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## THE GREATEST OF ALLAH TA'ALA'S CREATION

At the break of dawn on Monday the 8th of Rabi-ul-Awwal, corresponding to April 570 A.D., in the Holy City of Makkah Mukarramah, in the house of Abu Taalib, the greatest of mankind, the leader of the progeny of Hazrat Aadam ؑ, Hazrat Muhammad Mustafa ؐ was born and entered this world.

Regarding the date of the blessed birth of Rasulullah ؐ, the view that he was born on the 12th of Rabi-ul-Awwal is the most well known view. However, according to the majority of the Muhadditheen and historians, the preferred view is that Rasulullah ؐ was born on the 8th of Rabi-ul-Awwal. (Sharhuz Zurqaani 1/246)

### THE DUA OF HAZRAT IBRAHIM ؑ

From the very inception, Allah ؑ blessed Rasulullah ؐ with His divine acceptance and support. Even before his blessed birth, there were many signs that manifested in the world which all indicated towards the coming of the final messenger, the seal of all the prophets, the greatest of Allah's ؑ creation, Hazrat Muhammad ؐ. Throughout his mubaarak life, the divine pleasure and assistance of Allah ؑ remained with him, until he finally reached the age of forty and Allah ؑ conferred prophethood to him.

Below are few narrations that give one a glimpse of some of the miracles that transpired when Hazrat Muhammad ؐ was ushered in the world. Each sign in itself indicated towards the fact that the darknesses of kufr (disbelief) and shirk would soon disappear and be replaced with the light of Imaan and guidance.

In the Hadith of Musnad Ahmad, Hazrat Abu Umaamah ؓ reports that he asked Rasulullah ؐ, "O Nabi of Allah ؑ! What was your beginning?" Rasulullah ؐ replied, "I am the dua of Hazrat Ibrahim ؑ, the glad tidings of Hazrat Isa ؑ, and the fulfilment of the dream of my mother in which she saw a light emerge from her which illuminated the castles of Syria." (Musnad Ahmad #22261 ; Majmauz Zawaaid #13842)

In this Hadith, the dua of Hazrat Ibrahim ؑ refers to the time when he and his son, Hazrat Ismail ؑ, completed the construction of the Ka'bah. Hazrat Ibrahim ؑ made dua for a messenger to be sent in his progeny who would guide his people towards Allah ؑ. This messenger was none other than Rasulullah ؐ.

The glad tidings of Hazrat Isa ؑ refer to the time when Hazrat Isa ؑ was sent to the Bani Isra'eel as a messenger, and he said to his people, "O Bani Isra'eel! I am the Rasul of Allah ؑ sent to you, confirming what came before me of the Tauraat and bringing glad tidings of a Rasul to come after me whose name will be Ahmad." (Surah Saff: 6) In these glad tidings, Hazrat Isa ؑ was referring to none other than Rasulullah ؐ.

'The fulfilment of the dream of my mother' refers to the extraordinary light that she was shown in a dream which illuminated for her the castles of Syria. This was a sign that she would soon give birth to the greatest of Allah's ؑ creation, whose light of guidance would reach Syria which had been a centre of guidance for thousands of years. It was also a sign that the people who held Baytul Muqaddas as their qiblah would also receive guidance from him and change their qiblah to his qiblah, the Baytullah in Makkah Mukarramah. Some ulama explain that apart from the light which she had seen in the dream, this Hadith could also refer to the light which she was shown at the time she gave birth to Rasulullah ؐ, as is reported in certain Ahaadith.

### THE LIGHT ILLUMINATING THE PALACES OF SYRIA

In a narration which Allamah Zahabi ؒ has declared authentic, Hazrat Irbaadh bin Saariyah ؓ relates that during the blessed birth of Rasulullah ؐ, his respected mother observed a noor that caused the palaces of Syria to become illuminated before her as a miracle of Rasulullah ؐ. (Taarihul Islam 1/42 ; Mustadrak Haakim #3566)

The palaces of Syria becoming illuminated with noor at the birth of Nabi ؐ was, in actual fact, an indication that Syria would be conquered by the Muslims. Hence, it was witnessed thereafter that the regions extending from Makkah Mukarramah to Syria were conquered by the Muslims in the very lifetime of Nabi ؐ.

