The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) and Glimpses of His Lofty Character

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was born on Monday, the 20th. April, 571 A.D., the 9th of Rabi-ul-Awwal (Rabi I) in Makkah. This was the year when King of Yemen, a Kafir, named Abraha, had attacked Makkah to demolish the Holy Ka'aba; but he and his army were destroyed by Allah through birds and Ka'aba remained safe.

The Holy Prophet's (p.b.u.h) father had died four months before his son's birth. He was brought up by His mother, and after her death, two years later, by his grandfather Abdul Muttalib. When Abdul Muttalib, left this world the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was 8 years old. He (p.b.u.h) was then looked after by his uncle Abu Talib, Who treated him with great care and affection.

When our Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was forty years of age he received the first revelation (Wahi):

اِقْرَاْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِيْ خَلَقَ ۝ خَلَقَ الْاِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ۝ اِقْرَاْ وَرَبُّكَ
الْاَكْرَمُ ۝ الَّذِيْ عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ ۝ عَلَّمَ الْاِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ ۝

***"Read, In the name of the Lord who created, all Created man from the clot of congealed blood. Read, And your Lord is the most Bounteous, Who taught writing by the pen. Taught man what he knew not.** (Al-Alaq: 1-5)*

es, Books Visit Now:onlinesabaq.com

This revelation as well as all others came to the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) through Hazrat Gabriel, who appeared in the form of a man on the horizon and said in a thundering voice: "O Muhammad! You are Allah's messenger, and I am Gabriel. "The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was aghast; he went home trembling with fear. His wife Hazrat Khadija (R.A) consoled him and related the event to her cousin, Waraqa bin Naufal, a very old man who knew the Scriptures of the Jews and the Christians. Waraqa testified from his knowledge of the Old Heavenly Books that Hazrat Muhammad (p.b.u.h) was Allah's Messenger.

The first among those who believed in Hazrat Muhammad (p.b.u.h) and were converted to Islam were his wife, Hazrat Khadija (R.A), his first cousin Hazrat Ali (R.A), his servant Zaid (R.A), who was also his former slave, and Hazrat Abu Bakr (R.A).

But the preachings of Hazrat Muhammd (p.b.u.h) had serious repercussions among the infidels. They tortured the converts, treated the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) roughly and very often cruelly, till life became miserable for the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) and his handul of followers, and he was obliged to migrate to Medina at the Command of Allah and at the request of the Muslims of Medina after thirteen years of preaching in Makkah.

That event was called The Hijra, or the great departure of Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h) with a small group of devoted followers from his place of birth---Makkah---to the city over four hundred kilometers away---the city of Medina. The departure to Medina was choosen as the starting point of the Islamic Calender, because it marked the founding of Islamic polity:

While in Makkah, Islam emerged as a moral force, it was Medina which had the honour of being the cradle of the First Islamic State under the guidance of the Prophet (p.b.u.h) himself. The State was founded on the basis of the universally applicable moral principles revealed in the Quran. The first Islamic polity symbolized the happy blending of the citizens of Medina, called ***Ansars*** or the ***Helpers***, and the ***Mauhajireen,*** or the ***Refugees,*** from Makkah. A union of great importance had thus emerged. Together, the two communities formed the nucleus of the Islamic Ummah, or the great brotherhood of Islam. The Idea embodied in the concept served as a beacon for the humanity at large.

Leaving his place of birth, the home of his ancestors, the kith and kin to whom he was deeply attached, was undoubtedly a great ordeal for the Prophet (p.b.u.h). With his reputation for unimpeachable integrity --- He was called by everyone alike as ***"Al-Amin"***, the trustworthy. His gentle disposition and nobility of character endeared Him to one and all. He could have stayed on in Makkah as a highly respectable member of the leading Hashemite clan to which he belonged, if only he would stop preaching what Allah (God) commanded him to preach. His refusal to do so turned the hostility of the people of Makkah into unbridled fury.

Thus, the foundation of the First Islamic State in Medina represented, on the one hand, the rejection of the sufforcating environment of bigotry, intolerance, tyranny, oppression and moral turpitude, and on the other hand, the determination of the new born Islamic State to promote understanding, tolerance, brotherhood, and freedom as imperatives of state policy. From now on the world was to witness, emanating in succession from Medina, the

developments of monumental significance in the history of mankind."[4]

At Medina the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) established brotherhood between the Muslims of Makkah (Muhajirs) and Ansars (locals) of Medina who had embraced Islam.

