

## **AYAT AND AHADITH ABOUT THE HOUR**

'They ask thee about the (final) Hour – when will be its appointed time? Say: 'The knowledge thereof is with my Lord (alone): none but He can reveal as to when it will occur. Heavy were its burden through the heavens and the earth. Only, all of a sudden will it come to you.' They ask thee as if thou wert eager in search thereof: say: The knowledge thereof is with God (alone), but most men know not.'" (Al-A'raf 7:187)

The Prophet (S) said, whilst pointing with his index and middle fingers, 'The time of my advent and the Hour are like these two fingers.'<sup>1</sup> In another report he said, "The Hour almost came before me." This indicates how close we are, relatively speaking, to the Hour.

## **DIVISIONS WITHIN THE RELIGIOUS GROUPS**

Anas ibn Malik said, "I shall tell you a Hadith which I heard from the Messenger of Allah (S), and which no-one will tell you after me. I heard him say, 'Among the signs of the Hour will be the disappearance of knowledge and the appearance of ignorance. Adultery will be prevalent and the drinking of wine will be common. The number of men will decrease and the number of women will increase until there will be fifty women to be looked after by one man.'"

'Abd Allah said, "The Prophet (S) said, 'just before the Hour, there will be days in which knowledge will disappear and ignorance will appear, and there will be much killing.'"

'Islam will become worn out like clothes are, until there will be no-one who knows what fasting, prayer, charity and rituals are. The Qur'an will disappear in one night, and no Ayah will be left on earth. Some groups of old people will be left who will say, We heard our fathers saying La ildha ilia Allah, so we repeat it.'" Silah asked Hudhayfah, "What will saying La ildha ilia Allah do for them when they do? not know what prayer, fasting, ritual and charity are?" Hudhayfah ignored him; then Silah repeated his question three times, and each time Hudhayfah ignored him. Finally he answered, "O Silah, it will save them from Hell", and said it three times. (Ibn Majah.)

## **THE MAHDI**

'Ali said, "The Prophet (S) said, 'The Mahdi is one of us, from among the people of my household. In one night Allah will inspire him and prepare him to carry out his task successfully.'" (Ahmad and Ibn Majah.)

Abu Dawud reported a Hadith from 'Abd Allah ibn Mas'ud: "The Prophet (S) said, 'If there were only one day left for the world, that day would be lengthened until a man from among my descendants or from among the people of my household, was sent; his name will be the same as my name, and his father's name will be the same as my father's name. He will fill the earth with Justice and fairness, just as it will have been filled with injustice and oppression. The world will not end until a man of my household, whose name is the same as mine, holds sway.'"

Abu Sa'id said, "The Prophet (S) said, 'The Mahdi will be one of my descendants; he will have a high forehead and a hooked nose. He will fill the earth with justice and fairness just as it was filled with injustice and oppression, and he will rule for seven years.'" (Abu Dawud.)

The truth of the matter is that the Mahdi who's coming is promised at the end of time will appear from the East, and people will swear allegiance to him at the Ka'bah, as some Ahadith indicate. At the time of the Mahdi, there will be peace and prosperity, with abundant crops and wealth, strong rulers and Islam will be well-established.

## **THE SIGNS AND PORTENTS OF THE HOUR**

Abu Hurayrah said, "The Prophet (S) said, 'Hasten to do good deeds before six things happen: the rising of the sun from the West, the smoke, the Dajjal the beast the (death) of one of you, or general tribulation.'" (Ahmad, Muslim.) Hudhayfah ibn 'Ubayd said, "The Prophet (S) came upon us whilst we were busy in discussion. He asked us, 'What are you talking about?' We said 'We are discussing the Hour.' He said, 'It will not come until you see ten signs: the smoke, the Dajjal, the beast the sun rising from the West, the descent of Jesus son of Mary, Gog and Magog, and three land-slides - one in the East one in the West, and one in Arabia, at the end of which fire will burst forth from the direction of Aden (Yemen) and drive people to the place of their final assembly.'" (Ahmad.)

