



# Al Kausar

Eid Meelad-Un-Nabi  
Special Edition

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Oh Allah, God, Lord, Creator, and Owner of all Dues...  
We thank Thee For Thine Kindness in  
The Revelation through Muhammad ﷺ  
the Light of Thine Praises, whom Thou hast praised,  
In his name and honour, Rahmatal-lil-Aalameen,  
the Mercy unto all in existence, in Thine cosmic creation.  
No grant, nor tribute, known May excel Thine holy bequest  
"Innallaaha wa Malaa'ikatahu Yusalloona alan Nabi  
Ya ayyuhal- lazeena aamanu sallu Alayhi wa Sallimu tasleema!"  
So we plead...  
May our prayers and salutations also be conveyed when  
the Divine Blessings are conferred upon him!

عید میلاد النبی ﷺ مبارک

## HAZRAT UMM-E-MABAD ﷺ

The Holy Prophet (ﷺ) and Hazrat Abu Bakr (رضي الله عنه) were travelling to Madinah Shareef (During the Hijra), on the way they passed by a tent outside, which a dignified woman was sitting. She was from Bani Khuzah and her name was Aatikah bint Khalf bin Mabad bin Rabiah. She was known as Umm-e-Mabad.

Hazrat Abu Bakr (رضي الله عنه) asked her as if she had some dates and mutton to sell. She replied, if she had something with her, she would have not hesitated in giving (It was the time when the prolonged drought had left nothing with them). The Holy Prophet (ﷺ) saw a goat standing in one corner of her tent and said, "O Umm-e-Mabad! What is this goat like?" she replied that this was the goat which could not go out with the herd because of its weakness. The Prophet (ﷺ) asked as if its udder bore any milk. She replied it was too weak to hold the milk.

The Holy Prophet (ﷺ) asked whether He (ﷺ) would be allowed to milk its udder even then. The woman allowed with pleasure, thus the Holy Prophet (ﷺ), in the name of ALLAH, touched the goat's udder with His blessed hands and immediately it filled with milk. From the dried udder, as much milk could be milked that all those present drank till their satisfaction. The Prophet (ﷺ) milked it a second time and asked Umme Mabad to bring all the pots of her house and all were filled with the milk.

When her husband came back and saw all the pots filled with milk. Astonished he asked, "O Umme Mabad! where from spurted this stream of milk, for there is no milking animal in the house?" Umme Mabad replied, "No by ALLAH no, this all is the blessing of a blessed person, who passed from here." Then she narrated the event in full.

"I saw a man who is distinctly handsome and of a beautiful countenance. He is well-built, neither blemished by a big belly nor disfigured by an unusually small head. The pupils of his eyes are very dark, his eyelashes are very long and the area around the pupils is extremely white. His eyebrows are perfectly close. He has very dark hair, a rather long neck and a thick beard.

When he remains silent he is ever contemplative

and when he speaks, eminence and splendour exhibit in his words. His words are like sliding stringed pearls. He is a gifted orator whose words are neither too few nor too many. He has the clearest wand and the most audible voice as he speaks. When you look at him from afar, he is the most handsome of all people, and when you move closer to him, he is the most pleasant of them.

You will never be tired of looking at him. He is like a branch between two branches.

He is the most handsome of the three and the most important of them. He has companions who honour him; when he speaks they listen to his words and when he commands they hasten to carry out his order. They serve and gather around him. He neither frowns or nags." (Syraṭ Ibn-e-Kathir, Vol.11 p. 261)

Abu Mabad upon hearing the pleasant description of the Prophet (ﷺ), he said surely, He was the man in whose search the Quraish were loitering here and there. He expressed his eagerness to see and accompany the blessed man if he could find him here. After some time, Hazrate Umme Mabad (رضي الله عنها) and her husband, both accepted Islam and permanently migrated to Madinah Shareef.

According to a report narrated by al-Waqidi and many others, the goat that the Prophet (peace be upon him) milked that day lived for a long time providing abundant milk.

May Allah bless Umm Ma'bad, a woman who may have been considered an 'illiterate Bedouin woman', yet was a real daughter of the desert! Her eloquence was such that up until this day her words and expressions are studied at universities. This is despite the fact that she herself did not graduate from any university or go through any formal education. Even then, many Arabs have to pick up their dictionaries in hope of understanding her profoundly eloquent and subtle expressions. Umm Ma'bad was therefore from among those people who are loved by Allah and his Messenger (peace be upon him). May ALLAH be pleased with Umm Ma'bad and please her! Aameen.

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# IMPORTANCE OF STUDYING SEERAH

MOULANA SHOAIB VALI - IMAM GH AUSIA MASJID PMT

We as Muslims of this day and age have failed to follow the Seerah of our prophet ﷺ which has brought the down fall to Muslims at large. In order to remedy the situation we have to study the Seerah. If we do not grab this opportunity and do not understand the emphasis of Seerah, certainly we will be destroyed.