Ka'b Ahbaar ؓ narrates that the following distinct signs of Nabi ؐ have been mentioned in the previous scriptures:

"Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah, will be born in Makkah Mukarramah, migrate to Yathrib (Madinah Munawwarah) and his reign will extend over Shaam (Syria)." (Sharhuz Zurqaani 1/222)

## THE LIGHT ILLUMINATING HIS HOME

At the time Rasulullah ﷺ entered this world, a light shone from him that filled the entire home. The mother of Hazrat Uthmaan bin Abul Aas ؓ, Faatimah bintu Abdillah, says, "At the time of the blessed birth of Rasulullah ﷺ, I was with his respected mother, Aaminah. I noticed that when she gave birth, a special light emerged from her with Rasulullah ﷺ and filled the entire house." She further says, "I also saw the stars stooping so low that I thought they would fall onto me." (*Fathul Baari* 6/675)

The bowing of the stars and their drawing closer to the earth was an indication that the darkness of kufr (disbelief) and shirk would soon disappear and the earth would soon be illuminated with the divine light of guidance, as Allah ﷻ says in the Holy Qur'aan: "Indeed a light of guidance and a clear book has come to you from Allah ﷻ, by means of which Allah ﷻ guides the one who seeks His pleasure and removes him from darkness (kufr) to light (imaan) by His will." (*Surah Maa'idah* 15/16)

## OTHER EVENTS SIGNALLING THE GREAT ARRIVAL

On the night of Rasulullah's ﷺ birth, a tremor struck the palace of Chosroes, causing fourteen towers of the palace to collapse. The fire that had perpetually blazed in the Persian fire-temple for a thousand years was abruptly extinguished. Similarly, the water of Lake Saawah unexpectedly dried. (*Fathul Baari* 6/675)

## THE OUTCRY OF THE JEWS

Hazrat Aaishah ؓ narrates:

There was a Jew residing in Makkah Mukarramah for business purposes. On the night Rasulullah ﷺ was born, he asked the Quraish whether any male child had been born that night. The Quraish replied that they did not know if any male child had been born. The Jew thus said, "Make enquiries regarding whether any male child was born last night. Certainly, I know that the prophet of this ummah was born last night. This child has a symbol (seal) of prophethood between his shoulders."

Immediately, the people went out to investigate this matter. They discovered that a male child was born to Abdullah bin Abdil Muttalib. The Jew asked to be taken along with them so that he may be shown the child. When he caught sight of the symbol (seal) of prophethood between the shoulders of the child, he fell down unconscious. As he regained consciousness, he said, "Prophethood has vanished from the Bani Isra'eel. O people of Quraish! By Allah! This infant will launch such an attack upon you that news of this attack will spread from east to west." (*Fathul Baari* 6/675)

## THE ESTEEMED POSITION OF RASULULLAH ﷺ

Apart from all these miracles which occurred at the time of the blessed birth of Rasulullah ﷺ, there were many other miracles that occurred thereafter throughout his mubaarak life. Similarly, the loving hand of Allah ﷻ was upon him, guiding him throughout every phase of his life, until even the kuffaar of Makkah Mukarramah all bore testimony that he

was the most truthful and most trustworthy. When passing through the valleys, the stones would at times make salaam to him. Likewise, the clouds and the trees would shade him when he travelled on business trips for Hazrat Khadijah ؓ prior to his appointment as the final Rasul of Allah ﷻ. The purpose of all these signs was for the entire ummah to know that he was the greatest of Allah's ﷻ servants, the beloved of Allah ﷻ and the leader of all the Ambiyaa and Rasuls.

## OUR LOVE FOR RASULULLAH ﷺ

After Allah ﷻ, our love for Rasulullah ﷺ should be the greatest. The love, kindness and compassion that Nabi ﷺ showed us (his ummah) is immeasurable and inconceivable. The blood that flowed from his mubaarak body in Taa'if, his mubaarak tooth that became shaheed at Uhud and the tears that flowed from his mubaarak eyes at the time of tahajjud for his ummah are well known.

Love demands that we remember him, obey him and fulfill what he wanted from us every day of our lives (not just on the 12th of Rabi-ul-Awwal). Why should we imitate the kuffaar in earmarking one day of the year for expressing our love for Rasulullah ﷺ? The kuffaar have reduced their parents to such a low position that they earmark just one day in the year (which they call 'mother's day' and 'father's day') to express their love and respect for their parents. We should not degrade the position of Rasulullah ﷺ by only remembering him on the 12th of Rabi-ul-Awwal.