Within two years of his migration to Medina, the famous battle of Badr, took place in which a handful of Muslims defeated a huge army of the infidels of Makkah. There were other battles also, big and small, that numbered thirty five in which the Muslims were generally victorious.

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) invaded Makkah in the year 8th of Hijri era,[5] When the Makkahn non-Muslims broke the truce with the Muslims. Makkah was triumphantly conquered, and the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) did not retaliate to punish the kafirs for the heinous cruelties inflicted by them on the Muslims. He Hardoned all his enemies and the enemies of Islam in accordance with Allah's commandment in the Holy Quran:

فَمَنْ تَصَدَّقَ بِهٖ فَهُوَ كَفَّارَةٌ لَّهٗ ؕ

"Then who accepts it, this remission shall at one for his own sins." (Al-Ma'idah: 45)

After two years of the conquest of Makkah The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) went from Medina to Makkah to perform Hajj. By this time his mission had been completed. He had remained for ten years at Medina, and two days before the end of the month of Safar-ul-Muzaffar he fell ill on Wednesday and left for his eternal abode on Monday the 12th of Rabi-ul-Awwal in the morning at the age of sixty-trhee years.

At the time of the Holy Prophet's (p.b.u.h) death which occurred in 11, Hijri the whole of the Arabian peninsula, and the southern parts of Palestine, extending upto Iraq, had entered the fold of Islam. The Islamic State, which originated in a small part of the city of Medina ten years ago, had now flourished to cover an area of 30 lac square Kilometers, with a sound system of Islamic way of life based on economics, military, educational, administrative and legal teaching of Islamic polity.

The Prophet (p.b.u.h) preached, like his glorious predecessors, the message of universal truth, and announced a common platform for spiritual amity and religious unity. The offer of cooperation was extended to all ***"lovers of truth"*** and ***'worshippers of God'***. Unity of God is the foundation-stone of a very true religion. The Prophet (p.b.u.h) preached unity dauntlessly against severe opposition and hostility, and alongwith ***'Unity of God'*** he stressed ***'Unity of Human Race'*** and ***'Unity of Divine Guidance'***. He called mankind ***"the family of God"*** and laid foundation of human fraternity, based on a specific acceptance of the ***'dignity of man'***. Man as man was respectable to Hazrat Muhammad (p.b.u.h), irrespective of artificial distinctions. He believed in, and worked for ***'the rise of man'***. ***'Fall of man'*** was no eternal handicap in his programme of ***'peace and progress'***. He preached the religion of peace for all human beings. Islam means submission to Allah and peace with His creation. The Prophet (p.b.u.h) taught to live for peace, and to create and pray for peace in the life to come...

Muhammad (p.b.u.h) said,

"I have been sent to complete good morals and good actions."

He preached and practiced good morals and good actions, and gave a unique system of thought and action based on them, which will always procure for humanity frank and straightforward solutions of the problems of life.

Islam is a practical and practicable religion. It is the only religion which claims finality, and in this finality lies its universality, because only the final form of guidance can be advocated for all. Islam also claims that the life straggle of the Prophet (p.b.u.h) can serve as an excellent model of life for all.

لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِىْ رَسُوْلِ اللّٰهِ اُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ

"Verily in the Prophet of Allah you have the best example".

says the Quran."[6]

اَلْيَوْمَ اَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِيْنَكُمْ وَ اَتْمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِىْ وَ رَضِيْتُ
لَكُمُ الْاِسْلَامَ دِيْنًا ؕ

"Today I have perfected your religion for you and have completed My bounties on you and have approved Islam (the religion of peace) for you, (Al-Quran)."[7] (Al-Ma'idah: 3)

Thus the final and universal message of guidance was given to the world by Muhammad (p.b.u.h).

Rahmat' ul-lil-Alamin (A mercy for All Creations)

Allah says about the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) in the Holy Quran:

وَمَآ اَرْسَلْنٰكَ اِلَّا رَحْمَةً لِّلْعٰلَمِيْنَ ۝١٠٧

"And we have sent you not but as a Mercy to all the worlds." **(Al-Anbiya: 107)**

The word ***'mercy'*** (Rahmat in Arabic) has multifarious meanings and aspects. It conveys the meaning of ***'help'*** in this world and in the ***'Hereafter'***; it means the fountain-head of all teachings and guidance for mankind; it also implies a successful and comfortable life for all who follow the path of Islam; it also involves that the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) is the Chief of Allah's creations in both the worlds. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) is Rehmat for all sections of oppressed people, be they slaves or orphans, or the women-folk. Even the non-believers get their share of ***'rahmat'***. The Holy Quran says:

وَ مَا كَانَ اللّٰهُ لِيُعَذِّبَهُمْ وَاَنْتَ فِيْهِمْ ؕ

"And Allah is not one to send down on them a punishment while you are abiding in their midst." **(An-Anfal: 33)**

Once The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was requested to arouse Allah's Anger on the polytheists ***(Mushrikeen)***. He (p.b.u.h) refused politely and said, "I am not an ill-wisher; I have been sent only for Rahmat."

