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory. **In Egypt we view him as a high ranking senior 'Alim of the Muslim world, and as a Muhaddith (Hadith Master) in an era when there are so few Hadith Masters.'**

(Introduction to Al-Qasaidul Binnoriyyah, pg.18)

## **3. Shaykh Tantawi (rahimahullah):**

When 'Allamah Binnory (rahimahullah) expressed his critical, yet constructive views on the tafsir (commentary of Quran) that Shaykh Tantawi (rahimahullah) had authored, Shaykh Tantawi responded:

**'O Shaykh! you are not just any Indian Scholar. Rather You are an Angel from the sky that Allah has sent to correct me.'**

(Khususi Number, pg.498)

## **4. Shaykh Muhammad Abu Zuhrah (rahimahullah) – a leading Scholar of Al-Azhar in his time:**

Shaykh Abu Zuhrah (rahimahullah) was a great admirer of 'Allamah Binnory's in-depth knowledge and exemplary character. He would give special attention

to 'Allamah Binnory's students who studied at Al-Azhar university.

(Khusus Number, pg.499)

#### **5. Shaykh Hasan Mashat (rahimahullah) – Hadith teacher in Makkah Mukarramah in his lifetime:**

'[Shaykh Binnory is] our **very learned Shaykh, the Muhaddith (Hadith Master) of India** and a serious researcher in all branches of knowledge, especially Hadith and poetry.'

(Muqaddimah: Rasailul Kawthari, pg.28)

#### **6. Shaykh 'Abdul Fattah Abu Ghuddah (rahimahullah):**

'[Shaykh Binnory] was a **treasure of knowledge** and a virtue for every beneficiary and questioner. His opinion was incisive and his pondering was vast, illuminating the path for the one seeking knowledge and guidance. As for his wealth of knowledge and his strong memory, it was a sweet, pure ocean and a clear pond...**The Yusuf of this era...**'

(Muqaddimah: Rasailul Kawthari, pg.29)

When Shaykh 'Abdul Fattah (rahimahullah) annotated and prepared his work on: '*Mabadi 'ilmil Hadith*' (which is the book of 'Allamah Shabbir Ahmad 'Uthmani-rahimahullah), He dedicated it to Moulana Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory (rahimahullah) with the following words:

**'To the soul of my teacher [I dedicate the rewards of this work]; the great scholar ('Allamah), Hadith Master, meticulous intelligent researcher, the genius well grounded faqih (Jurist), one who invited to Allah Ta'ala by his words and actions, Shaykh Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory, the founder of [the madrasah] Jami'atul 'Ulumil Islamiyyah in Karachi. May Allah Ta'ala raise his stages and repay him most generously in the Hereafter.'**

(Introduction to Mabadi 'ilmil Hadith, pg.7)

#### **7. Shaykh 'Awwamah (hafizahullah) :**

**'I have immense love for Shaykh Binnory, despite not seeing him even.'**

Shaykh 'Awwamah (hafizahullah) always listens to anecdotes about 'Allamah Binnory's life with immense enthusiasm, often asking for them to be repeated to him. This demonstrates further, the love that he had for Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah).

As stated at the beginning of this article; among the signs of divine acceptance, is that Allah Ta'ala places love for an individual in the hearts

[and tongues] of his fellow pious contemporaries and the generations that follow.

May Allah Ta'ala bless the soul of Shaykh Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory (rahimahullah), and may Allah allow us to appreciate his efforts (and the efforts of all our senior 'Ulama).

May Allah Ta'ala also allow us to follow in their footsteps and to uphold their legacy, which is -sadly- being ignored in our era.

*Amin.*

See a brief biography of 'Allamah Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory (rahimahullah) [here](#).

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## [Moulana Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory](#) [\(rahimahullah\)](#)

### **Lineage**

Shaykh Muhammad Yusuf ibn Muhammad Zakariyya Al-Binnory (rahimahullah) was a Sayyid; from the family of Nabi (sallallahu 'alayhi wasallam). His lineage goes back to Musa Kazim ibn Ja'far As-Sadiq ibn Muhammad Al-Baqir ibn Ali Zaynul 'Abidin ibn Husayn ibn Ali ibn Abi Talib (radiyallahu 'anhum). Moulana Muhammad Yusuf was called Al-Binnory because his grandfather stayed in the village of Binnor.