I think we are the worst criminals against the name of Seerah and Islam. We need to show the world the purity of Islam because people have tried to taint the purity of the Islamic culture and its spiritual impact on various nations. The aim of Islam has never been to preach at the point of sword as alleged by the Orientalists. It was the charm of its sublime teachings which attracted so many nations resulting in millions of people accepting it as their way of life within a very short period of time. Islamic culture became dearer to them than their own traditions and customs, therefore, it is crucial that we follow the Seerah in every aspect of our life. Seerah has a solution for every crisis.

Our most valuable asset and the very flower of our nation is the Muslim youth which we are losing sadly losing. It is because Muslims generally consider themselves to be practicing Muslims, but tend to regard Seerah and Islam as a cult, and not as a comprehensive way of life. According to us it is constituted of certain rituals and ceremonials. We do not consider the moral value of life because we have isolated Seerah from morality. Observe how far our piety is isolated from our morality.

Gustav Weil a non-Muslim historian has said Muhammad ﷺ set a shining example to his people. His character was pure and stainless. His house, his dress and his food, were characterized by a rare simplicity. A non-Muslim has acknowledged the Seerah but we have failed.

Allah says very clearly, he who obeys the messenger of Allah has obeyed ALLAH. Another place Allah says whatever the messenger has given you, take it and what he has forbidden you from, refrain from it.

It is crystal clear that there is one way to success and prosperity. The way of Prophet ﷺ. So let's take care of Seerah and Islam before it becomes a memory of the past.

## SUNNI AQEEDAH

SAYED GHULAM FAREED

Almighty Allah has commanded us to publicize and announce his mercy and favours and the only time that this favour can be announced is if we remember the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, say verses in his praise, send salutations upon him and inform the world of the Mu'jazaat (miracles) of the Holy Prophet ﷺ.

If the authentic books of Seerah be examined, we will find such incidents concerning the Meelad of the Holy Prophet ﷺ that will strengthen our Imaan.

One of the miracles of the Holy Prophet ﷺ is the splitting of moon. It is one of the renowned miracles of Prophet (ﷺ) which testifies to the truth of Prophethood of Muhammad (ﷺ). The non-believers thought of Him as a magician, therefore, they asked Him to prove His Prophethood by showing some miracle in the skies, as according to them the magic did not work in the sky. Thus, in order to prove to them that He was not a magician but a true Prophet ﷺ, He split the moon into two halves by pointing towards it.

Allama Qastalaani in Mawahib ul Laduniya and Shaykh Abdul Haq Muhadith Dehlwi in Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah states, "The night of the Meelad Shareef of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ? is greater than the night of Lailatul Qadr." Mawahib ul Laduniya Pg.26 - Ma Thabata Bis Sunnah Pg.59

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# THE NOBEL WIVES OF THE HOLY PROPHET ﷺ

**1. Khadijah bint Khuwaylid**  
Khadijah, his first wife, was a widow who was much older than Muhammad (ﷺ) when she proposed to him. Because of her success in business and lineage, many of the wealthy among the Quraysh desired to marry her. She, however, was impressed by Muhammad's (ﷺ) character and so she initiated the marriage proposal. She was his steadfast supporter in extremely trying times and always provided wise counsel and solace. She was the first person to accept Islam. Khadijah died approximately twenty-five years after they married, and Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) continued to revere her memory for the rest of his life.

**2. Sawdah bint Zam'ah**  
After Khadijah's death, the Prophet (ﷺ) married Sawdah. She was also a widow. She and her husband had accepted Islam very early in the mission and had been among the migrants to Ethiopia. She was also very well known for her charity. The marriage of Muhammad (ﷺ) to Sawdah set the trend of the Prophet marrying widows of Muslims who had died of natural causes or during one of the many battles.

**3. 'A'ishah bint Abu Bakr**  
It was customary in the Arab society for close friendships and bonds to be strengthened by marriage into the family. Muhammad (ﷺ) married the daughters of his two closest associates, Abu Bakr as-Siddiq and 'Umar ibn al-Khattab, the first two Khalifahs (successors of the Prophet (ﷺ)) of Islam. In turn, three of the daughters of the Prophet were married to the other two companions who became the third and fourth Khalifahs, Uthman ibn 'Affan and 'Ali ibn Abu Talib. The youngest of his wives, 'A'ishah, Abu Bakr's daughter, was a remarkable woman. Her lively personality comes through in the quotes attributed to her in the Sirah and Hadith literature. Muhammad (ﷺ) took permission from his other wives and spent the last days of his life with her and he breathed his last in her arms. She was extremely intelligent and erudite. Much of the stronger Hadith literature is attributed to her. Many of the companions would seek her help in resolving difficult legal problems.