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) sent Hazrat Tufail bin Umar Dausi (R.A) to the Daus tribe for preaching Islam. On his return he said, "The tribe of daus is dead." This meant that the people were unhospitable and did not listen to the Message of Islam. People thought that the Holy Propeht (p.b.u.h) would be displeased and impricate for the people of the Dausi Tribe; but he did not and instead prayed Allah for guiding them and bringing them within the fold of Islam:

اَللّٰهُمَّ اهْدِ دَوْسًا وَائْتِ بِهِمْ (حدیث شریف)

"O Allah! Guide the Daus tribe and bring them in the fold of Islam."

In the battle of Uhad, when the teeth of the Holy Prohet (p.b.u.h) were broken, and his sacred face was wet with blood, he did not say a word against the enemies of Islam; rather he requested Allah to have Mercy on them.

Kindly Towards the Ummah

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was very considerate towards the Muslim community, as is stated in the Holy Quran:

لَقَدْ جَآءَ كُمْ رَسُوْلٌ مِّنْ اَنْفُسِكُمْ عَزِيْزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ حَرِيْصٌ
عَلَيْكُمْ بِالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ رَءُوْفٌ رَّحِيْمٌ ۝١٢٨

"Verily there has come to you a Holy Apostle from among yourselves, heavy on him lies your falling into distress, he is ardenly desireous of your well-being, and most kind + merciful to the behaviors." (Al-Tauba: 128)

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was so kind towards his followers, that he would often pay their debts, would shorten his prayers and the sermons, if need be.

Once He (p.b.u.h) was pleased to say that if He did not foresee any trouble for his followers he would like to make the use of miswak (tooth brush made of Neemtwing or root of Peeloo) compulsory.

In short it is a fact, of which the Creator of the earth and His Creation are a witness that the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was an Apostle of mercy and kindness for His followers.

Treatment with non-believers

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was very merciful to the infidels and unbelievers also. Before the dawn of Islam, the non-believers of the former religions were punished severely by Allah for their arrogant behavior towards the believers. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) did not speak ill of his opponents and enemies. As a matter of fact, it was due to the Holy Propeht's (p.b.u.h) sympathetic attitude towards the enemies of Islam, that the infidels of Makkah did not experience any calamity and remained safe. The Holy Quran says:

وَمَاكَانَ اللّٰهُ لِيُعَذِّبَهُمْ وَ اَنْتَ فِيْهِمْ ط

"And Allah is not one to send down on them a punishment while you are abiding in their midst." **(An-Anfal: 33)**

Affection with Women---folk

Before the advent of Islam women had no place in society. They were subjected to all sort of cruelties. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) gave full honour to woman and recognized their rights in marriage, property and inheritance. He said about women:

اَلْجَنَّةُ تَحْتَ اَقْدَامِ الْاُمَّهَات (حدیث شریف)

"The Paradise lies beneath the feet of mothers."

Once the father of a young woman settled a marriage for his daughter. But he had not consulted his daughter in the matter. The young woman went up to Hazrat Muhammad (p.b.u.h) and vehemently protested against her father's action for not previously obtaining her consent to the proposed marriage.

The Propeht (p.b.u.h) revoked the marriage and allowed her to make her own choice. Then the girl turned to the Holy Propeht (p.b.u.h) and said, "I have really no objection to the marriage; but I wish women to understand that their fathers have no absolute control over the affairs of their daughters."[8]

Before Islam, the people of Arabia killed their young children for fear of poverty. They also buried their infant daughters alive, so that they could not grow up and marry. The Holy Propeht (p.b.u.h) prohibited all these evil practices, as laid down in the Holy Quran.