## **THE BATTLE WITH THE ROMANS**

After the battle with the Romans, which ended with the conquest of Constantinople, the Dajjal will appear, and Jesus son of Mary will descend from Heaven to the earth, to the white minaret in the east of Damascus, at the time of Salat al-Fajr (the morning prayer), as we shall see in the Sahih Traditions. Dhu Mukhammar's said. The Prophet (S) said, 'You will make a peace-treaty with the Romans, and together you will invade an enemy beyond Rome. You will be victorious and take much booty. Then you will camp in a hilly pasture; one of the Roman men will come and raise a cross and say "Victory to the Cross", so one of the Muslims will come and kill him. Then the Romans will break the treaty, and there will be a battle. They will gather an army against you and come against you with eighty banners, each banner followed by ten thousand men/' (Ahmad, Abu Dawud, Ibn Majah.) Yusayr ibn Jabir said, "Once there was a red storm in Kufah. A man came who had nothing to say except, 'O 'Abd Allah ibn Mas'ud, has the Hour come?' 'Abd Allah was sitting reclining against something, and said, 'The Hour will not come until people will not divide inheritance, nor rejoice over booty.' Pointing towards Syria, he said, 'An enemy will gather forces against the Muslims and the Muslims will gather forces against them.' I asked, 'Do you mean the Romans?' He said, 'Yes. At that time there will be very heavy fighting. The Muslims will prepare a detachment to fight to the death; they will not return unless they are victorious. They will fight until night intervenes. Both sides will return without being victorious; then many will be killed on both sides. On the fourth day, the Muslims who are left will return to the fight, and Allah will cause the enemy to be routed. There will be a battle the like of which has never been seen, so that even if a bird were to pass their ranks, it would fall down dead before it reached the end of them. Out of a family of one hundred, only one man will survive, so how could he enjoy the booty or divide any inheritance? While they are in this state, they will hear of an even worse calamity. A cry will reach them: "The Dajjal has taken your place among your offspring." So they will throw away whatever is in their hands and go forward, sending ten horsemen as a scouting party. The Prophet (S) said, I know their names, and the names of their fathers, and the colours of their horses. They will be the best horsemen on the face of the earth on that day (Ahmad, Muslim.)

## **THE APPEARANCE OF THE DAJJAL**

Jabir said, "I heard the Prophet (S) say, 'Just before the Hour there will be many liars; among them is the one in al-Yamamah, the 'Ansi in San'a', the one in Himyar, and the Dajjal. This will be the greatest fitnah;" (Ahmad.) Abu Hurayrah said, "The Prophet (S) said The Hour will not come . . . until nearly thirty dajjals(liars) appear, each one claiming to be a messenger from Allah." (Bukhari, Muslim.)

Abu Hurayrah said, "The Prophet (S) said, The Hour will not come until thirty "dajjals" appear all of them lying about Allah and His Messenger. (Abu Dawud.)

Abu Hurayrah said, "The Prophet (S) said, 'Just before the Hour, there will be thirty "dajjals each of whom will say, I am a Prophet.'" (Ahmad.)

## **AHADITH ABOUT THE DAJJAL**

Salim said, "Abd Allah ibn 'Umar said, The Prophet(S) stood up to address the people. He praised Allah SWT as He deserved to be praised, then he spoke about the Dajjal: -I warn you against him; there is no Prophet who has not warned his people against him -even Noah warned his people against him. But I will tell you something which no other Prophet has told his people You must know that the Dajjal is one-eyed, and Allah is not one eyed.'" Ibn Shihab said, "Umar ibn Thabit al-Ansari told me that some of the Companions of the Prophet (S) told him that on the day when he warned the people about the Dajjal, the Prophet (S) said, 'There will be written between his eyes the word Kafir (unbeliever). Everyone who resents his bad deeds - or every believer will be able to read it.' He also said. 'You must know that no one of you will be able to see his Lord until he dies'" (Muslim, Bukhari.) Ibn -Umar said, "The Prophet (S) mentioned the Dajjal to the people. He said, -Allah SWT is not one eyed, but the Dajjal is blind in his right eye, and his eye is like a floating grape." (Muslim ) Anas ibn Malik said, "The Prophet (S) said, there has never been a Prophet who did not warn his people against that one-eyed liar. Verily he is one-eyed and your Lord is not one-eyed. On his forehead will be written the letters Kaf, Fa, Ra (Kafir):" (Muslim, Bukhari.)

