

# The Fiery Sermon

A member of a certain community in the west, who previously had been attending Masjid and Imambada programs regularly, stopped going due to some misunderstanding and dispute. After a few weeks, the Maulana decided to visit him. It was a chilly day. That evening, the Maulana found the man at home all alone sitting by a blazing fire.

Guessing the reason for Maulana's visit, the man welcomed him, and led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace and waited. The Maulana made himself at home but said nothing.

In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, he took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent.

The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the lone ember's flame flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more.

Soon it was cold and dead.

Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The Maulana glanced at his watch and chose this time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the middle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more, with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it.

As the Maulana reached the door to leave, his host said, with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your fiery sermon. I shall be back in the Masjid from today".

The Holy Prophet (saww) said:

**"Indeed the hand (blessings) of Allah is with the community".**

And Holy Quran says:

**"And hold fast, all together, by the rope which Allah (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves; and remember with gratitude Allah's favour on you; for you were enemies and He joined your hearts in love, so that by His Grace, you became brethren; and ye were on the brink of the pit of Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus Allah makes His Signs clear to you: That you may be guided". (3:103)**

Holy Quran warns the people who become divided and isolated due to disputes:

**"Be not like those who are divided amongst themselves and fall into disputations after receiving Clear Signs: For them is a dreadful penalty". (3:105)**

Allah (swt) instructs to make peace and reconciliation immediately and says:

**"The Believers are but a single Brotherhood (community): So make peace and reconciliation between your two (contending) brothers; and fear Allah, that you may receive Mercy." (49:10)**