

Stocktaking

We are once again nearing the stressful period of stocktaking, financial presentation and auditing to evaluate the success or failure of our business ventures. Whilst we are busy with this, we should not forget the need for an infinitely greater stocktake. The stocktake of our progress through actions and deeds for the hereafter.

Umar *Radhiyallahu Anhu* has stated:

حَاسِبُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ قَبْلَ أَنْ تُحَاسَبُوا وَتَزِينُوا لِلْعَرْضِ الْأَكْبَرِ وَإِنَّمَا يَخْفَى الْحِسَابُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ عَلَى مَنْ حَاسَبَ نَفْسَهُ فِي الدُّنْيَا

Take a reckoning of yourselves before your reckoning is taken (on the day of Qiyamah) and adorn yourselves for the ultimate presentation (in the court of Allah). For verily, the reckoning of the day of Qiyamah will be easy only for the one who takes an account of himself in this world. (*Tirmizi*)

Ulama advise that on a daily basis before a person goes to bed one should reflect on his deeds and actions for that day. One should then evaluate whether his deeds are building his paradise or ruining his hereafter. Insha'Allah by adopting this practice one will discover a gradual but distinctly positive change in his life.

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