

1878



The Village of Nurs

1878

Badiuzzaman Said Nursi was born during the 93 War, Ottoman-Russian War, in the village of Nurs in the sub-district of Hizan of Bitlis province. He was the fourth children of his father Mirza Efendi and mother, Nuriye Hanım.



Molla Mehmed Emin Efendi's madrasah

1886

Young Said started his education life in Molla Mehmed Emin Efendi's madrasah...

1891

He completed three-month madrasah education as the student of Sheikh Muhammed Celali, in Beyazit Madrasah. Till this time young Said was already in a non-regular study for five years; however, his regular education with Sheikh Muhammed Celali, continued three months. This period was his basic education. However, as he continued, Said's knowledge of science and religion became deeper and wider.

1892

a) Said Nursi, came to be known as **"Molla Said-i Mashhur"**, Molla Said, the Famous, by public and was given the title of **"BADIUZZAMAN"**, the Wonder of the Age, by his teachers.

b) While he was living in seclusion in a mausoleum in Tillo, he gave his soup's grains to the ants that he thought were republicans. Years later, during a court, when asked his opinion about the regime of republicanism, he told this memory and explained that he did so as a reward for the ants' republicanism.

1895

Molla Said stayed in the residence of Bitlis governor, Ömer Pasha, for two years and benefitted from his rich library.



Tahir Pasha Residence, Van

1897

a) Upon the invitation of Van Governor Hasan Pasha, Molla Said moved to Van.

b) He stayed in the residence of Tahir Pasha who was assigned as the new Governor after Hasan Pasha. Said benefitted much from his library that was richly equipped with modern science books.

c) Molla Said continued to memorize books; he memorized approximately ninety books such as **"Sharh-ul Mawaqif"**, **"Sharh-ul Maqasid"** during the years he was in Van and he went through the entire list reciting each book by heart once every three months.



Old city of Van

1898

He built up his Horhor Madrasah in Van...

1899

He suddenly learnt that during a speech in the British House of Commons, showing the Qur'an in his hand, the British Secretary for the Colonies had declared: **"So long as the Muslims have the Qur'an, we shall be unable to dominate them. We must make them lose their love of it."** This event affected Badiuzzaman deeply. he said, **"I shall prove and demonstrate to the world that the Qur'an is an undying, inextinguishable Sun!"**

1906

His first works called **"Talikat"** and **"Kızıl İcaz"** were put down on paper.



The 'Sekerci Han', Fatih

1907

a) He travelled to İstanbul in order to deliberate with Sultan(King) Abdulhamit II, the need of establishing a university (called Madrasatu'z-Zahra) where the religious sciences and modern sciences would be taught side by side and **"combined"**, in the eastern provinces of Anatolia.

b) On the door of his room in the Sekerci Han he hung a sign which read: **"Here all questions are answered, all problems are solved, but no questions are asked."**

1908

a) He met the President of al-Azhar University in Egypt, Sheikh Muhammad Bahid. Bahid Efendi asked him: **"What is your opinion concerning Europe and the Ottoman State?"**

Badiuzzaman replied: **"The Ottoman State is pregnant with Europe, and it will give birth to a European state one day. And Europe is pregnant with Islam; one day it will give birth to an Islamic state."**

b) With some tricks, they sent him to the mental hospital. However, the mental doctor reported: **"If there is the tiniest trace of madness in Badiuzzaman, there is not a sane person in the world."**

c) Badiuzzaman published his advice and articles about Kurdish people and their needs in the **"Kürt Teavün and Terakki Gazetesi"** (Kurdish Cooperation and Progress Newspaper)

1909

a) One year ago Constitution-alism II was declared in the Ottoman Empire. Closely following this period, Badiuzzaman played a conciliating role in the famous 'thirty - first of March Incident'.

b) He performed a speech which yield the obedience of eight battalion of soldiers and published articles titled **"Kahraman Askerlerinize"** (To our heroic soldiers) ve **"Asakire Hitap"** (Address to our soldiers).

c) Badiuzzaman was arrested in order to be intimidated and sent to the Divan-ı Harb-i Örfi (Military Court). After the trial, he was found innocent and was acquitted.

1910

He returned from İstanbul to Van, by the way of Batum. He also visited Tiflis and had a conversation with a Russian policeman. Badiuzzaman predicted that a bright future would be coming for the Islamic World while at the same time Czar Russia, rapidly going to a socialist regime, would collapse and fall into pieces.