**4. Hafsa bint 'Umar**  
When Hafsa became a widow, her father 'Umar, one of the great Khalifahs of Islam, started looking for a husband for her. He initially asked Uthman. Uthman's wife, Ruqayyah, one of the Prophet's daughters, had just died. However Uthman demurred. 'Umar then asked Abu Bakr to marry her, but Abu Bakr also declined. He then finally asked Muhammad (ﷺ). Sensing what was going on, the Prophet readily agreed. Later when during Uthman's caliphate the authoritative version of the Qur'an was redacted Hafsa would be the custodian of the manuscript.

**5. Zaynab bint Khuzaymah**  
Zaynab's husband 'Ubaydah was killed in the battle of Badr. Muhammad (ﷺ) immediately offered to marry her. She had the reputation of being extremely caring towards the needy and the indigent. She was known as Umm al-Masakin (The mother of the poor). She died within two or three months of her marriage to the Prophet (ﷺ).

**6. Umm Salamah bint Abu Umayyah**  
Her real name was Hind, but she was known as Umm Salamah. Her husband, Abdullah bin Abdul Asad was known as Abu Salamah. They had migrated to Ethiopia, and Abu Salamah was well known for his courage and prowess as an equestrian. He died from injuries sustained during the battle of Uhud. Umm Salamah was pregnant at that time. After waiting the period, Muhammad (ﷺ) proposed marriage to her. She initially refused, citing reasons of being old and having children from the previous marriage, but Muhammad

(ﷺ) insisted. She was with Muhammad (ﷺ) during the trip to Makkah from the pilgrimage, which resulted in the Hudaibiyah treaty. Her advice and counsel proved crucial during those very critical days.

**7. Zaynab bint Jahsh**  
Zaynab (ra) had been married to Zayd bin Thabit. Zayd was Muhammad's (ﷺ) slave before the advent of Islam. Muhammad (ﷺ) appeared to set a precedent that slaves should be freed and should carry no stigma from their past. Zaynab, who was Muhammad's (ﷺ) cousin, may have married Zayd under moral duress. The marriage did not last long. It is possible that the Prophet (ﷺ) felt some responsibility about the failed marriage and therefore the necessity to marry her. The Qur'an offers an additional explanation for the marriage. Two of the prevalent customs in the society were to banish "wives" into limbo by declaring them to be their husband's "mothers," (as discussed earlier, the practice was called Zihar), and to declare foster children as one's natural children. The Prophet's (ﷺ) marriage to Zaynab (ra), who was divorced from Zayd, abolished the latter practice. Zaynab was known for her extraordinary piety and righteousness. She was in her late middle age when she married the Prophet (ﷺ).

**8. Juwariyah bint al-Harith**  
The prisoners of war captured after the defeat of Banu Mustaliq (sub-tribe of Khuza'ah) included Juwayriyah. She was the daughter of the defeated tribal chief. Her husband had been killed in the skirmish. She would have become a companion's, Thabit bin Qays', slave. She found that unacceptable and petitioned the Prophet. He freed her by paying Thabit her ransom and offered to restore her prestige by marrying her. She accepted, and an important byproduct of the marriage was that the entire over seven hundred prisoners of war of the tribe of Banu Mustaliq were freed.

**9. Umm Habibah bint Abu Sufyan**  
Ramla (mother of Habibah) was initially married to 'Ubaydullah bin Jahsh. The two migrated to Ethiopia, and after the migration 'Ubaydullah converted to Christianity. Ramla remained a Muslim, resulting in a separation and divorce. Muhammad (ﷺ) sent an envoy to Negus with a proposal that he should conduct his marriage to Umm Habibah "in absentia."

**10. Safiyyah bint Huyay**  
Her real name was Zaynab, but she was known by the nickname of Safiyyah. She was a prisoner of war following an assault on Khaybar. Both her father and brother had died during the war. She was initially assigned to a companion, Wahyi Kalby, but when it was realized that she was the daughter of a tribal chief, other companions objected.

**11. Maymunah bint al-Harith**  
Maymunah's first marriage resulted in a divorce, and her second husband died, making her both a widow and a divorcee. One of the Prophet's close companions, Abbas proposed that Muhammad (ﷺ) should marry her. He agreed, demonstrating that it was no longer a stigma for a woman to be both divorced and widowed. They felt it would be inappropriate for her to be assigned to anyone other than the Prophet (ﷺ).

**12. Mariyah**  
Muhammad's (ﷺ) last son was born to Mariyah, the Coptic. She was one of the two slave girls presented to the Prophet (ﷺ) by the Archbishop of Alexandria. She gave birth to a son, Ibrahim, who, like the other two sons born to Khadijah died in infancy.