وَلَا تَقْتُلُوْٓا اَوْلَادَكُمْ خَشْيَةَ اِمْلَاقٍ ؕ نَحْنُ نَرْزُقُهُمْ وَ اِيَّاكُمْ ؕ
اِنَّ قَتْلَهُمْ كَانَ خِطْاً كَبِيْرًا ۝۳۱

"And do not kill your children for fear of poverty. It is We Who provide for them as well as for you. Surely the killing of children is a monstrous wrong." (Al-Isra: 31)

In Christianity, according to Lecky, women were pronounced to be "a necessary evil, a natural temptation, a domestic peril, a deadly fascination, a painted ill", but our Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) prohibited, any ill-treatment to women. He proclaimed that the daughters are a boom to a family and adored the house with their presence.

In His Farewell Address, the Holy Propeht (p.b.u.h) said about women:

O People! Fear Allah concerning women. Verily you have taken them on the security of Allah and have made their persons lawful with you by words of Allah! Verily you have got certain rights over them. It is incumbent upon them to honour their conjugal right and not to commit acts of

onlinesabaq.com

impropriety and are faithful to you, clothe them and feed them suitably."

Patronage of Orphans

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) had a great regard for the orphans. Before islam orphans were given a rutheless and un-sympathetic treatment by their guardians. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) showed great consideration fo the orphans and said bringing together his fore finger and middle finger, and pointing to them:

اَنَاوَ كَافِلَ الْيَتِيْمَ فِی الْجَنَّةِ هٰذَا (حدیث شریف)

"Those who take care of the orphans will be with me in the Paradise like this".

The Holy prophet (p.b.u.h) came to Hazrat Asma bint Amees (R.A), wife of Hazrat Ja'far Tayyar relates that when Ja'far met his martyrdom in the battle of Mautah (R.A), and said, "call the children of Ja'far, O Asma!" Hazrat Asma presented the children to Him (p.b.u.h). The holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) clasped the children to his breast with tears in his eyes. Hazrat Asma said, "Have you any news about Ja'far, O Prophet of Allah!?" The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) said, "Yes. he has embraced martyrdom today."

Treatment With Slaves

The slaves were very cruelly treated in those days. They were given little food and were mercilessly beaten even for minor faults. They had no place in society. Our Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) had great affection for the slaves. He gave them brotherly treatment. He fed them and clothed them as equal brothers. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) spoke about the slaves in his last sermon and said:

"And your slaves! See that you feed them with such food as you eat yourselves and clothe them with the stuff that you wear. If they commit a fault which you are not inclined to forgive, then part with them, for they are the servants of the Lord and are not to be harshly treated."

So affectionate was the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) towards his slaves, that they would not like to leave him even if set free. Here is an anecdote of his life in this respect:

Hazrat Zaid (R.A) was a Christian by birth. When still a child he was journeying with his mother in a caravan. A band of robbers waylaid the caravan, carried away and sold Hazrat Zaid (R.A) into slavery. Zaid (R.A) fell into the hands of Hakim who presented him to his aunt Khadijah (R.A). Some time after marrying with, Khadijah (R.A) presented him to her husband, Muhammad (p.b.u.h). A party of pilgrims saw Zaid (R.A) at Makkah and recognized him and informed His father. The disconsolate father immediately set out to fetch him home on payment of a ransom. The sight of the anxious father melted the master's heart and he liberated Zaid (R.A) without any ransom and granted Him liberty to go. But Hazrat Zaid (R.A) said, ***"I will not go, you (p.b.u.h) is dearer to me more than my father and mother."***

Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) and Children

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) treated children very affectionately. When passing by a child, He would stop, speak a kind word to him and pat him lovingly, before proceeding on. Once He was in jolly mood with his grandson, Hussain, (R.A) when Aqra Bin Habis Tamimi, who happened to be present at that time said, "I have ten sons! But I have never kissed them." The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) said, "Those who do not have affection for others are not treated kindly."

Brotherhood

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) preached brotherhood among Muslims. The Holy Quran says:

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةٌ فَأَصْلِحُوا بَيْنَ أَخَوَيْكُمْ وَاتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ
تُرْحَمُونَ ۝

"Surely the Believers are like brothers, so make peace between your two brothers, and keep fearing Allah that you maybe shown mercy." (Al-Hujurat: 10)

Before the advent of Islam people fought with one another; man murdered man, the tribal rivalries continued from generation to generation; the whole society was in a state of turmoil; the Holy prophet (p.b.u.h) fostered brotherly relations between people of all views and belonging to different clans. This state of affairs is reminded by Allah in the Holy Book as follows:

وَاذْكُرُوْا نِعْمَتَ اللّٰهِ عَلَيْكُمْ اِذْكُنْتُمْ اَعْدَآءً فَاَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوْبِكُمْ
فَاَصْبَحْتُمْ بِنِعْمَتِهٖٓ اِخْوَانًا

"And remember the favour of Allah among yourselves, He bestowed upon you in that you were bitter enemies to one another, then he created love in your hearts and by His grace you became brothers together" (Ale-Imran: 103)

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) created an atmosphere of brotherhood not only in Medina but also in other parts of the country. In fact what The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) did in creating fraternal relations among his followers is not seen in history elsewhere. This great work could not be accomplished by spending big treasures of the world. The Holy Quran says:

وَاَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوْبِهِمْ ؕ لَوْ اَنْفَقْتَ مَا فِی الْاَرْضِ جَمِيْعًا مَّآ اَلَّفْتَ بَيْنَ
قُلُوْبِهِمْ وَ لٰكِنَّ اللّٰهَ اَلَّفَ بَيْنَهُمْ ؕ اِنَّهٗ عَزِيْزٌ حَكِيْمٌ ۝

"And He it is who united their hearts. Had you spent all that is in the earth, even then you could not have united their hearts. But Allah united them." (Al-Anfal: 63)

In His last sermon from the Mount Arafat, just before he passed away from this world, The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) spoke about brotherhood among all Muslims in the following terms:

O people! Listen to my words and understand them. You must know that a Muslim is the brother of the Muslim and they form one brotherhood. Nothing of his brother is lawful for a Muslim except what he himself allows willingly. So you should not oppress one another.

O Allah! have I not conveyed the Message?[10]

Patience, Perseverence and Endurance

These noble qualities made The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) an embodiment of virtue. He (p.b.u.h) adopted a cheerful attitude in sorrow, defeat or suffereing as opposed to murmuring and rebellion, and thus followed the Commandmants of Allah as laid down in the Holy Quran:

وَاسْتَعِيْنُوْا بِالصَّبْرِ وَ الصَّلٰوةِ ؕ

"And Seek (Allah's) help with patience, and prayer."

(Al-Baqarah: 45)

Allah says at another place in the Holy Book:

وَاصْبِرْ فَإِنَّ اللّٰهَ لَا يُضِيْعُ أَجْرَ الْمُحْسِنِيْنَ ۝١١٥

"And have patience (O Muhammad), for no doubt! Allah wastes not the rewards of the good." (Hud: 115)

And, yet at another place:

فَاصْبِرْ صَبْرًا جَمِيْلًا ۝٥

"So be you patient with them with a goodly patience."

(Al-Ma'arij: 5)

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) had a great power of endurance. He would follow the following teachings of the Holy Book in letter and spirit;

يٰٓاَيُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ اٰمَنُوا اصْبِرُوْا وَ صَابِرُوْا وَ رَابِطُوْا قف وَاتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُوْنَ ۝٢٠٠

"O you who believe! Be patient and steadfast; and remain firm-footed (against the enemy) and always fear Allah, that haply you may be successful in achieving the goal."

(Ale-Imran: 200)

Here are a few examples from the noble life of The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) which show how patient he was at hours of trial, during his mission, and how much endurance he displayed even when he met the strongest opposition and tyrannical attitude of his fellowmen:

1. When the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) began preaching Islam, he met the strongest opposition from all the tribes and clans of Makkah. He was ridiculed, pelted with stones, and made to suffer all kinds of cruelties. But He (p.b.u.h)

did not lose patience, and endured every unkind behavior with patience and forbearance. He did not pray to Allah at any time to punish his opponents.

2. **One day the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was offering prayers near the Holy Ka'aba when one of his enemies, Uqba bin Abi Mu-eet placed a heavy load of guts and bowels of the camel on his back; and thus created a fun for his friends who laughed heartily at the Holy Propeht's (p.b.u.h) plight. Hazrat Fatimah (R.A), the beloved daughter of the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h), ran to help her father on hearing this; she rescued him from the barbarous act of the enemies of Islam, while weeping all the while. But, the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) did not speak ill of his enemies; He asked His dear daughter to keep calm. He (p.b.u.h) said, *"My daughter to patient, for they do not know what actions are good for them"*.**

3. **Abu Lahb was an uncle of the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h). He and his wife, Umm-i-Jameal used to scatter thorns on**

the path of the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) waled upon, and on several occasions caused His pious feet to bleed profusely. They said, ***"O my people! Do not listen to Muhammad (p.b.u.h). He has become mad!"*** The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) endured all the ill-treatment with patience. However, Allah cursed Abu Lahb and his wife in Sūrah Al-Masad (Palm Fibre) in the Holy Quran.