Umayyad Mosque, Damascus(Şam)

1911

a) After turning back to Van, he travelled throughout the tribes of Eastern Provinces, gave lessons on constitutionalism. He afterwards made a compilation of these groundbreaking lessons and published it in Turkish in 1913 under the title, **Munazarat**, or the Debates.

b) In the Umayyad Mosque, he gave his famous Damascus Sermon **"about the situation of Islamic World and the remedies"** to a congregation of ten thousand people, including one hundred scholars among them. Badiuzzaman continually repeated his firm conviction: **"The future shall belong to Islam, and Islam alone. And the truths of the Qur'an and belief shall be sovereign."**

c) Then, he went to İstanbul for the second time to consult with Sultan Mehmed Reşat to get official support and backing for the construction of the university in the East.

1912

a) Getting the promise from Sultan Reşad of fund to establish the Eastern University, he returned to Van and laid the foundations of his madrasah. In this madrasah, **"Arabic would be obligatory, Turkish necessary and Kurdish permissible"**. It would cure the two dire sicknesses of Islamic World:

- 1) It would extinguish racism in the Islamic World and constitute Islamic Unity,
- 2) It would combine the religious and modern sciences with joint teaching approach, where the former is the light of heart and the other is the light of reason...

b) He published his book **"Muhakemat"**

1913

He tried to prevent Sheikh Selim revolt in Bitlis...



Badiuzzaman is in the Eastern front

1914

Badiuzzaman participated in the World War I, in the Pasinler Front, as the voluntary regiment commander with his students in madrasah.

1915

In the war front, he began compiling **"İşarati'l-İcaz"** (Signs of Miraculousness) ...



(1878 - 1960)

1916

In the Eastern front, while struggling against Russians, Bitlis fell to Russians. Many of his students fell martyr and Badiuzzaman was captured and sent to a prison camp in Russia.

1918

a) He escaped and went to İstanbul.

b) On account of his devotion in the battle, the General Staff Office awarded Badiuzzaman a **"War Medal"**.

c) The rank for the prominent part of scholars, **"Makhrāj"**, was awarded to him by the Sheikh al-Islam.

d) Badiuzzaman was appointed to the **Darul-Hikmat'i'l-Islamiyya**, a learned council or **"Islamic Academy"**.

e) His work **"Signs of Miraculousness"** was published.

1920

a) Badiuzzaman featured as a founder member of the Green Crescent Society.

b) He published **"Khatuwat as-Sitta"** (The Six Steps) to put down the real face of the British force, which had already invaded İstanbul. He also published his works **"Sünûhat, Rumuz, Şuaat, Tuluat, İşarat, Hakikat Çekirdekleri** (Seeds of Reality) ...

c) Badiuzzaman supported National Struggle and declared a counter-fatwa declaring the Sheikhul-Islam's fatwa against National Struggle to be invalid.

d) He printed out two articles **"Kürtler ve Osmanlılık"** (Kurds and Ottomans) and **"Kürtler ve İslamiyet"** (Kurds and Islam), opposing some nationalist Kurdish pasha's signing an agreement with Armenians in Paris.

1921

When the British had invaded İstanbul, the chief cleric of the **Anglican Church**, arrogantly asked six questions about religion, he answered them...

1922

a) Upon the insistent demands of some national leaders in Ankara and a group of deputies of the National Assembly, Badiuzzaman moved to Ankara.

b) He was welcomed with a warm reception. Mounting the platform, he congratulated the veterans of the War of Independence and offered prayers.

c) He wrote **"Katre, Zeylül-Katre, Habbe, Zeylül-Habbe, Zerre, Şemme, Zeyil"** in Ankara...



Turkish National Grand Assembly Building, Ankara

1923

a) He noticed that some deputies neglected their prescribed prayers. So, he prepared and distributed a declaration about the importance of prescribed prayers and the social risks that would occur if The National G.A. deputies showed negligence and laxity in performing religious obligations, while National Assembly fought the War of Independence relying on the sense of **"religion"**.

b) Due to World War I, his Eastern University project, **"Madrasatu'z-Zahra"**, could not have been completed due to the lack of funds. His proposal to complete the building of university to the assembly was endorsed by 163 deputies.

c) As a result of his six-month observations in Ankara, he understood that the spiritual sicknesses in

social life could not be treated by the way of politics. In regard to the notice and advice of Our Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)'s hadith describing the signs of the end of time, he left Ankara.

d) As he was leaving Ankara, he also left Old Said to become New Said. The main difference between the Old and New Said was this: the former one had served religion by the way of telling the truth to the sultan and the governors; however, New Said would prefer to address and raise individuals one by one and build consciousness upon religious issues.

1925

a) To the fellows sent by Sheikh Said to demand Badiuzzaman's support for their revolt, he replied:

"Your struggle means to make one brother to kill another and it is fruitless, you should back off as soon as possible".

b) Although he had no connection with the Sheikh Said revolt and his opposition to the rebels was determined by the court, he was banished from Van to Burdur by the way of Trabzon, İstanbul and Antalya.