Shaykh's father was a pious 'Alim who also wrote several books.

### **Birth**

Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) was born on Thursday, 6th Rabi'uth Thani in the year 1326-Hijri (1907 Gregorian) in the village of Mahabat Abad, in the province of Peshawar, Pakistan. His family was known for piety, taqwa and knowledge. He grew up in Peshawar and also Kabul.

### **Studies**

Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) started acquiring knowledge in the towns of Peshawar and Kabul, amongst his teachers were his father (Moulana Muhammad Zakariyya – rahimahullah), his uncle Moulana Fadhl Samdani Al-Binnory (rahimahullah), Moulana Abdullah ibn Khayr Al-Peshawary (rahimahullah), and others. Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) desired to further his studies, so he

undertook extensive travel to meet the 'Ulama of India and benefit from them. For higher education, he joined Darul Uloom Deoband in the year 1345-Hijri (1927) for two years, learning Tafsir, Hadith, Fiqh, Usul of Hadith and Usul of Fiqh. Whilst in Deoband, he benefited from two senior 'Ulama; 'Allamah Shabir Ahmad Uthmani (rahimahullah) and 'Allamah Muhammad Anwar Shah Kashmiri (rahimahullah). In 1347 (1929), Moulana Anwar Shah Kashmiri (rahimahullah) joined Jami'atul Islamiyyah in the town of Dabel in Gujarat. Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) accompanied him and completed his course in knowledge of Hadith at Dabel with a distinction. After completing, Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) wrote a letter in Arabic to his Teacher, Moulana Anwar Shah Kashmiri (rahimahullah), requesting to accompany him and be his attendant. Moulana Kashmiri was astonished with the eloquence of Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) and made him his attendant at his residence and during travel.

### **Shaykhul Hadith**

Moulana Muhammad Yusuf (rahimahullah) returned to Peshawar and occupied himself with lessons and teaching whilst also engaging in political matters for four years, after which he felt remorse for using these four years in politics instead of pursuing further knowledge. After his Shaykh, Moulana Kashmiri (rahimahullah) passed away, 1352-Hijri, he was chosen as a teacher in Jami'atul Islamiyyah in Dabel and he progressed in the institution until he became the Shaykhul Hadith. Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) was part of 'Al-Majlisul 'ilmi' at the Madrasah in Dabel. This was a research faculty that produced several scholarly works. He was also elected as the Ameer of the Jami'atul 'Ulama in Gujrat.

### **Shaykhut Tafsir**

In the year, 1370-Hijri (1951), Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) migrated to Pakistan on the insistence of Moulana Shabir Ahmad Uthmani (rahimahullah) and Shaykh Badri 'Alam (rahimahullah), becoming the Shaykh of Tafsir (Master of Quran Commentary) in Darul Uloom Islamiyyah in Sindh. He occupied this post for three years, after which he went for Haj.

### **Newtown, Karachi**

Thereafter Shaykh travelled to Karachi and established the foundations of Madrasatul Arabiyyatul Islamiyyah in Newtown which is now world renowned. Initially this institute only catered for specialised fields of Islamic sciences (*takhassus*). Later at the insistence of others, Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) included the elementary and secondary studies departments ('Alim course) as well. Several senior 'Ulama of our country had the honour of studying under Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) at his madrasah in Karachi.

### **His Academic Rank**

Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) took great effect from his Teacher; 'Allamah Anwar Shah Al-Kashmiri (rahimahullah). He was accepted as his senior student, despite spending approximately just one year in the company of Shaykh Kashmiri. Shaykh Binnori (rahimahullah) authored several books in Arabic and Urdu, the most famous being his unique Arabic commentary of a portion of

Sunan Tirmidhi, entitled: Ma'arifus Sunan. This is in addition to the various articles he wrote for the journals in Pakistan as well as in Egypt. He was extremely fluent in the Arabic language, a fact that was acknowledged by several Arab scholars too. He had established a research faculty (Darut Tasnif) at his Madrasah in Karachi, from which several other books were published by his senior students. Our Darul Hadith Research Centre in Durban, South Africa is a product of the Shaykh's vision of research. Our Ameer at Darul Hadith, my Honourable Father, Moulana Haroon Abasoomar saheb (hafizhahullah) is a student of Shaykh Binnori.