Celebrating the birthday of Rasulullah ﷺ was neither practiced in the era of Rasulullah ﷺ, the Sahaabah ؓ, Taab'ieen, Tab-ut-Taab'ieen ؓ nor in the centuries that followed. It was only in the seventh century of Islam that king 'Arbal' initiated this practice. (*Fataawa Mahmoodiyah* 5/379) The mere coming of Rasulullah ﷺ into this world was a means of great blessings and mercy. In fact, the entire life of Rasulullah ﷺ was filled with blessings and mercy. Thus, the one who upholds every teaching of Rasulullah ﷺ and inculcates the mubaarak sunnah of Rasulullah ﷺ in every facet of his life will, insha Allah, also witness blessings and mercy in his life through the barakah of practicing upon the sunnah of Rasulullah ﷺ.

## HOW SHOULD WE SHOW OUR LOVE TO RASULULLAH ﷺ

How should we show our love to Rasulullah ﷺ? The answer is that we should emulate his mubaarak sunnah in all facets of our lives and not disobey him in any way. We should make the things that were beloved to him beloved to us, and the things that were disliked to him disliked to us. We should live and die for his mission of spreading Allah's ﷻ Deen to the four corners of the globe, and we should adopt his soft and gentle character when dealing with the creation. We should deal with the young and old, the learned and ignorant, family and friends and even the kuffaar, in the soft and gentle manner in which he dealt with them, winning them towards Islam. This was the way in which the Sahaabah ؓ emulated Rasulullah ﷺ and sacrificed their lives for his mission. Below are some of the mubaarak sunnats of Rasulullah ﷺ which Rasulullah ﷺ lived his life by and imparted to the ummah.



## SALAAH IN THE LIFE OF RASULULLAH ﷺ

Hazrat Aswad ؓ reports, "I once asked Hazrat Aaishah ؓ regarding the conduct of Rasulullah ﷺ at home. She replied, 'He used to be in the service of his mubaarak household (assisting them with the household chores). When the time of salaah would come, he would immediately proceed for salaah.'" (Bukhaari #676)

In one narration, it is recorded that when he would hear the azaan, he would immediately proceed to the Musjid i.e. when he heard the call of Allah ﷻ, he would immediately leave the home and proceed to the Musjid to answer the call of Allah ﷻ. At that moment he would not allow any other relationship to become an obstacle from fulfilling the command of Allah ﷻ. (Bukhaari #5363)

## THE HUMILITY OF RASULULLAH ﷺ

Hazrat Aaishah ؓ was once asked, "What would Rasulullah ﷺ do at home?" She replied, "He used to sew his clothes, mend his shoes and he used to attend to those tasks within the home which the men (of Sahaabah ؓ) would attend to within their homes." (Musnad Ahmad #24903)

In another Hadith, it is reported that Hazrat Aaishah ؓ was once asked, "What would Rasulullah ﷺ do within the home?" She replied, "He was a man from among the men. He would inspect his clothing in order to see if there were lice on it, he would milk his goats, and fulfil all his worldly tasks by himself." (Musnad Ahmad #26194)

'He was a man from among the men' means that despite him being the greatest of Allah's ﷻ creation, he would not consider himself to be different from others. Rather, he would humbly carry out the household chores and fulfil his worldly needs by himself just as the Sahaabah ؓ would attend to the chores within their homes.

Hazrat Shaikh Moulana Muhammad Zakariyya ؓ mentioned, "Rasulullah ﷺ did not have any pride in him nor did he feel it below his dignity to do the household chores or fulfil his worldly needs by himself." (Khasaail-e-Nabawi pg. 309)

## THE NOBLE CHARACTER OF RASULULLAH ﷺ

Rasulullah ﷺ was sent as a source of mercy for the entire world. Every word that he spoke and every action that he carried out during his mubaarak lifetime was a source of comfort for humanity at large and a means of acquiring the mercy and blessings of Allah ﷻ. Through his mubaarak Ahaadith and beautiful teachings, he encouraged his ummah to show compassion and mercy to every creation of Allah ﷻ at every moment and to assist mankind at the time of need.

On the occasion when Rasulullah ﷺ received nubuwat, he was overcome by concern in regard to whether he would be able to fulfil this great and mammoth task. At that juncture, Hazrat Khadijah ؓ consoled him in the following words which clearly highlight the manner in which his mubaarak heart was always filled with the eagerness to assist the creation, even prior to nubuwat. She said to him:

"You are the one who maintains good ties with your family.