4. When the opponents of Islam saw that The Holy Propeht (p.b.u.h) did not leave preaching Islam, they united together to boycott him. He (p.b.u.h) was besieged in a valley, where they inflicted upon his sacred person, all sort of barbarous acts for full three years, but the embodiment of kindness and affection

(Rehmat) showed the greatest restraint and patience, and when He prayed, He asked Allah, to show them the path of truth and of Islam.

Forgiveness

About forgiveness the Holy Quran says:

خُذِ الْعَفْوَ وَ اْمُرْ بِالْعُرْفِ وَ اَعْرِضْ عَنِ الْجٰهِلِيْنَ ۝١٩٩

"Hold out forgiveness (to the defaulters) and enjoin what is good and turn away from the ignorant." (Al-A'raf: 199)

At another place Allah says about virtuous people that they are:

وَالْكٰظِمِيْنَ الْغَيْظَ وَ الْعَافِيْنَ عَنِ النَّاسِ ؕ

"Those who control their wrath and are forgiving towards mankind." (Al-Imran: 134)

When the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was very badly treated by the ***Quraish*** in Makkah, he went to the ***Valley of Taif*** to preach the teaching of Islam. But people there were more hostile towards Him and Islam than the Makkahns. They ridiculed Him, pelted Him with stones, that made Him bleed profusely; They set their rustic children after Him, who ran behind him, speaking ill-words, making noise and throwing stones. But The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) was neither instigated, nor agitated: instead he (p.b.u.h) forgave them and prayed, ***"O Allah! Give them guidance."***

When Makkah was conquered, the courtyard of the Holy Ka'aba was filled with the infidels. Those were the people who inflicted all sort of injuries on the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) and conspired to kill Him. Now they were all

trembling with fear and expected death. But the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) addressed them thus:

"O people of Quraish! Are you aware what treatment I Am going to give your?"

They said, ***"We know You (p.b.u.h) are a generous person, son of a generous member of our family, so we expect a kindly treatment from you."***

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) recited the following verse of the Holy Quran:

قَالَ لَا تَثْرِيْبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الْيَوْمَ يَغْفِرُ اللّٰهُ لَكُمْ وَ هُوَ اَرْحَمُ الرّٰحِمِيْنَ ۝٩٢

"He said: "There is no reproach on you this day! May Allah forgive you (your sins) and he is the Most Merciful of the merciful." (Yusuf: 92)

Earlier, the battle of Badr was won by the Muslims and a number of the enemies was taken prisoners by the Prophet (p.b.u.h). These prisoners were from among those bitter enemies of the Apostle who for fourteen long years had been dogging His footsteps with unrelenting vigour. The prevailing customs were unanimously in favour either of their execution or of reducing them into slavery.

But the Prophet (p.b.u.h) treated them in a different manner. He exhorted his disciples to entertain the prisoners hospitably. And the faithfull obeyed their master's words with cheerful alacrity.

"Blessing be on the men of Medina", said one of these in later days, ***"they made us ride while they themselves walked on foot; they gave us wheaten bread to eat when there was little of it; contenting themselves with dates."***

Here is one other anecdote of the life of the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) which shows how he forgave his opponents:

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) passed some of his infant years among Bani Saad and was nursed by Hazrat Halima (R.A). Now, during His early struggle with the Makkahns, the Propeht (p.b.u.h) had a great fight with the Bani Saad.

They were defeated and many of them were taken prisoners. One of the prisoners presented herself to the Holy Propeht (p.b.u.h) and said, ***"I am the daughter of Halima (R.A), your nurse. Here is an old scar on my arm---the consequence of a bite by You when I carried You (p.b.u.h) in the lap."*** The Prophet recognized the scar. Tears stood in His eyes. In tender gratitude he offered Her either to remain with Him or to depart with a rich present and she departed to her home.[11]

"Zikr"-------(Remembering Allah)

"Zikr" is an Arabic word and has very comprehensive meanings. Literally it means to remember some one. In religious terms it means to remember Allah.

