

Faisal-Alwi: A journey of pain

This is the story of a person who, four decades ago, became a victim of a traffic accident, and his lower torso was completely and permanently paralyzed. A perfectly good job was lost. The engagement was also broken off. From here, a new journey of this person commenced, which spanned across four decades. If he had lost courage, he would have likely been lost in the vagaries of time. They would have spent a life of sheer misery—there was no one to listen to them, nor was there anyone to show mercy. But this person made an extraordinary and strange decision to carve out his own path. Forty years ago, he had only a few hundred rupees, and after the accident, there was no one to comfort him. His own people had also become strangers. In these precise conditions, he commenced his difficult journey, this person who is known by the name of Amjad Siddiqi sahib. From a banking job, he went on to become a highly successful businessman. He traveled solo across 52 countries on a wheelchair. Allah Almighty blessed him with a life partner as well. He has two beautiful and obedient sons. When I went to visit his home yesterday for a meeting, his elder son, Talha Siddiqi, was fasting, while the younger son was away in Saudi Arabia for the purpose of performing Umrah. When intentions are pure and a human being does not sit idle with folded hands, then Allah Almighty extends His support as well. Circumstances do not change on their own; rather, to change them, hard work, sincerity, and continuous struggle are required. God has never changed the condition of a people who have no thought of changing their condition themselves. At another place, it has been stated that a human being receives only what he strives for. To introduce the new generation to this grand struggle and for motivation, he has captured his life story inside a beautiful narrative style in the form of a book, of which several editions have already been printed. You must absolutely obtain the book *Unyielding Spirit* and read it. Every single page of it will give you energy, and at every step, it will inspire you toward hard work, effort, and continuous struggle. My prayer is that Allah Almighty grants Amjad Siddiqi sahib and his children a long life with faith, health, and well-being. Ameen.

-Faisal Alvi
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