

Memories of Mawlana Saeed Sahib, Preston

Whilst studying in Madinah, I went for Hajj. We reached on 9th Dhu al-Hijjah and went straight to Arafat. We performed Hajj with Hadrat Mawlana Abdul Hafeez Makki RA's group. Shaikh Yunus Sahib was also there. I did musafahah with Shaikh. He asked me where I was for the past 24 hours. I said, I have come directly to Arafat. Automatically, Shaikh gave me a soft loving slap on my face and said why did you miss staying at Mina? I gave my apologies about transport and Shaikh accepted my apology.

Once, in Madinah Munawwarah Bhai Mawlana Abdul Wahid Sahib dropped Shaikh off at the roadside near the entrance by Baqi. I took Shaikh by the hand and we walked in. Shaikh said I am greatly envious of Bhai Talha (referring to Hadrat Mawlana Talha ibn Shaykh al-Hadith Mawlana Muhammad Zakariyya Sahib). He reads Qur'an a lot. After Isha, I would take Shaikh's shoes and put them by the exit doors. Shaikh would have a dawat after Isha. He would ask me if I wanted to come then acting upon the hadith he would ask the host if he could bring me along with him to the dawat.

Once in Makkah Mukarramah Shaikh was staying at Madrasah Solatiyya. Someone started handing something to Shaikh. The person already had something in his right hand and the position was also such that the thing was in his left hand and it was closer to Shaikh. The person tried to swap over the things in his hands so he could give it with the right. Despite his love for all things being in accordance with the Sunnat, Shaikh said just give it to me and took it from his left hand. Meaning, there is no need to go to the takalluf of swapping or freeing the right hand.

Saeed Ahmed, Preston