

# The Prophetic Character

*Verily you have a sublime character*

# The Prophetic Character

- The prophetic character can be described as nothing less than perfection.
- Allah (swt), the most truthful describes his Messenger (pbuh) in this way.
- His character was the prime factor which caused people to come to Islam.
- This character was present with the Messenger (pbuh) before he announced prophet hood.

# The prophetic character in the Qur'an

- **When Allah (swt) described his prophets and messengers in the Qur'an, he used different descriptions. For example:**
- **Isma'il (as): Allah (swt) says:**
  - *And mention in the Qur'an Isma'il. Verily! He was true to what he promised, and he was a Messenger (and) a Prophet (54:19)*
- **Musa (as): Allah (swt) says:**
  - *And mention in the Qur'an Musa. Verily! He was chosen and he was a Messenger (and) a Prophet" ( 51:19).*
- **Ibrahim (as): Allah (swt) says:**
  - *And of Ibrahim who conveyed all what Allah ordered him to do or convey" (37:53).*

- But when Allah (swt) describes our Messenger (pbuh) in the Qur'an, he decides to choose his perfect character.

Allah (swt) says in the Qur'an:

*And indeed you have a sublime (azeem) character (4:68)*

- The word that Allah (swt) has decided to use is Azeem (great).
- **Why was this?** It was because the character of the Messenger (pbuh) complied with the Qur'an.
- **Aisha (ra)** was asked about the character of the Prophet (pbuh)  
She replied:

كان خلقه القرآن

# Honesty

- If we look at someone's face, is it possible for us, as human beings, to know whether that person is honest or not? Of course not! Yet, **do you know that some people embraced Islam simply because they viewed the Prophet's face (pbuh)?**
- A man named **Abdullah Ibn Salaam**, who was a former Jew, said, "When I came to see him I kept gazing at his face and I just knew that this person could not be a liar; his face suggested honesty, which was why I believed in him".

- Before the announcement of Prophet hood, the Messenger (pbuh) was given the titles:
  - Al Amin (trustworthy)
  - Asaadiq (honest)
- On the night of migration, the Messenger (pbuh) was instructing Ali (ra) on giving back those things that people had left with him in trust.
- Would we do that if we were in his position and people were kicking us out of our hometown and planning to kill us?

# Smiling

- Sahaba say, "The Prophet was always seen with a smile on his face, and was always cheerful."
- Apart from the following situations, the Prophet was always smiling:
  1. whenever a revelation descended.
  2. whenever he preached to the people.
  3. during his battles in Allah's cause.

# His patience and tolerance.

- Aisha (RA) said, "I once asked him: 'O Messenger of Allah, which day was the hardest upon you? Was it the day of Uhud?'"  
"No, Aisha", he said, "It was the day I went to Ta'if".
- The Prophet (pbuh) headed to Ta'if to invite its people to Islam. The whole town stood in two lines and began to pelt him with stones, sand, and bricks.
- The Prophet (pbuh) passed through them, amidst all this pain and insult. The face of Zaid Bin Haritha, who was trying to prevent the stones from reaching the Prophet (pbuh), was drenched with blood, and the Prophet's feet were bleeding.
- "By Allah, I did not recover until I reached Qarn al-Tha'alib."

- The angel in charge of the mountains said,  
'O Muhammad, Allah has sent me to you so that you may order me to do what you wish. If you wish that I should bring together the two mountains that stand opposite to each other outside of Ta'if to crush them in between, I would do that".
- Note how tolerant and patient the Prophet (pbuh) was. His answer to the angel in charge of the mountains was,  
"No, I rather hope that Allah will produce from their descendants, people who will worship Allah."
- The angel replied:  
• "So truthful is The One Who has named you the compassionate and merciful,".
- He marvelled at the tolerance and patience of the Prophet (pbuh). Can anyone believe this! The angels themselves found his tolerance and patience astounding.

# Forgiveness

- The day of the **Conquest of Makkah** proved how forgiving the Prophet (pbuh) was. For over twenty years, the people of Makkah did him a great deal of harm and refused to listen to him, and yet, when he travelled back, he told them **"you are free to go."**
- Though the Prophet (pbuh) had showed a great deal of forgiveness, some were still bearing hostility against him. One of those was **Fudhala**. The Prophet (pbuh) was doing tawaf around the Ka'ba.
- With a dagger hidden under his clothes, **Fudhala** approached the Prophet (pbuh).
  - Once he reached him, the Prophet (pbuh) knew his purpose. Turning towards him, the Prophet spoke with a smile on his face, **"What are you up to, Fudhala?"**

"Nothing, just praising Allah," replied **Fudhala**.

"Have fear from Allah, **Fudhala**," said the Prophet (pbuh).

- The Prophet (pbuh) raised his hand, laid it on **Fudhala's** chest, and continuously rubbed his heart before saying, "Seek forgiveness from Allah, **Fudhala**."

**Fudhala** said:

- "Before the Prophet put his hand on my chest, he was the most loathsome person on earth to me, but once he took his hand back, he became the most beloved person on earth to my heart."