Hudhayfah said, "The Prophet (S) said, I know more about the powers which the Dajjal will have than he will know himself. He will have two flowing rivers: one appears to be pure water, and the other will appear to be flaming fire. Whosoever

lives to see that, let him choose the river which seems to be fire .then let him close his eyes, lower his head and drink from it, for it will be cold water. The Dajjal will be one-eyed; the place where one eye should be will be covered by a piece of skin. On his forehead will be written the word Kafir, and every believer, whether literate or illiterate will be able to read it." (Muslim.) Abu Hurayrah said, "The Prophet (S) said, 'Shall I tell you something about the Dajjal which no Prophet has ever told his people before me? The Dajjal is one-eyed and will bring with him something which will resemble Paradise and Hell; but that which he calls Paradise will in fact be Hell. I warn you against him as Noah warned his people against him.'" (Bukhari Muslim.)

## **MORE AHADITH ABOUT THE DAJJAL**

The Prophet (S) said, 'The Dajjal will emerge in a land in the east called Khurasan. His followers will be people with faces like hammered shields.' Asma' bint Yazid al-Ansariyyah said, "The Prophet (S) said, 'During the three years just before the Dajjal comes, there will be one year when the sky will withhold one third of its rain and the earth one-third of its fruits. In the second year the sky will withhold two-thirds of its rain, and the earth two-thirds of its fruits. In the third year the sky will withhold all of its rain, and the earth all of its fruits, and all the animals will die. It will be the greatest tribulation: the Dajjal will bring a Bedouin and say to him, "What if I bring your camels to life for you? Will you agree that I am your lord?" The Bedouin will say "Yes." So devils will assume the forms of his camels, with the fullest udders and the highest humps. Then he will bring a man whose father and brother have died, and will ask him, "What do you think if I bring your father and brother back to life? Will you agree that I am your lord?" The man will say "Yes," so the devils will assume the forms of his father and brother.' Then the Prophet (S) went out for something, and then returned. The people were very concerned about what he had told them. He stood in the doorway and asked, 'What is wrong, Asma'?' I said, 'O Messenger of Allah, you have terrified us with what you said about the Dajjal.' He said, 'He will certainly appear. If I am still alive, I will contend with him on your behalf; otherwise Allah will take care of every Muslim on my behalf.' I said, 'O Messenger of Allah, we do not bake our dough until we are hungry, so how will it be for the believers at that time?' The Prophet(S) said, 'The glorification of Allah which suffices the people of Heaven will be sufficient for them.' "Abu Hurayrah (RA) said, "The Prophet (S) said, 'The Hour will not come until the Muslims fight the Jews and kill them. When a Jew hides behind a rock or a tree, it will say, "O Muslim, O servant of Allah! There is a Jew behind me, come and kill him!" All the trees will do this except the box-thorn (al-Gharqad), because it is the tree of the Jews.'" (Ahmad.)

## **PROTECTION AGAINST THE DAJJAL**

1. Seeking refuge with Allah from his tribulation. It is proven in the Sahih (authentic) Ahadith that the Prophet (S) used to seek refuge with Allah from the tribulation of the Dajjal in his prayers, and that he commanded his Ummah to do likewise:

**"Allahumma inna naudhu bika min 'adhabi Jahannam, wa min 'adhabi 'l-qabr, wa min fitnati 'l-mahyai wal-mamat, wa min fitnati' l-masihi 'd-dajjal**

'O Allah! We seek refuge with you from the punishment of Hell, from the punishment of the grave, from the tribulations of life and death, and from the tribulation of the False Messiah (Dajjal).

"This Hadith was narrated by many Sahabah. Including Anas, Abu Hurayrah, 'A'ishah, Ibn 'Abbas, and Sa 'd.

2. Memorizing certain Ayat from Surat al-Kahf. Al-Hafiz al-Dhahabi said, "Seeking refuge with Allah from the Dajjal is mentioned in many Mutawatir Ahadith (those with numerous lines of narrators). One way of doing this is to memorize ten Ayat from Surat al-Kahf." Abu'l-Dira reported that the Prophet (S) said, "Who-ever memorizes the first ten Ayat of Surat al- Kahf will be protected from the Dajjal." (Abu Dawud.)