You always speak the truth and you carry the burden of those people who are in difficulty. You earn and provide for those people who do not possess wealth, you extend hospitality to all your guests and you always assist those who are afflicted with natural disasters and calamities." (Bukhaari #4953)

On one occasion Hazrat Aaishah ؓ was asked regarding the noble character of Rasulullah ﷺ. She said, "His character was an exposition of the teachings of the Qur'aan." (Musnad Ahmad #24601)

## THE QUALITY OF FORGIVING

Hazrat Aaishah ؓ has mentioned that apart from jihaad, Rasulullah ﷺ never hit any person with his blessed hand, neither a woman nor a servant. Furthermore, if Rasulullah ﷺ was harmed (verbally or physically) by any person, he never took revenge. However, if any law of Allah ﷻ was broken, he would seek retribution for the sake of Allah ﷻ. (Saheeh Muslim #2328)

When dealing with the creation, Rasulullah's ﷺ compassion surpassed all bounds and limits. Even on the occasion of Fath-e-Makkah (the conquest of Makkah Mukarramah) when Rasulullah's ﷺ victory was at its peak, Rasulullah ﷺ entered Makkah Mukarramah as a compassionate, loving and forgiving servant of Allah ﷻ. On that day, Rasulullah ﷺ made an open declaration of forgiveness for all. It was this mubaarak quality of compassion and forgiveness that won the hearts of the enemies of Islam and caused them to embrace Islam.

## THE INTENSE LOVE OF RASULULLAH ﷺ FOR HIS UMMAH

Hazrat Anas ؓ reports that Rasulullah ﷺ said, "Every Nabi was blessed by Allah ﷻ with a special dua which was guaranteed acceptance. Every Nabi made his dua in this world for his ummah, and I wish to reserve my special dua for the day of Qiyaamah so that I may intercede to Allah ﷻ on behalf of my entire ummah." (Saheeh Muslim #341)

Rasulullah's ﷺ deep and intense love for his ummah can never ever be comprehended. It is a love that far surpasses the love of any mother for her infant child. The following incident presents a glimpse of his extreme love for his entire ummah.

Hazrat Aaishah ؓ reports that she had once seen Rasulullah ﷺ in a happy state. She said to him, "O Rasul of Allah ﷻ, make a special dua for me." Rasulullah ﷺ began making dua in the following words, "O Allah, forgive Aaishah! Forgive her for her past and future, open and secret sins!" Hazrat Aaishah ؓ became extremely pleased and began to laugh out of joy, to such an extent that she placed her mubaarak head on her lap. Rasulullah ﷺ, noticing her extreme happiness over the dua he made for her, said, "O Aaishah, are you happy on account of the dua which I made for you?" Hazrat Aaishah ؓ replied, "Certainly I am happy! Why should I not be happy, whereas you made such a special dua for me today?" Rasulullah ﷺ then said, "I swear by Allah! After every salaah, I make this special dua for my entire ummah." (Saheeh ibnu Hibbaan #7111)

## THE COMPASSION OF RASULULLAH ﷺ FOR THE ORPHANS

Hazrat Abu Hurairah ؓ reports that Rasulullah ﷺ said, "The best home of the believers is the home wherein an orphan child is taken care of with kindness and compassion, and the worst home of the believers is the home wherein an orphan child is ill-treated by the inmates of the home." (*Ibnu Maajah #3679*).

In one Hadith, Rasulullah ﷺ mentioned, "The one who takes care of the orphan and looks after him will be this close to me in Jannah." Saying this, Rasulullah ﷺ brought his two fingers, the index finger and the middle finger, close to each other, showing the proximity they will enjoy with him in the Aakhirat. (*Bukhaari #6005*)

Rasulullah ﷺ was an embodiment of compassion, love and mercy. Allah ﷻ bears testimony towards this fact in the Holy Qur'aan saying, "We have not sent you except as a mercy for the worlds." A young Sahaabi, Hazrat Bishr ؓ, narrates the following incident regarding the mercy Rasulullah ﷺ showed towards orphans:

"After the battle of Uhud, I met Rasulullah ﷺ and asked, 'O Rasul of Allah ﷻ, where is my father?' Rasulullah ﷺ informed me that my father had become shaheed during the battle. I then began to cry profusely. Rasulullah ﷺ embraced me and affectionately placed his mubaarak hand on my head. He then carried me while saying, 'Are you not happy that from now onwards, I am your father, and Aaishah ؓ is your mother.'" (*Majmauz Zawaaid #13517*)

