

**With regards to the effects of sins upon the ability of the student of knowledge to memorise, 'Abdus Salaam ibn Burjis (d. 1425 AH) rahimahullaah said:**

Disobeying Allaah, the Most High, is an obstacle to attaining Sharee'ah knowledge - because it (Sharee'ah knowledge) is a *noor* (light) from Allaah which He casts into the hearts of whomever He wishes from His servants.

And *noor* (light) and *dhulmah* (darkness) do not come together in a heart.

Therefore ibn Mas'ood *radi Allaahu 'anhu* said:

*Indeed I consider that a man (might) forget knowledge which he has already learned because of a sin which he does.*

And may Allaah have mercy upon ash Shaafi'ee who said:

*I complained to Wakee' about my memorisation being bad*

*So he directed me to leave off sins*

*And he informed me that knowledge is a noor (light)*

*And the light from Allaah is not bestowed upon a person who is sinful*

Quoted in '*Awaa-iq ut talab* of 'Abdus Salaam ibn Burjiss *rahimahullaah* page 38, translated by Nasser ibn Najam