3. Keeping away from the Dajjal. One way to be protected from the tribulation of the Dajjal is to live in Medina or Makkah.

## **THE LIFE AND DEEDS OF THE DAJJAL**

The "greater" Dajjal is the one mentioned in the Hadith of Fatima bint Qays, which she narrated from the Prophet (S), from Tamim al-Dari, and which includes the story of the Jassasah. The Dajjal will be permitted to appear at the end of time, after the Muslims have conquered a Roman city called Constantinople. He will first appear in Isfahan, in an area known as the Jewish quarter (al-Yahudiyyah). He will be followed by seventy thousand Jews from that area, all of them armed. Seventy thousand Tatars and many people from Khurasan will also follow him. At first he will appear as a tyrannical king, then he will claim to be a prophet, then a lord. Only the most ignorant of men will follow him; the righteous and those guided by Allah will reject him. He will start to conquer the world country by country,

fortress by fortress, region by region, town by town; no place will remain unscathed except Makkah and Madina. The length of his stay on earth will be forty days: one day like a year, one day like a month, one day like a week, and the rest of the days like normal days, i.e. his stay will be approximately one year and two and a half months. Allah will grant him many miracles, through which whoever He wills will be led astray, and the faith of the believers will be strengthened. The descent of Jesus son of Mary, the true Messiah, will happen at the time of the Dajjal, the false messiah. He will descend to the minaret in the east of Damascus. The believers and true servants of Allah will gather to support him, and the Messiah Jesus son of Mary will lead them against the Dajjal, who at that time will be heading for Bayt al-Maqdis (Jerusalem). He will catch up with him at 'Aqabah 'Afiq. The Dajjal will run away from him, but Jesus will catch up with him at the gate of Ludd, and will kill him with his spear just as he is entering it. He will say to him, "I have to deal you a blow; you cannot escape." When the Dajjal faces him, he will begin to dissolve like salt in water. So Jesus will kill him with his spear at the gate of Lucid, and he will die there, as many Sahih Ahadith indicate. Majmal ibn Jariyah is reported to have said, I heard the Prophet (S) saying, the son of Mary will kill the Dajjal at the gate of Ludd." (Tirmidhi.)

## **THE DESCENT OF JESUS AT THE END OF TIME**

'Abd Allah ibn 'Amr said, "The Prophet (S) said, The Dajjal will appear in my Ummah, and will remain for forty - "I cannot say whether he meant forty days, forty months or forty years." - Then Allah will send Jesus son of Mary, who will resemble 'Urwah ibn Mas'ud. He will chase the Dajjal and kill him. Then the people will live for seven years during which there will be no enmity between any two persons. Then Allah will send a cold wind from the direction of Syria, which will take the soul of everyone who has the slightest speck of good or faith in his heart. Even if one of you were to enter the heart of a mountain, the wind would reach him there and take his soul. Only the wicked people will be left; they will be as careless as birds, with the characteristics of beasts, and will have no concern for right and wrong. Satan will come to them in the form of man and will say, "Don't you respond?" They will say, "What do you order us to do?" He will order them to worship idols, and in spite of that they will have sustenance in abundance, and lead comfortable lives. "Then the Trumpet will be blown, and everyone will tilt their heads to hear it. The first one to hear it will be a man busy repairing a trough for his camels. He and everyone else will be struck down. Then Allah will send (or send down) rain like dew, and the bodies of the people (i.e. the dead) will grow out of it. Then the trumpet will be sounded again, and the people will get up and look around. Then it will be said, "O people, go to your Lord and account for yourselves." It will

be said, "Bring out the people of Hell," and it will be asked, "How many are there?" - the answer will come:

“Nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand.” On that day a child will grow old and the shin will be bare.” (al-Qalam 68:42) (Muslim.)