### **World Renowned**

Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) also had the opportunity to travel to many parts of the world, thereby meeting the 'Ulama of these countries too. In so doing, he managed to attain ijazah in Hadith from several senior Hadith scholars in the Arab world. He also issued ijazah to many others in those countries. He had a special attachment to the Haramayn and travelled there frequently. In the latter part of his life, Shaykh would observe i'tikaf annually in Masjid Nabawi. Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) visited our country, South Africa as well. While he was here, he visited the academic establishments, and also addressed the Tablighi Ijtima' (gathering). Shaykh (rahimahullah) visited Egypt on several occasions. He maintained a close relationship with the 'Ulama there as well. Namely; the Great Hanafi scholar, Shaykh Muhammad Zahid Al-Kawthari (rahimahullah) and the Rector of Al-Azhar at that time, Shaykh 'Abdul Halim Mahmud (rahimahullah). When he would visit the Arab world, he had the habit of taking books written by the 'Ulama of the Indo Pak subcontinent as gifts for the 'Ulama there. In this manner he bridged the gap between the seniors of these schools. Hence he also contributed to the efforts of introducing the Akabir (seniors) of Deoband to the Arab world. Shaykh Binnory was widely praised by 'Ulama from around the world. In addition to the 'Ulama of the Indo Pak Subcontinent, he was acknowledged by 'Ulama from the Haramayn, Syria, Egypt and Turkey. He became known as '**Muhaddithul 'Asr**' (The Great Hadith Master of his era).

### **His excellent qualities**

Shaykh Binnory (rahimahullah) was known for his istighna (reticence), his tawakkul (reliance on Allah), his outstanding memory, his concern for establishing the Truth and defending it against the deviant groups. He was also a pillar of steadfastness in promoting the Truth, fearing none besides Allah. He made untold sacrifices in tackling deviated sects, especially Qadianism. He is admired for his achievement of combining all avenues of Spiritual Islam; He was a Sufi (ascetic), a Muhaddith (Hadith Master), a Mufassir (Commentator of the Quran), a Faqih (Jurist), a Muballigh (preacher), and a Musannif (author).

### **Demise**

Shaykh Binnory passed away on 17 October, 1977 (3 Dhul Qa'dah, 1397 A.H.) at the age of 71. He was buried in the precincts of the Madrasah in Binnory Town, Karachi. May Allah Ta'ala fill his grave with nur and bestow him the highest stages in Jannah. May He also enable us to follow in the footsteps of



our seniors.

**Note:**

*There are other ways to pronounce the surname 'Binnory'. I have preferred this one because of its popularity.*

وَاللّٰهُ تَعَالٰى اَعْلَمُ بِالصَّوَابِ  
وَكْتَبَهُ : مُحَمَّدٌ بِنُ هَارُونَ

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## [The Importance of Tabligh](#)

The great Hadith Master; Muhaddithul 'Asr, Shaykh Muhammad Yusuf Al-Binnory (rahimahullah) wrote a detailed article on this topic. The following is a brief summary:

### **A Huge Task**

Prophethood has come to an end. The efforts of the 'Ulama are falling well short in the face of the many fitnahs that challenge the new generation. The television and its like has slaughtered the morals of the people. There is extreme dominance of un-religiousness in the schools and colleges. The values of western countries have begun to pass over to the rest of the world.

### **The Solution**

My heart says that Allah Ta'ala has bestowed us with the system of the Tablighi Jamat for the sole purpose of combating these universal challenges. The other efforts are [important but] not sufficient to combat the world wide flood of fitnahs. These Tablighi brothers go out in gusht/Jawlah and like a flood too, they become the means of several people coming upon guidance. In this manner they have become the means of guidance for thousands throughout the world.

This system is a method of nourishing the soul and preparing for the Hereafter.

### **Exhortation**

I believe very much in the sincerity of these brothers. I implore you to join this group. With the help of Allah, you will be able to revolutionise the entire world.

This creates an awareness of our religious duties. You will also experience the ecstasy and enjoyment of following Din.

Allah Ta'ala has created this method of spreading guidance, and a way of reforming one's self and others.

May Allah Ta'ala grant us the ability to join this effort and change our lives.

(Adapted from Basair wa 'ibar, vol.1 pg.502-504)

وَاللّٰهُ تَعَالٰى اَعْلَمُ بِالصَّوَابِ

وَكِتَابُهُ : مُحَمَّدٌ بِنُ هَارُونَ