Allah has said about ***'Zikr'*** at several places in the Holy Quran, as for example:

يٰٓاَيُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ اٰمَنُوا اذْكُرُوا اللّٰهَ ذِكْرًا كَثِيْرًا ۝٤١

"O you who believe! Remember Allah with much rememberance." (Al-Ahzab: 41)

رِجَالٌ ۙ لَّا تُلۡهِيۡهِمۡ تِجَارَةٌ وَّ لَا بَيۡعٌ عَنۡ ذِكۡرِ اللّٰهِ

"Men whom neither merchandise nor sale diverts from the rememberance of Allah." (An-Nur: 37)

اَلَا بِذِكۡرِ اللّٰهِ تَطۡمَئِنُّ الۡقُلُوۡبُ ؕ ۝٢٨

"Listen! carefully! Surely in the Remembrance of Allah alone there is the satisfaction of hearts". (Ar-Ra'd: 28)

There are innumerable ways of remembering, Allah. They are included in the term worship, which includes all the open and secret acts of showing submission to our Creator. For instance, the prescribed prayer, fasting, pilgrimage preaching of virtue and fighting the evil, recitation of the Holy Quran, etc. are the many acts of remembering Allah. "In the same way the love of Allah and His Prophet (p.b.u.h), hope of Divine Blessings and fear of Divine Decree, submission and pleasure in the will of Allah, all such good things are included in worship."[12]

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) sent a greater part of his day and night in meditation and prayers. Allah told him (p.b.u.h) not to exert Himself to a great extent in remembering Him. And he had to advise Him thus as said in the Holy Quran:

يٰۤاَيُّهَا الۡمُزَّمِّلُ ۙ ۝١ قُمِ الَّيۡلَ اِلَّا قَلِيۡلًا ۙ ۝٢

"O the enwrapped one! Stand for prayer at night except for a little portion thereof ". (Al-Muzzammil: 1-2)

About remembering Him; Allah says in the Holy Book:

وَمِنَ الَّيۡلِ فَاسۡجُدۡ لَهٗ وَسَبِّحۡهُ لَيۡلًا طَوِيۡلًا ۝٢٦

"And worship Him (a portion) of the night. And glorify Him through the livelong night". (Ad-Dahr: 26)

And, also

...inesabaq.com

وَمِنَ الَّيۡلِ فَتَهَجَّدۡ بِهٖ نَافِلَةً لَّكَ ۖ عَسٰۤى اَنۡ يَّبۡعَثَكَ رَبُّكَ
مَقَامًا مَّحۡمُوۡدًا ۝٧٩

"And during a part of the night (rise from sleep and) offer the Tahajjud prayer (with recitation of the Qur'an). (This prayer) is in addition to what is obligatory on you, verily your Lord will soon raise you to a station of high praise".
(Al-Isra: 79)

The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) has said that the best act for remembering Allah is to recite La Illaha Illal-lah. His affectionate Daughter once asked Him (p.b.u.h) how to remember Allah. He (p.b.u.h) said recite (Subhan Allah) 33 times, (Al-Hamdo Lillah) 33 times and (Allah-u-Akbar) 34 times after each prayer. This is known as (Tasbih-e-Fatimah(R.A)). This is no doubt one of the many effective way of rememberance to Allah.

THE HOLY PROPEHT (P.B.U.H) AND GLIMPSES OF HIS LOFTY CHARACTER

Qs. (i) Choosing the Correct Answers:-

1. What is the epithet used for the last Prophet of Islam.

(a) Al-Amin (b) Sadiq

(c) Rahmat-ul-lil-Alimeen (d) All the above

2. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) was born on __________.

More Notes, Books Visit Now:onlinesabaq.com

(a) 27th of Ramazan (b) 9th of Rabi-ul-Awal

(c) 10th of April 571 (d) 14th of August 571

3. The Holy Prophet's father died when he was _______.

(a) 6 months of age.

(b) 10 months of age.

(c) 1 year old.

(d) When he was not even born

4. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) received his First Revelation when he was ---------.

(a) 30 year (b) 40 years old

(c) 42 years old (d) 45 years old

5. The revelations were brought to the Holy Prophet (p.bu.h.) by.

(a) Hazra Israfeel (a.s) (b) Hazrat Gabriel (a.s)

(c) Hazrat Meekael (a.s) (d) Hazrat Izraeel (a.s)

6. The first person to believe in the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) was ________.

(a) Hazrat Ali (R.a) (b) Hazrat Abu Bakr (R.a)

(c) Hazrat Khadijah (R.a) (d) Hazrat Bilal (R.a)

7. The Hijra Era begins with the departure of the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) for __________.

(a) Abyssinia (b) Taif

(c) Medina (d) Khyber

8. The bond of "Maukhat" was created by the Holy prophet (p.b.u.h.) between ___________.

(a) Man and man

(b) Muslims and Muslims.