## **THE APPEARANCE OF GOG AND MAGOG**

They (two tribes or peoples) will appear at the time of Jesus son of Mary, after the Dajjal. Allah will destroy them all in one night, in response to the supplication of Jesus. Abu Hurayrah reported that the Prophet (S) said, "Every day, Gog and Magog are trying to dig a way out through the barrier. When they begin to see sunlight through it, the one who is in charge of them says, 'Go back; you can carry on digging tomorrow,' and when they come back, the barrier is stronger than it was before. This will continue until their time comes and Allah wishes to send them forth. They will dig until they begin to see sunlight, then the one who is in charge of them will say, 'Go back; you can carry on digging tomorrow, insha'Allah.' In this case he will make an exception by saying insha'Allah, thus relating the matter to the Will of Allah. They will return on the following day, and find the hole as they left it. They will carry on digging and come out against the people. They will drink all the water, and the people will entrench themselves in their fortresses. Gog and Magog will fire their arrows into the sky, and they will fall back to earth with something like blood on them. Gog and Magog will say, 'We have defeated the people of earth, and overcome the people of heaven.' Then Allah will send a kind of worm in the napes of their necks, and they will be killed by it ... 'By Him in whose hand is the soul of Muhammad, the beasts of the earth will become fat.' " Gog and Magog are two groups of Turks, descended from Yafith (Japheth), the father of the Turks, one of the sons of Noah. At the time of Abraham (AS), there was a king called Dhu'l-Qarnayn. He performed Tawaf around the Ka-bah with Abraham (AS) when he first built it- he believed and followed him. Dhu'l-Qarnayn was a good man and a great king; Allah gave him great power and he ruled the east and west. He held sway over all kings and countries, and travelled far and wide in both east and west. He travelled eastwards until he reached a pass between two mountains, through which people were coming out. They did not understand anything, because they were so isolated; they were Gog and Magog. They were spreading corruption through the earth, and harming the people, so the people sought help from Dhu'l-Qarnayn. They asked him to build a barrier between them and Gog and Magog. He asked them to help him to build it, so together they built a barrier by mixing iron, copper and tar. Thus Dhu'l-Qarnayn restrained Gog and Magog behind the barrier. They tried to penetrate the barrier, or to climb over it, but to no avail. They could not

succeed because the barrier is so huge and smooth. They began to dig, and they have been digging for centuries; they will continue to do so until the time when Allah decrees that they come out. At that time the barrier will collapse, and Gog and Magog will rush out in all directions, spreading corruption, uprooting plants, killing people. When Jesus (AS) prays against them, Allah will send a kind of worm in the napes of their necks, and they will be killed by it.

## **THE DESTRUCTION OF THE KA'BAH**

At the end of time, Dhu'l-Suwayqatayn, who will come from Abyssinia (al-Habash). will destroy the Ka'bah in order to steal its treasure and Kiswah (cloth covering) The Ka'bah is the ancient building which was built by Abraham, and whose foundations were laid by Adam.

As Tafsir (interpretation) of the Ayah "Until the Gog and Magog (people) are let through (their barrier) ." (al-Anbiya' 21:96), it was reported from Ka' b al-Ahbar that Dhul-Suwayqatayn will first emerge at the time of Jesus, son of Mary. Allah will send Jesus at the head of a vanguard of between seven and eight hundred. While they are marching towards Dhu'l-Suwayqatayn, Allah will send a breeze from the direction of Yemen, which will take the soul of every believer. Only the worst of people will be left, and they will begin to copulate like animals. Ka-b said: -At that time, the Hour will be close at hand.'71 -Abd Allah ibn -Amr said, 'T heard the Prophet (S) say -Dhul-Suwayqatayn from Abyssinia will destroy the 'Ka'bah and steal its treasure and Kiswah. It is as it I could see him now: he is bald-headed and has a distortion in his wrists. He will strike the Ka'bah with his spade and pick-axe'." " (Ahmad.) It was reported from 'Abd Allah ibn 'Umar that the Prophet (S) said, "Leave the Abyssinians alone so long as they do not disturb you, for no-one will recover the treasure of the Ka-bah except Dhul-Suwayqatayn from Abyssinia." (Abu Dawud, in the chapter on the prohibition of provoking the Abyssinians.)Ibn 'Abbas narrated that the Prophet (S) said, it is as if I can see him now: he is black and his legs are widely spaced. He will destroy the Ka' bah stone by a stone." (Ahmad.)

