



Bismillah-ir Rahman-ir Raheem

[In the name of Allah the Beneficent the Merciful]

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PROPHET MUHAMMAD (pbuh) ***The Final Messenger of God***

"Bismillah-ir-Rahmannir-Raheem.

- 1. 'Iqra' bismi Rabbilkallazi khalaq,*
- 2. Khalakal- 'insaana min 'alaq.*
- 3. 'Iqra' wa Rabbukal'Akram-,*
- 4. 'Allazi'allama bil-Qalam,-*
- 5. 'Allamal-insaana maa lam ya' lam."*

(Holy Qur'an: 96: 1-5)

Above are the first five verses of Divine Revelation in 610 AD.

We must get an appreciative glimpse of Prophet Muhammad for his model personality, his practical teachings, and his exemplary way of life; and his proven formula that will provide us with the template for peace, success and salvation.

Prophet Muhammad came as the saviour and liberator of mankind from those selfish people who had wealth, power and greed.

Practices in Arabia Pre-Muhammad		Practices in Islam After Muhammad
True Concept of God - Lost	}	True Concept of God Restored
Ignorance and Darkness		Widespread Knowledge and Light practised
Barbarism and Ruthlessness		Kindness and Mercy now practised
Sexual Slavery, Nudity and Persecution of Women/Girls		Women's Status and Rights Given universal significance

Usury and Exploitation	}	Justice and Fairness
Fear and Terror		Peace and Security
Class and Colour		Love and Brotherhood
Discrimination		within Mankind

When Prophet Muhammad was aged 40, he was appointed by God as His Prophet to mankind and this message came through Angel Gabriel. Angel Gabriel visited Prophet Muhammad regularly for almost 23 years, delivering all the verses of the Qur'an which Prophet Muhammad recited and his scribes wrote them down almost immediately.

Finally, 23 years later Angel Gabriel delivered the message that God has decided and decreed that Prophet Muhammad shall be the Final of all Prophets. This decree has been recorded in the Qur'an at 33:40 that Prophet Muhammad is the "*Khatam Nabiyeen*" meaning that God has sealed off (permanently ceased) appointment of prophets –

"40. Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of prophets. And Allah is ever Knower of all things."

God has also perfected Islam as a religion and this is stated in the Qur'an at 5:3 –

"3.This day have I perfected for you your religion and completed My favour to you and chosen for you Islam as a religion...."

There will be no recall of any past prophet and no introduction of any new prophet as of that moment forever into the future till the Last Day.

Prophet Muhammad did not come just for Arabs but he came for the world in sharp contrast to previous prophets who came expressly for their own communities. When we consider Prophet Abraham's descendants, he had just two sons, one from each wife. His sons were Ishmael and Isaac. All prophets before Prophet Muhammad were from the line of Isaac, the second son, whereas Prophet Muhammad was the only prophet from the line of Ishmael the first son.

Prophet Muhammad was the last of 124,000 prophets who came to many communities since Adam, the first prophet.

Prophet Muhammad brought religious laws and values from Allah and not from people on earth. His way of life was directly from Divine Guidance. Prophet Muhammad came for the long term for permanency of his

messages and not short term messages like previous prophets; to be superseded by another prophet. He brought permanent guidelines and solutions written in the Qur'an and not just temporary suggestions.

Prophet Muhammad addressed all people in society: the rich, the poor, the white-skinned and the coloured-skinned, the educated and the ignorant peoples. He addressed all aspects of human life. He made clear in his preaching that he came for the entire world and that all his guidance came from God, Who is the Best Knower.

All these originated over 1,500 years ago and still currently valid. The Qur'an is also the final scripture and shall never be superseded by any other scripture. It is a perfect scripture which needs no editing or revision. The Qur'an is locked in its text and general construction with everything in multiples of 19. This is stated in the Qur'an at 74: 30 as -

"30 Over it are nineteen."

