

COMSATS University Islamabad, Virtual Campus

HUM112 Islamic Studies

Lecture 11 Handouts

Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)

Allah (SWT) has sent a manual for mankind in the form of the Holy Quran. When we follow the manual, our lives remain smooth, but when we refuse to follow it then our lives begin to malfunction. As a result, we face difficulties and problems. In this instance, we ask this question to God, "Why Me"? And the simple answer to that is you are not following the manual.

Allah (SWT) in the Quran says, "Whatever misfortune befalls you, it is because of what your hands have earned and Allah (SWT) pardons much". Allah (SWT) commands us to follow His rules along with the reasons and benefits of following those rules. For example, about Salah (prayer) 5 times a day, Allah (SWT) said in the Quran,

"Prayer, it prevents you from evil and bad deeds." [Surah Ankaboot: 45]

So, if our prayers are not preventing us from evil deeds, then there must be something wrong with our prayers.

Similarly, Allah (SWT) says about fasting,

"Fasting has been prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you so that you may become people of piety or righteous". [Surah Al-Baqarah: 183]

In our lives, we have been through two different things: One is test and the other is punishment. We face punishment due to our own sins and face tests to raise our status. Because of those tests, sometimes we get closer to Allah (SWT) and sometimes astray from Him while there is no greater punishment than this. Wealth, children, health, etc. are tests from Allah (SWT) that whether you use them in their real means (prescribed by Allah (SWT)) or in disobeying Him.

Allah (SWT) has put tranquility in the hearts of momineen (pious people) regardless of the external chaos or factors. Increase dosage of worship can scrub sins from our hearts and a time would come where we could taste the "halawatul Iman" the sweetness of faith, where the act of worship itself becomes sweet. Some scholars say that sometimes people worship to please Allah (SWT) while some people do acts of worship for Jannah. Both acts have permissible as Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) himself prayed to God, "O Allah (SWT) save from the hell-fire.".

While some people perform acts of worship because they love to do so. They find immense pleasure in worship. As Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "The coolness of my eyes is in Salah (prayer)".

Non-Muslims' Views about Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)

- Michael H. Hart, a Jewish historian listed Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) as the first
 most influential person in his book, "The Most Influential persons in Human History".
 He stated further, "My choice of Mohammad (PBUH) to lead the list of the world's
 most influential persons may surprise some readers and may be questioned by
 others, but He was the only man in history who was supremely successful on both
 the religious and secular level".
- Mahatma Gandhi when closed the second volume of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)'s biography he said, "I was sorry there was not more for me to read of that great life".
- As per the opinion of George Bernard Shaw, "I have always held the religion of Mohammad (PBUH) in high estimation because of its wonderful vitality. It is the only religion which appears to me to possess that assimilating capacity to the changing phase of existence which can make itself appeal to every age. I have studied him – the wonderful man and in my opinion, far from being an anti-Christ, He (Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)) must be called the savior of humanity".
- Malcom X said, "Try to defame Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) is just like spitting on the Sun".
- Thomas Carlyle said, "The lies (Western slander) which well-meaning zeal has heaped around this man (Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)) are disgraceful to ourselves only".
- W. Montgomery Watt wrote books about Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). He said, "to suppose Mohammad (PBUH) an impostor raises more problem that it solves".
- As per the opinion of Dr. William Draper, four years after the death of Justinian, A.D. 569, was born in Makkah, in Arabia, the man who, of all men, has exercised the greatest influence upon the human race.... To be the religious head of many empires, to guide the daily life of one-third of the human race, may perhaps justify the title of a messenger of God.
- Alphonse de LaMartaine praised Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) in such a manner, "If greatness of purpose, the smallness of means, and astonishing results are the three criteria of a human genius, who could dare compare any great man in history with Mohammad (PBUH)? The most famous men created arms, laws and empires only. They founded, if anything at all, no more than material powers which often crumbled away before their eyes. This man moved not only armies, legislation, empires, peoples, dynasties, but millions of men in one-third of the then inhabited world; and more than that, he moved the altars, the gods, the religions, the ideas, the beliefs, and the souls".
- Leo Tolstoy said, "Mohammad (PBUH) has always stood higher than the Christianity.
 He does not consider God as a human being and never makes himself equal to God.
 Muslims worship nothing except God and Mohammad (PBUH) is his messenger.
 There is not any mystery and secret in it."
- And finally, Allah (SWT) said, "We have exalted your mention and your mention will always remain."

Allah (SWT) promised the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) that "I will make your zikr (remembrance) high".

"Allah (SWT) and Angels, they send peace and blessings upon Prophet Mohammad (PBUH), O you who believe you should also send peace and blessings upon Prophet (PBUH)". [Surah Al-Ahzaab: 56]

One of the best dua (prayer) is to send blessings upon Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). There is a Sahih Hadith that once a person came to Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) and said, "Ya Rasool Allah, when I make dua (prayer) I praise Allah (SWT) and then send peace and blessings upon you while peace and blessings upon you is one-fourth (1/4) of my dua (prayer)." Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "If you do more than that then what is the harm in it? He said, "Okay, Ya Rasool Allah I will do one-third (1/3)." Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "What if you do more than that". He said, "Ya Rasool Allah I will do half (1/2) of my dua (prayer) as peace and blessings upon you". Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "What if you do more than that". He said, "Ya Rasool Allah, I will ask no dua (prayer) except sending peace and blessings upon you" Then Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "If you will do that Allah (SWT) will fulfill your wishes even without asking."

Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) is the best creation of Allah (SWT). Allah (SWT) says,

"His (Prophet) example is the best one". [Surah Al-Ahzaab:21]

Allah (SWT) has used the word "Azeem" for the character of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). At another place, Allah (SWT) says, "Who-so-ever obeys Allah (SWT) and the Messenger, He will have tremendous success." A success whose attributes will be Azeem. Scholars perceived it as you will get success both in this life and after death.

Now, as we have built our foundation on three principles, Belief in Allah (SWT), Belief in His Messenger (PBUH), Belief in His Book. Now a question comes, Is Islam rational or blind following? The answer is, it is both at the same time. Quran continuously pointed towards Aaqil (wise), those who think, those who observe, reflect, ponder and see. Why? So, that you could come to the realization that Allah (SWT) is the truth;the Quran is the word of God and Mohammad (PBUH) is the last Prophet of Allah (SWT). So now, there is no choice but to obey Allah (SWT).