## **MADINAH WILL REMAIN INHABITED AT THE TIME OF THE DAJJAL**

It has been proven in the Sahih Ahadith, as already stated, that the Dajjal will not be able to enter Makkah and Madinah, and that there will be angels at the gates of Makkah to ward him off and prevent him from entering. It was reported from Abu Hurayrah that the Prophet (S) said, "Neither the Dajjal nor plague will be able to enter Madinah." As mentioned above, the Dajjal will camp outside Madinah, and it will be shaken by three tremors. Every hypocrite and sinner will go out to join the Dajjal, and every believer and Muslim will stay. That day will be called the Day of Purification (Yawm al-Khalas). Most of those who go out to join the Dajjal will be women. As the Prophet (S) said, "Verily it (Madinah) is good; its evil will be eliminated and its goodness will be obvious." Allah SWT said: "Women impure are for men impure, and men impure for women impure, and women of purity are for men of purity, and men of purity are for women of purity . . ." (al-Nur 24:26)

Madinah will remain inhabited during the days of the Dajjal, and during the time of Jesus son of Mary (AS), until he dies and is buried there. Then it will be destroyed. 'Umar ibn al-Khattab said, "I heard the Prophet (S) say, 'A rider will go around Madinah and say, There used to be many Muslims here.'" (Ahmad.)

## **THE EMERGENCE OF THE BEAST**

Among the signs of the Hour will be the emergence of a beast from the earth. It will be very strange in appearance, and extremely huge; one cannot even imagine what it will look like. It will emerge from the earth and shake the dust from its head. It will have with it the ring of Solomon and the rod of Moses. People will be terrified of it and will try to run away, but they will not be able to escape, because such will be the decree of Allah. It will destroy the nose of every unbeliever with the rod, and write the word "Kafir" on his forehead; it will adorn the face of every believer and write the word "Mumin" (true believer) on his forehead, and it will speak to people. Allah SWT said: "And when the Word is fulfilled against them (the unjust), we shall produce from the earth a Beast to (face) them: it will speak to them, ..." (Al-NamI 27-82) Ibn 'Abbas, al-Hasan and Qutadah said that It will speak to them" (tukallimuhum) means that it will address them. Ibn Jarir suggested that it means that the Beast will address them with the words "... for that mankind did not believe with assurance

in Our Signs" (al-NamI 27:82 - latter part of the Ayah). Ibn Jarir reported this from 'Ali and 'Ata It was reported from Ibn 'Abbas that tukallimuhum means that the Beast will cut them, i.e., it will write the word "Kafir" on the forehead of the unbeliever and "Mumin" on the forehead of the believer. It was also reported from Ibn 'Abbas that he will both address them and cut them; this suggestion incorporates both of the previous suggestions; and Allah knows best.

## **THE RISING OF THE SUN FROM THE WEST**

Allah SWT says:

"Are they waiting to see if the angels come to them, or thy Lord (Himself), or certain of the Signs of thy Lord? The day that certain of the signs of thy Lord do come, no good will it neither do to a soul to believe in them then, if it believed not before nor earned righteousness through its faith. Say: 'Wait ye: we too are waiting'. " (Al-An'am 6:158.)

It was reported from Abu Sa'id al-Khudri that the Prophet (S) explained, "The day that certain of the Signs of thy Lord do come, no good will it do to a soul to believe in them then", referring to the rising of the sun from the West. (Ahmad.)

Abu Hurayrah said, "The Prophet (S) said, 'The Hour will not come until the sun rises from the West. When the people see it, whoever is living on earth will believe, but that will be the time when - No good will it do to a soul to believe in them then, if it believed not before.'" (Bukhari.)

It was also reported from Abu Hurayrah that the Prophet (S) said, "The Hour will not come until the sun rises from the West. When it rises and the people see it, they will all believe. But that will be the time when 'No good will it do to a soul to believe in them then'. " (Bukhari.)

