

Aftab-Shah: Magnificent Determination

I received the news that my brother, my very dear friend Amjad Siddiqi, wants to give his successful life story a book format. Upon hearing this, a desire arose in my heart to write down the pleasant and unpleasant aspects of his life that unfolded before me during our long, three-decade companionship. This would serve to reassure the general public that Amjad Siddiqi is not just an ordinary human being; rather, he is the second name for courage, bravery, morale, and steadfastness. Over the years, the suffering and hardships he endured were enough to make a mountain crumble and shake the foundations of any human being. However, in Pakistan "the city of the eagles" in the city of Sargodha, this servant of God was born with nerves so strong that he overcame every difficulty, shattered every pain and grief, and continued to move forward. He taught his contemporaries the lesson that no matter how difficult the situation, in whatever shape or form it presents itself, if it is faced with strong resolve, pure intentions, courage, and dedication, God's help and victory will ultimately lead to success. For a better future for himself and his family, Amjad Siddiqi made Saudi Arabia his second home in 1979. Allah Almighty blessed him, and he secured a job in the Arab Bank in the city of Riyadh. With immense dedication and hard work, he won the hearts of his seniors and juniors alike, carving out a distinct position for himself. Time was passing beautifully when a sudden calamity struck. In 1980, while crossing a street in Riyadh, a fast-moving car hit him, breaking his leg, and Amjad Siddiqi became bedridden. In 1981, Allah Almighty blessed him with the honor of performing Umrah and visiting the Rawdah (the resting place) of the Holy Prophet (PBUH). After visiting both holy sites, Amjad Siddiqi, filled with great joy and peace of mind, began his return journey from Riyadh to Medina. It was during this journey that his life completely changed. In the Saudi city of Buraidah, his car met with a tragic accident. As a result, the lower half of Amjad Siddiqi's body from the waist down became paralyzed, and a wheelchair became an essential part of his life. Although this was a highly depressing situation, it marked the beginning of a battle-tested life for him. This courageous man turned his physical weakness into his strength and resolved to start a new phase of life. Instead of living dependent on others, he vowed to become self-reliant and a source of support for others. Following this accident, Amjad Siddiqi was no longer a normal employee or servant for the bank. Consequently, the bank relieved him of his duties. Out of sympathy, they offered him a pension for a certain period, which a self-respecting man like Amjad could not accept. He wrote a direct application for his treatment to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd bin Abdulaziz, which was accepted, and his treatment continued in that hospital for a long time. Along with that, he kept contacting other hospitals worldwide wherever a glimmer of hope appeared, seeking to heal. During this journey, Amjad Siddiqi traveled alone to many countries in his wheelchair, risking his life on numerous occasions in international hospitals and laboratories for treatment and experimentation. Meanwhile, by the grace and blessings of Allah, his business continued to progress, and many other items were added to it. Now, there was a need for an independent commercial address, so he established his business office in the commercial center of Riyadh. From there, he started supplying various goods, which led to multiple visits to different cities in China. During this same era, he also invested heavily in Pakistan, which created employment opportunities for people. While in Saudi Arabia, when the Pakistan Investment Forum was formed, Amjad Siddiqi became one of its active members. He gained membership in the Lahore Chamber of

Commerce and Industry due to his investments in Pakistan. Recently, he added a factory in Lahore's Industrial City, and built a beautiful and modern commercial center alongside it. Human beings are the most beautiful creation of Allah, and within this creation, the heart holds a very special significance. Some humans are blessed by Allah Almighty with softer and more sensitive hearts than others. Amjad Siddiqi is one of those specially blessed individuals. He believes in helping needy people to the best of his capacity, regardless of their ethical, financial, or physical condition. It is perhaps because of this virtue that Allah Almighty is showering His blessings upon him. Amjad Siddiqi is blessed with two smart sons and a daughter, whom he raised with the best upbringing. May Allah Almighty grant both of them success in their lives and let them brighten the name of their country by following in their father's footsteps. Ameen. Amjad Siddiqi never allowed failure to come near him, whether it was providing medical aid, traveling to different countries, or organizing wheelchair marathons and social events—you will always find Amjad Siddiqi in the front row. It is this very passion and zeal that led him to be awarded the title of "One in a Million" in New York on Pakistan Day. This attribute is a matter of pride not only for Amjad Siddiqi but for the entirety of Pakistan. Our prayer is that Allah always remains merciful to him and blesses Amjad with further successes and happiness.

Ameen Ya Rabbul Alameen.