



### The second question of Fatwa no. 16024

#### **Q 2: As beginners in the field of Da`wah (calling to Islam), what is the best approach to follow while practicing Da`wah?**

A: First: You should equip yourself with beneficial knowledge derived from the Qur'an and Sunnah. Allah (Exalted be He) says: ﴿Invite (mankind, O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) to the Way of your Lord (i.e. Islām) with wisdom (i.e. with the Divine Revelation and the Qur'ān) and fair preaching﴾ Wisdom denotes knowledge. Allah (Exalted be He) also says: ﴿Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): "This is my way; I invite unto Allāh (i.e. to the Oneness of Allāh - Islāmīc Monotheism) with sure knowledge, I and whosoever follows me (also must invite others to Allāh i.e. to the Oneness of Allāh - Islāmīc Monotheism with sure knowledge).﴾ The importance of substantial knowledge being stressed, an ignorant person is not suited for practicing Da`wah. Second: Steadfastness in performing righteous deeds. Allah (Exalted be He) says: ﴿And who is better in speech than he who [says: "My Lord is Allāh (believes in His Oneness)," and then stands firm (acts upon His Order), and] invites (men) to Allāh's (Islāmīc Monotheism), and does righteous deeds﴾

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Moreover, the Qur'an quotes Shu`ayb (peace be upon him) as saying: ﴿I wish not, in contradiction to you, to do that which I forbid you.﴾ Accordingly, a Da`y (caller to Islam) has to put into practice all that to which he calls people so that his example might be followed and that he might be thought well of. Allah (Glorified be He) says: ﴿O you who believe! Why do you say that which you do not do?﴾ ﴿Most hateful it is with Allāh that you say that which you do not do.﴾ Third: Enduring with patience all that might befall him. Allah (Exalted be He) quoted Luqman Al-Hakim (Luqman the wise) as saying to his son: ﴿"O my son! Aqim-As-Salāt (perform As-Salāt), enjoin (on people) Al-Ma'rūf - (Islāmīc Monotheism and all that is good), and forbid (people) from Al-Munkar (i.e. disbelief in the Oneness of Allāh, polytheism of all kinds and all that is evil and bad), and bear with patience whatever befalls you. Verily, these are some of the important commandments (ordered by Allāh with no exemption).﴾ He (Exalted be He) says: ﴿...and recommend one another to the truth [i.e. order one another to perform all kinds of good deeds (Al-Ma'ruf) which Allāh has ordained, and abstain from all kinds of sins and evil deeds (Al-Munkar) which Allāh has forbidden], and recommend one another to patience (for the sufferings, harms, and injuries which one may encounter in Allāh's Cause during preaching His religion of Islāmīc Monotheism or Jihād).﴾ Fourth: Being kind to those called and trying to turn them gently towards good. Allah (Exalted be He) says: ﴿"And speak to him mildly, perhaps he may accept admonition or fear (Allāh).﴾ He (Exalted be He) also says: ﴿Invite (mankind, O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) to the Way of your Lord (i.e. Islām) with wisdom (i.e. with the Divine Revelation and the Qur'ān) and fair preaching﴾ Addressing His Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), Allah says: ﴿And by the Mercy of Allāh, you dealt with them gently. And had you been severe and harsh-hearted, they would have broken away from about you﴾

#### **(Part No. 12; Page No. 247)**

Fifth: Giving priority to what is more important, namely, rectifying `Aqidah (creed) then to proceed to other religious duties one after another, following the Prophet's example of varying his methods of Da`wah from the Makkan era to the Madinan era.

May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and Companions!

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**Source: Fatwas of the Permanent Committee**