

Ikram-Ullah-Tariq: When I Myself Was Despondent with Life

My very first meeting with Amjad Siddiqi took place at a time when I was completely despondent with life myself. Exhausted by a trial in a foreign land, I lay bound in a hospital bed, gripped by the fear of coming days. It was then that this person gave me the glad tidings of a brand new life. There is one common thing shared between my life and Amjad sahib's life—and that is a major accident. It is a burden of physical disability that we both have faced for an entire lifetime. However, when it comes to patience and courage, Siddiqi sahib stands many ranks ahead of me. He taught me how to look every single difficulty of life right in the eye. When I passed through that catastrophic accident, my senses were completely shattered. For days, I remained trapped in a severe state of dilemma, wondering if I would ever be able to stand on my own feet again. One day, this person came to visit me on his wheelchair. After learning about my condition, he didn't just give me the typical hollow words of comfort that people usually give; instead, he laid out his own life before me as a practical, living example. His actions brought a peace to my heart that his words alone never could have. This person, whom I had never even seen before that day, completely transformed my upcoming life through his towering courage and empathetic heart. In reality, my true story began after I was discharged from the hospital. At that critical juncture, Siddiqi sahib firmly held my hand. He extended ultimate practical support to help me establish a solid footing in practical life. When a person passes through any form of physical disability, they find plenty of people who will express verbal pity or sympathy. However, finding someone who will genuinely stand by you to support you is extremely rare. Siddiqi sahib is blessed with this exact rare virtue. My relationship with Siddiqi sahib is 35 years old. Over these many decades, I have seen Siddiqi sahib confront every single hardship of life with immense courage. He did not just build a guiding light for his own self; he maintained a deep passion to help and support other suffering individuals as well. He truly keeps their pain alive in his own heart. He is an exceptionally high-spirited person. My prayer to Allah is that He keeps him safe and healthy, and may Allah grant him the ultimate reward for all his good deeds. Ameen.

-Ikram Ullah Tariq
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