It was reported from Abu Hurayrah that the Prophet (S) said, "There are three things which, if they appear, 'No good will it do to a soul to believe in them then, if it believed not

before nor earned righteousness through its faith'. They are: the rising of the sun from the West, the Dajjal, and the Beast of the Earth." (Ahmad, Muslim, Tirmidhi.)

Abu Dharr said, "The Prophet (S) asked me, 'Do You know where the sun goes when it sets?' I said, 'I do not know/ He said, 'It travels until it prostrates itself beneath the Throne, and asks for permission to rise again. But a time will come when it will be told, 'Go back hence you came/ that will be the time when 'No good will it do to a soul to believe in them then, if it believed not before nor earned righteousness through its faith'." (Bukhari.)

'Amr ibn Jarir said, "Three Muslims were sitting with Marwan in Madmah, and heard him say, whilst talking about the Signs of the Hour, that the first of them would be the appearance of the Dajjal. The three went to 'Abd Allah ibn 'Amr, and told him what they had heard Marwan say concerning the Signs. 'Abd Allah said, 'Marwan has not said much. I memorized a Hadith like that from the Prophet (S) which I have not forgotten since. I heard the Prophet (S) say: The first of the signs will be the rising of the sun from the West, and the emergence of the Beast in the forenoon. Whichever the two comes first, the other will follow immediately.'"

"Then 'Abd Allah, who was widely-read, said, 'think that the first to happen will be the rising of the sun from the West. Every time it sets, it goes beneath the Throne, prostrates itself, and seeks permission to rise again. A time will come when three times it will seek permission and will receive no reply, until, when part of the night has passed and it realizes that even if it were given permission, it would not be able to rise on time, it will say: 'O my Lord, how far the rising-point is from me! What can I do for the people now?' Then it will seek permission to go back, and it will be told: 'Rise from where you are now' - and it will rise from the West'." Then 'Abd Allah recited the Ayah:

"No good will it do to a soul to believe in them then, if it believed not before nor earned righteousness through its faith." (Ahmad.) Some scholars interpret "the rising of the sun from the West" as meaning that Islam will appear in the West as strong as it was in the beginning, and that the People of the West will carry the flag of Islam.

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE PEOPLE WHO WILL BE ALIVE AT THE END OF TIME**

It was reported from 'Abd Allah ibn 'Amr that he Prophet (S) said, "The Hour will not come until Allah takes away the best people on earth; only the worst people will be left; they will not know any good or forbid any evil." (Ahmad.)

'Abd Allah ibn Mas'ud said, I heard the Prophet(S) say 'Eloquence can be bewitching; the worst of the people are those upon whom the Hour will come while they are still alive, and those who turn graves into mosques'." (Ahmad.)

It was reported from Anas that the Prophet (S) said 'The Hour will not come until no-one on earth says La ilaha illa Allah:' (Ahmad.)

It was also reported from Ana;, that the Prophet (S) said- 'The Hour will not come until no-one on earth says', 'Allah, Allah.'" (Ahmad.) There are two suggestions as to the meaning of the phrase, "until no-one on earth says 'Allah Allah :

1. It could mean that no-one will forbid evil, or try  
To correct another if he sees him doing something  
Wrong we have already come across this in the Hadith  
Of 'Abd Allah ibn 'Amr: "Only the worst people will  
Be left- they will not know any good or forbid any evil .

2. It could mean that Allah will no longer be mentioned, and His Name will not  
be known- this will be  
Part of the prevalent corruption and Kufr, as in the  
Previous Hadith, "Until no-one on earth says La ilaha  
illa Allah''".

'A'ishah said, "The Prophet (S) came in saying O A'ishah, your people will be the first of my Ummah to join me.' When he sat down, I said, 'O Messenger of Allah, may I be sacrificed for you! When you came in, you were saying something which scared me'. He asked, 'What was that?' I said, 'You said that my people would be the first of your Ummah to join you'. He said, 'Yes'. I asked, 'Why is that?' He said, 'Death will be wide- spread among them, and their

relatives will be jealous of them'. I said, 'How will people be after that?' He said, 'Like locusts: the strong will devour the weak, until the Hour comes'". (Ahmad.)

'Alba' al-Salami said, "I heard the Prophet (S) say: 'The Hour will only come upon the worst of the people'". (Ahmad.)