



Salvation Stories

SALVATION IS A "BEFORE AND AFTER" EVENT!

My previous life:

My name is Raj. Today I want to tell you some of the most difficult events in my life. I could never share those bitter childhood incidents with anyone in the family. On the one hand, the overly conservative attitude of the family, on the other Maulana's (Islamic scholar) bloodshot eyes and inhumane physical abuse, along with "If you say these things to anyone, you won't go to heaven", kind words.

When I was 12 years old, I was admitted to the Madarasa. Being the youngest son in the house, my parents loved me more. After 10/15 days my father used to visit the hostel. This is how my sister's marriage talk started with one of the teachers of Hefzkhana (Quran learning center). From the beginning of the talk of marriage, the teacher's affection for me increased a lot. But that affection did not last long. For some reason, marriage talks stopped. This closure is the cause of my sadness. He now sees the opposite side of love. I was punished three to four times more than the punishment given to others for any crime. The senior boys used to laugh and joke with me about it. It was not unknown to the students what the teacher was punishing more for. Older students make fun of me, teachers beat me for no reason, and this situation continues day after day.

Newspapers were not allowed for students in hostels. Reading any student newspaper was considered a serious crime and was punished. Only the teachers read the daily newspaper in the office room.

Many of the students had the habit of secretly reading the game pages. If that too is caught, flogging is sure. Just like that, one afternoon when everyone is on the field, some students go to the office to read the game sheet. Even though I was not in the habit of reading newspapers, I entered the madrasa office with them that day. At that time a teacher came. Seeing the teacher, everyone left the office. The teacher informed the matter to his senior teacher, with whom my sister was to be married. He said that the judgment will be after Isha's (night) prayer.

After sitting to read in the evening, the students talk about it while reading. Everyone says that whatever others do, the amount of punishment on me will be a little higher today. I worry about it. Reading newspapers in Madrasa is a big crime.

Salvation



Where I have to get a lot of punishment for small crimes, he kept thinking about how much torture can be done for big crimes. At one point he decided to escape the madrasa anyway. Isha prayer is a little late in the madrasa mosque. That day, when everyone was prostrating in the second rakat, I broke the prayer and ran away from the back row. After the prayer, the teacher asked the culprits to come forward. I am not looking for everyone.

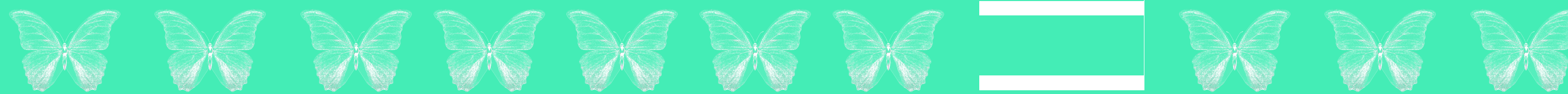
The next day at noon I went home, in the evening the guardian brought me back to the madrasa. The new fault prevails over the previous fault. I was flogged one after another but the guardian did not want to know why I ran away from the madrasa, the whole night, or where I was. They assumed that I did not want to read Hefz and therefore ran away, under the influence of Satan. After the punishment, I came back to the classroom. Friends ask how I escaped. Every gate of the madrasa was locked! Where were you all night?

I tell stories about running away with friends. The betel nut that is next to the three-tiered roof of the madrasa descends the betel nut tree. Then the wall rises outside the confines of the madrasa. From there I went some distance and returned to the madrasa without getting a vehicle to go home. We spent the whole night lying on the culvert in the drain between the building and the boundary wall at the rear of the madrasa. In the morning, I went to the market from there and asked people and reached home by car. After going home, love is replaced by punishment. Even though I was a beloved child of my father, my father punished me that day.

I could not become a Hafez, I ran away from the madrassa many times to escape the persecution. Both Madrasa and my family became my enemies. At some point, everyone gives up hope of becoming the desired Hafez. I became a spoiled child to my family and society. No one else in society has a bad forehead like me, even from the prison. Oh society, you see me run away but never ask why I run away. If my parents wanted to know why I was running away from the madrasa, maybe I could have told them what was on their minds. This society does not want to know the state of mind of Hefjakhana students. They assume that a student who does not want to study has fallen into Satan's trap. They provide exorcisms. If not chased, it continues to be the fault of the forehead. But they never know that they are unfit parents.

My present life:

I am a young man of 20 years now. I am no longer a follower of Islam. I am a saved Christian. In early 2023, I learned about Christians and their beliefs on the Salvation for The Muslims –STM Facebook page. I used to hate Christians a lot. Because in my madrasa education, Christians were taught as the worst and most barbaric people. Muslims, however, regard Christians as People of the Book and consider them kafir (unbelievers) to be shirk (polytheism) because of their Trinitarians, and thus, must be dhimmis (religious taxpayers) under Sharia law.



On the STM page, I see a few salvation stories on a website called WIFM. I was very surprised to read them and became more interested to know about Christianity. I was sent some video links from STM. One was “Homeless 5: What Is Jesus Doing?” I have been assured of salvation by learning with a lot of support from the STM team. I am amazed that Allah himself came down to my needs. He is very merciful.

I changed after reading Philippians 2:5-11. As it is written; 5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God. 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name. 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

I confess that I am a sinner. I want to be saved, which is only possible through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. I was baptized in April. I'm emotional. What a great God! I have served a false and cruel God for so long. I have peace in my mind now. Although I am saved, I am still learning. Pray that Allah will help me. Thank you.