Prophet Muhammad came and gave us the best values of life 1,500 years ago, which we enjoy and benefit today and will continue to do so for as long as this world exists. Before Prophet Muhammad, religion had no values to practical life. After Prophet Muhammad, religion makes every aspect of life better as each day progresses.

In a nutshell, Prophet Muhammad's guidance covered all aspects of life such as:

Social life, Politics and Good Governance, Commerce and Economy, Law and Justice, Human Rights and Values, Personal Hygiene, Ethics and Etiquette and – Knowledge and Learning.

In his personal life Prophet Muhammad's character constituted:

Simple habits, no material temptations, he liked tasty food, he liked beauty of flowers, he liked using perfume, he never scolded anybody and not even his servants, he always sat with all the people and declined special seat for himself, he declined to be given the status of King of Arabia although he had total control of Arabia. When Prophet Muhammad died, his only personal possessions were a mattress made of date leaves, his water-bag made from goatskin and his shield.

After Prophet Muhammad's death the entire world's people were left with the following gains as his treasures to them all:

- ⇒ Islam, as a perfect and complete religion and the final revealed religion directly from God.

- ➔ The Qur'an, as a complete scripture and the final revealed scripture directly from God.
- ➔ The Hadith, as original book of reference as precedence on his actions and his answers to questions on spiritual matters.
- ➔ His *Sunnat* as Muslims' code of practice.

As the ultimate head and controller of entire Arabia, here are some of the things that Prophet Muhammad did:

1. He forgave the people of Taif who wounded him and chased him out of the city.
2. He ordered kindly treatment for captives; despite they were the very people who had inflicted insults and injuries to him.
3. After the conquest of Mecca, he proclaimed general amnesty to the people who persecuted and tortured him and his followers.
4. He did not show ruthless power, he did not have feelings of revenge and he did not order plundering of their property.
5. Victory meant humility to God.
6. He sent envoys to all major centres around Arabia and so became the first person in the world to dispatch diplomats (with credentials) to another country.

Prophet Muhammad was also the perfect exemplar. He demonstrated his principles: These are all recorded in the leading *Hadith* in which he practised what he preached.

Prophet Muhammad had the following key achievements:

1. He received Divine Revelations through Angel Gabriel and witnessed by his close followers.
2. He communicated to all people in his generation regardless the people were young or old, rich or poor.
3. He explained the Divine Messages making sure people understood.
4. He trained his close companions.

Prophet Muhammad delivered the following rights to women:

1. The right to live.
2. Having equal social rights.
3. The right of inheritance.
4. The right to be maintained by her husband.
5. The right to own any kind of property.
6. The right to have education.
7. The right of equality in law.
8. The right to privacy and chastity.
9. The right to personal security and personal protection.

Prophet Muhammad delivered the following rights to men:

1. To remember that whilst a man has rights over his wife, his wife also has rights over him.
2. Man has the right to take a wife but she also has rights to live in the same house as her husband, to be fed the same food as her husband, to be given the same good clothes as he wears and to have same protection as he has for himself and to ask him for kindness.
3. Not to ill-treat the wife as she is his equal partner.
4. The man has the right to stop his wife making friends with anybody that he does not approve.

The Qur'an makes very clear that Prophet Muhammad was like a light-giving sun. The Qur'an reads at 33:46 -

"46. And as an inviter to Allah by His permission, and as a light-giving sun."

We are told that the sun will rise from the West. Today the spread of Islam has been recognized as the "sun" rising in the West.

Islam has become the fastest and the widest spreading religion in all Western countries. Statistics show that in USA, Canada, England, former Russian countries and the other European Union countries, Islam has continued with the momentum as the fastest spreading religion ever known.

The sun is now rising in the West.

After considering the greatness of Prophet Muhammad, it is no wonder that when we talk about Prophet Muhammad, we are compelled to respect him with the statement:

"May Peace and Blessings of Allah be Upon Him."

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