Barla

1926

a) Staying for eight months in Burdur and publishing **"The First Door of the Risale-i Nur"** (Nur'un İlk Kapsi), he was brought to Isparta to stay there for two months. Then, he was exiled to Barla where he would be obliged to reside for eight years.

b) The Risale-i Nur Collection, most of which was written in Barla and which Badiuzzaman explained as **"the result of my life and the cause of my happiness and the purpose of my nature..."** began to be written with the **"Tenth Word"**.

1927

The Words 1 to 9,18,20 to 22 and 25th were written.

1928

29th Word, some windows of 33th Word and 20th and 24th Letters were written.

1929

27th Word, windows of 33th Word and 1, 13, 19,27th Letters were written.

1930

2 to 6, 9, 16 and 17th Letters were compiled.

1931

The Addendum to the 16th Letter, the Second Part of 26th Letter and some parts of 28th Letter were written.

1932

1 to 7th Flashes and 26th Letters were written.

1933

8, 11 and 17th Flashes and The Addendum to 14th Word, 23th Letter and the rest of 28th Letter were compiled...

1934

a) Just because he had published religious and moral works and worked to save people from immorality and atheism, he was taken from Barla and exiled to Isparta to reside eight months.

b) A part of 29th Letter, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20-22, 24, 25 and 26th Flashes were written...

1935

a) Without any reason, Badiuzzaman and his 120 students were taken from their homes and arrested in Isparta. Then, they were brought to Eskişehir in the lorries and taken to court to be tried upon article 163 and were sent to Eskişehir prison.

b) Badiuzzaman lived so deeply in the Qur'an that he named prisons as the **"School of Joseph"** (Merdese-i Yusufiye)...

c) He wrote the Flashes 27 to 30.

1936

a) After serving the eleven-month sentence, Badiuzzaman was released from Eskişehir prison under the condition that he would have one-year home arrest in Kastamonu.

b) His life in Kastamonu would pass under great oppression and torment, much worse than the conditions of the prison. Being poisoned a few times, he would stand this life for eight years. However, suffering and tribulation is the indispensable property of the people struggling for the sake of Allah. Badiuzzaman stated: **"The variety of the tribulations seemed to me as the variety of music tunes"**...

c) Kastamonu Lahikası (Kastamonu Addendum) and 1st and 2nd Şua(Rays) were written.



The house he stayed in Afyon

All works of Badiuzzaman: The Risale-i Nur Collection



The house he stayed in Kastamonu

1937- 1942

3 to 5, 7(Supreme Sign), 8 and 10th Rays were written...

1943

a) Again, the secret power came on charge, Badiuzzaman and his students were gathered from various places of Anatolia to be sent to Denizli Court. Then, seventy of them were arrested and taken to Denizli prison.

b) 11 and 13th Rays were written.

1944

a) Staying in Denizli Prison for ten months, Badiuzzaman was found innocent and was released. However, his compulsory residence life in Emirdağ, which would continue for four years under tense surveillance, began.

b) He wrote 12th Ray.

1946

Risale-i Nur began to be copied by the duplicating machine...

1947

Risale-i Nur copies were sent to European countries and the USA for the first time...



The house he stayed in Afyon

1948

a) This time with the aim of destruction, Nur students were collected and sent to Afyon Prison, where Badiuzzaman would stay imprisoned for twenty months.

b) 14th Ray was written...

1949

a) On December, Badiuzzaman was released from prison to reside in Emirdağ compulsorily.

b) 15th Ray was written...

1951

He sent the book **"Zülfikar"** to Pope, the Religious Leader of Christians.

1952

To be taken to court for the treatise, **"The Guide for Youth"**, he came to İstanbul. He was welcomed with great attention of public and the trial ended up with his acquittal.

1953

a) He met with Athenagoras, the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of İstanbul, ...

b) He went to Isparta to settle down there... After this date, the stage of Third Said began...

1956

a) Afyon Court accepted the acquittal of all Risale-i Nur collection and decided all books to be given back to their owners.

b) The publication of the Risale-i Nur had been left free officially and began to be copied with the Latin alphabet in printing houses...

1957

Upon the invitation from the officers, Badiuzzaman laid the base of **"Isparta Military Brigade Mosque"**...



All works of Badiuzzaman: The Risale-i Nur Collection

1960

a) While residing in Isparta, Badiuzzaman instantly decided to go to Urfa. Upon his persistent demand, his students took him to Urfa, where he passed away, two days later, on 23rd of May 1960 on a Thursday night. He was buried in the Halili'r-Rahman Mosque yard.

b) After 27th May Military coup, his dead body was taken from his grave by dark hands and was sent to an unknown place.