Lesson 14: MUHAMMAD صَلُواللَّهُ عَلِيهِ وسَلَّمُ THE LAST MESSENGER

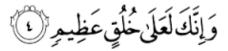
We have learned that Allah سبحانه وتعالى has sent many prophets and messengers in the past. All of them taught the message of Islam. Some of them received the books of Allah سبحانه وتعالى. However, after some time, the message was lost or corrupted. People started committing *Shirk* and *Kufr*. The prophets came to teach *Tawhid*, but their followers started worshipping them as gods, or sons of God, or even incarnations of God.

Muhammad معالم , to all humanity for all times to come. Muhammad was born in Makkah on 12 Rabi al-Awwal, 13 Before Hijrah (22 April 571 CE). At the age of forty, Allah معالم chose him as His messenger and gave him the revelation of the Qur'an. He preached thirteen years in Makkah, but only a few Makkans accepted Islam. After thirteen years, he was invited to migrate (make Hijrah) to Madinah. Most of the people of Madinah accepted Islam and accepted him as their leader. For ten years, he struggled against the Kuffar, the Munafiqun and the Jews, who opposed and fought against him. Allah gave him a clear victory against His enemies and made Islam victorious.

Prophet Muhammad ما taught the religion of Islam. It is the same religion which had been taught by all the prophets. The Islam taught by Rasulullah completes the message brought by all the earlier prophets: Ibrahim has promised to preserve the purity of His message and make His Din (religion) victorious against all other ideologies.

While all the other prophets were sent primarily to their own people, Rasulullah was sent for all humanity (*kaffatan li (a) n-Nas*). His message was full of mercy for all the worlds and all the creation, Allah named him *Rahmatun li (a) l-'Alamin,* (a Mercy for all humankind).

Allah سبحانه وتعالى gave him the most noble character. He was known as *Al-Amin* (the Trustworthy) and *As-Sadiq* (the Truthful). Even his enemies recognized the nobility of his life. The Qur'an says:



You (O Muhammad) are given very high morals and manners.

(Al-Qalam 68:4)

Rasullullah متعلیوستام was sent as the best model for all human beings to follow.
The Qur'an says:

لَّقَدْكَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ ٱللَّهِ أَسْوَةً حَسَنَةً

Indeed, in the Messenger of Allah you have a beautiful example.

(Al-Ahzab 33:21)

He practiced what he preached. Umm al-muminin 'Aishah said,

"His morals were the Qur'an." Rasulullah personified in the practice everything he taught. His way of life and teachings are the *Sunnah* (traditions, way) for the *'Ummah* to follow. His teachings, his actions, and the actions that he approved are written and collected in many volumes. The written *Sunnah* is called *Hadith*. *Hadith* means a narration, story or incident. Before he passed away, he said:

I am leaving with you two things, if you will follow them you will never go astray; the book of Allah and my Sunnah.

(Transmitted by Muslim)

Rasulullah متحانه وتعالى struggled for the cause of Allah سبحانه وتعالى and brought us His message truthfully. He loved his 'Ummah and asked Allah's سبحانه وتعالى forgiveness for its shortcoming. Allah سبحانه وتعالى has blessed him with the river هما المعانية وتعالى would offer the water of Kawthar to his

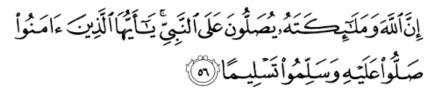
'Ummah. Those who shall drink from it shall never go thirsty. On the Day of Judgement, he will be, with Allah's سبحانه وتعالى permission, the Shafi' (Intercessor) of his 'Ummah. He will plead to Allah سبحانه وتعالى to forgive their sins and admit them to Jannah. Allah سبحانه وتعالى in His Mercy, will accept the Shafa'ah of His beloved Ras'ul and honor his Ummah with Jannah.

Muslims love their prophet. They try to follow His *Sunnah*. They accept what he enjoined and reject what he forbade. The Muslims love his family, *ahl al-bait*, his *Sahabah* and respect his wives as their mothers. The Qur'an says:

The Prophet is closer to the believers than their own selves, and his wives are their mothers.

(Al- Ahzab 33:6)

Allahسبحانه وتعالى says about the messenger:



Indeed, Allah and His angels send blessings on the Prophet. O beleivers send blessings on him, and salute him with all respect.

(Al-Ahzab 33:56)

Whenever we hear the name of Rasulullah صَلُولِتُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمُ we must say:



May Allah's blessings and peace be upon him.