(c) Answers and Muhajreen.

(d) Peoples of Makkah and Madina.

9. The First Muslim State was founded at _________.

(a) Makkah (b) Madina

(c) Badr (d) Taif

10. The First Battle with the Kuffar was fought at _______.

(a) Badr (b) Khyber

(c) Hudaiba **(d)** Uhad.

11. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) treated the non-believers with __________.

(a) hatred **(b)** arrogance

(c) no concern **(d)** A sympathetic attitude

12. Women are treated in Islam as __________.

(a) A necessary evil **(b)** A desirable calamity

(c) Equal partners of men **(d)** Having no rights

13. After the advent of Islam __________.

(a) Man murdered man

(b) The whole society was in state of turmoil.

(c) Brotherly relations were fostered between prople of all views.

(d) Fraternal relations were created among his followers.

14. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) was an embodiment of virtue due to __________.

(a) His noble qualities of head and heart.

(b) His martial qualities.

(c) His treatment towards his Holy Wives.

(d) His treatment with children.

15. When Makkah al-Mukarmah was conquered the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) treated the infidals __________.

(a) Unkindly **(b)** Liberally

(c) Generously **(d)** Hospitably

Qs. (ii) Completion of Sentences:

Complete the following incomplete sentences by filling in the blank space with appropriate words filling in the blank space with appropriate words:

1. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) has said that the best way of remembering Allah is to recite __________.

2. All the open and secret acts of showing submission to our Creator are included in the term __________.
3. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) spent a greater part of his day and night in __________.
4. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) entertained the prisoners of war __________.
5. When Makkah al-Mukkarmah was conquered the courtyard of Holy Kaaba was __________.

.com

onlinesabaq

6. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) went to Taif when he was very badly treated by __________.
7. Umm-e-Jamil was the wife of uncle of __________.
8. Allah has cursed Abu Lahb and his wife in the Surah __________.

Qs. (iii) Right or Wrong Statements:

Mark the Right statements as (R) and the Wrong ones as (W) in the following:

1. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) received his first revelation when he was 45 years of age.
2. Abraha, an infidel king of Yemen was a protector of Holy Kaaba.
3. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) was aghast to see Gabriel.
4. Zaid was a cousin of Hazrat Khadijah.
5. The Holy prophet (p.b.u.h.) was kindly treated by the non-believers.
6. The Islamic Calender started with the departure of Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) for Medina.

7. The Islamic State at Medina promoted understanding, tolerance, brotherhood and freedom among all sections of people.
8. The battle of Badr was fought after four years of Hijrat.
9. Makkah was invaded in the 8th year of Hijri Era.
10. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) performed Hajj after two yearts of conquest of Makkah.
11. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) died in the 11th Hijri.
12. In Islam slaves are not to be treated generously.
13. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) created an atmosphere of brotherhood. In the Holy cities.
14. The Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.) was very patient in hours of trial.

Qs. (iv) Making paris:

The entries in Column A are to be paired with the entries in Column B in respect of their close relationship and answer written in Column C:

	Column A	Column B	Column C
(1)	9th Rabi-ul-Awal	(a) Grand Father	________
(2)	Battle of Badr	(b) Elephants	________
(3)	The First Revelation	(c) The Paradise	________
(4)	Waraqa	(d) 2 A.H.	________
(5)	Hazrat Muttalib	(e) Birth of Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.)	________
(6)	Kaaba	(f) Hazrat Khadija	________

(7)	**Women**	**(g) 3 A.H.**	________
		(h) 40 years	________
		(i) Taif	________

ANSWERS

Qs. (i) Choosing the correct Answers:

1—e **2—b** **3—a** **4—b**
5—a **6—c** **7—c** **8—c**
9—b **10—a** **11—d** **12—c**
13—d **14—a** **15—c**

Qs. (ii) Completion of Sentences:

(1) Kalima Tayyabah.
(2) Zikr
(3) Meditation
(4) Generously
(5) Was filled with the infidels.
(6) The Qureish of Makkah.
(7) Abu Lahab: Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.).

Qs. (iii) Right of Wrong:

(1) **W** (2) **W** (3) **R** (4) **W**
(5) **W** (6) **R** (7) **R** (8) **W**
(9) **R** (10) **R** (11) **R** (12) **W**
(13) **R** (14) **R**

Qs. (iv) Making Pairs:

1—c **2—d** **3—h** **4—f**
5—a **6—b** **7—c**

onlinesabaq.com