## KINDNESS TOWARDS WIVES AND SUBORDINATES

Rasulullah ﷺ commanded the men of this ummah to treat their women kindly. On the occasion of Hajjatul Wadaa, Rasulullah ﷺ said, "Accept my advice in regard to treating your women compassionately." (*Tirmizi #1163*) In one Hadith, Rasulullah ﷺ said, "The best among you are those who are good to their wives and I treat my wives the best." (*Tirmizi #3895*) During his final illness, before departing from this world, Rasulullah ﷺ said, "Be punctual on your salaah and treat your slaves kindly." (*Ibnu Maajah #2697*)

## LOVE FOR THE MUBAARAK SUNNAH

Hazrat Anas ؓ reports, "Rasulullah ﷺ once said to me, 'O my beloved son! If you are able to spend the morning and evening in the condition that there is no ill feeling (and malice) in your heart for any person, then do so.' Rasulullah ﷺ thereafter said to me, 'O my beloved son! That (i.e. not harboring ill feelings and malice for people) is my sunnah (my blessed way), and the one who revives my sunnah has love for me, and the one who has love for me will be with me in Jannah.'" (*Tirmizi #2678*)

Emphasizing the importance of holding onto the sunnah, Imaam Maalik ؓ quoted the statement of Hazrat Umar bin Abdil Azeez ؓ:

Hazrat Umar bin Abdil Azeez ؓ said, "Rasulullah ﷺ and the righteous Khulafaa (Khulafaa-e-Raashideen and the Sahaabah ؓ) after him showed us the mubaarak sunnah and the way of Deen. In order to follow the Qur'aan Majeed, it will be necessary for one to hold firmly to the mubaarak sunnah of

Rasulullah ﷺ. Practicing on the mubaarak sunnah is the only way to show complete obedience to Allah ﷻ and strengthen one's Deen. After the mubaarak sunnah has been shown to us by Rasulullah ﷺ, the righteous Khulafaa and the Sahaabah ؓ, it is not permissible for any person to change the mubaarak sunnah practices or to think of introducing anything new in Deen that opposes these sunnah practices. The one who follows the mubaarak sunnah will be rightly guided, and the one who seeks the divine assistance of Allah ﷻ through following the mubaarak sunnah will receive the divine assistance of Allah ﷻ. The one who abandons the way of the mubaarak sunnah will be treading a path which is not the path of the believers. Allah ﷻ will leave him in the path he has chosen and enter him into Jahannum, and how evil an abode it is!" (*Ad-Deebaaq-ul-Muzahhab 1/115-116*)

Hazrat Sufyaan bin Uyaynah ؓ would say, "Rasulullah ﷺ is the true gauge of success. Every aspect of a person's life should be compared to the mubaarak life of Rasulullah ﷺ, whether relating to his noble character, lifestyle, mannerisms and external appearance. Whichever aspect of one's life conforms to the mubaarak way of Rasulullah ﷺ, it will gain acceptance in the court of Allah ﷻ, and whichever aspect opposes his mubaarak way, it will be rejected by Allah ﷻ." (*Al-Jaami li-Akhlaaq-ir-Raawi Wa-Aadaab-is-Saami 1/79*)

## THE MUBAARAK APPEARANCE OF RASULULLAH ﷺ

Hazrat Baraa bin Aazib ؓ relates, "Rasulullah ﷺ was a man of medium height (however, slightly taller than medium height), he had broad shoulders (and a broad chest) and he had dense hair which passed his mubaarak ear-lobes. He wore a pair of clothes which had red stripes on it (i.e. a red-striped lungi and shawl). I never saw anyone more handsome than him (i.e. Sayyiduna Rasulullah ﷺ)." (*Shamaail Tirmizi #3*)

Hazrat Aaishah ؓ reports, "It was not the nature of Rasulullah ﷺ to talk indecently, nor did he engage himself in the use of obscene language, nor did he shout and talk in the bazaars (which is against dignity). He did not avenge a bad deed with a bad deed, but forgave it and thereafter did not even mention it." (*Shamaail Tirmizi #330*)

In one Hadith, Hazrat Ali ؓ was asked regarding the life of Rasulullah ﷺ. He mentioned that Rasulullah ﷺ completely refrained from three things: 1) From quarrels and arguments; 2) From having pride and thinking himself to be better than others; 3) From engaging himself in vain speech and futile pursuits. (*Shamaail Tirmizi #334*)

It is related from Hazrat Jaabir bin Samurah ؓ that he said, "I once saw Rasulullah ﷺ on the night of a full moon. On that night he wore red-striped clothing. I looked at the full moon and then I looked at Rasulullah ﷺ again and again. Ultimately I came to the conclusion that Rasulullah ﷺ was more handsome, radiant and beautiful than the full moon." (*Shamaail Tirmizi #9*)

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