# MEELAD-UN-NABI ﷺ

MOULANA SHAH FAISAL KHAN SAHEB

Alhamdulillah, there are many blessing of the Mubarak month of Rabbi-ul-Awwal. No doubt, the greatest blessing and beauty of this month is the arrival of the Holy and blessed Prophet (ﷺ). The Holy Prophet (ﷺ) was born on a Monday, the 12th Rabbi-ul-Awwal in Makkah-tul-Mukarrama, and he used to celebrate his birthday by fasting every Monday. From this itself, the celebration of Meelad-un-Nabi is proved.

A person saw Abu Lahab in his dream and asked, "How has Allah treated you?" He said, "I have not attained any goodness after my death but every Monday my index finger takes out some water, because I freed my slave Suwaiba with the same finger when I heard that my nephew (the Holy Prophet ﷺ) was born. If this is the status of a person who did not believe in the prophet hood of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ), then what will be the status of the Ummati who celebrates the Meelad of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ)?"

Q)What are the benefits of Durood on Nabi (ﷺ)?

A) First of all, it is the order of Allah Ta'aala in the Holy Quraan, "Those who believe should send Salaam and Salutations on the Holy Prophet (ﷺ)."

The Holy Prophet (ﷺ) said, "The one who sends Durood upon me, Allah grants him ten rewards, forgives ten of his sins and elevates his rank ten times."

Nabi (ﷺ) said, "The one who recites Durood fifty times upon me, I will shake hands with him on the Day of Judgment."

SubhanAllah! If this is the dining mat of the world and the fire of the world, then definitely the fire of Jahannum will not burn the Ummati who shakes hands with Nabi (ﷺ) on the Day of Judgment.

The Holy Prophet (ﷺ) said, "The one who recites Durood 1000 times daily upon me, will not die without seeing his place in Jannah."

May Allah grant us the Taufeeq to respect the Holy Prophet (ﷺ). Aameen!

For The Esaale Sawaab of:

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- 2.) Baba Qasim Faridi R.A.
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## SUNNI AQEEDAH

SAYED GHULAM FAREED

At a chaotic period in history when the dark clouds of misconduct and corruption covered the sky of the world, when injustice unrest and turmoil was uncontrolled, when human dignity was at its lowest decline, when young girls were buried alive for being female, when the split between the exploiter and exploited was non-stop, when corruption, dirty modes of behavior, moral degeneration were increasing, when superstition, racial discrimination and oppression was the order of the day... at that time a Prophet was born at Makkah in Arabia Sayyidina Muhammad Ur RasoolAllah Salallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam.

Master of every nation, Light of all illumination, Indeed you posses the highest station, Your beauty has no equation, Your blessed smile is beyond imagination, Your remembrance brings jubilation, Your birth the greatest celebration, Praising you has no limitation, Seeing you is elation, May your abode be my destination, O Mercy to all creation, My only cure and my greatest medication, You are my salvation, On the day of desperation, for which I have been heedless in preparation, Take my hand to prevent me from deviation, Upon you day and night may I send salutation. Sallallahu Alaa Muhammad Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam.

### SUNNIAQEEDAH:

It is the belief of the Ahle Sunnah Wal Jama'at that it is totally permissible to celebrate the Maulood (Birthday) of the Holy Prophet Muhammad ? since this is a means of attaining great blessings.

Almighty Allah states in the Holy Qur'an; "You say, *Only on the grace of Allah and on His mercy, and it is only on this that you should rejoice.*"  
Surah Yunus Verse.58

Almighty Allah commands: "And publicize well the special favours of your Lord" Surah Duha Verse.11

From these verses it is clear that Almighty Allah has commanded the Muslims to rejoice on the Mercy and Grace of Almighty Allah and not only should they rejoice due to this, but they should also announce and publicize these favours which Almighty Allah has bestowed upon them.



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# Haunted by poverty and famine in AFRICA

BY FIROZ OSMAN

Statistics SA released figures that show more than 50% of South Africans, i.e. 30 million people have been condemned to poverty with about 13 million living in extreme poverty.

The slide towards poverty is illustrated by an apocryphal story of a man standing beside a river. Suddenly he notices a baby struggling in the downstream current. He immediately jumps into the river to rescue it. No sooner has he deposited the baby on the shore, than he sees another. The babies come faster and faster. He is so busy rescuing them that he fails to look upstream to see who is throwing them in.

Who or what is responsible for throwing so many people into penury? Has our struggle to bring a better life for South Africans failed?

We have, fortunately, not yet reached the spectre of famine haunting parts of Africa again, where more than 20 million people face starvation across Somalia, Nigeria and South Sudan.

The question is- how is it that South Africa, with its excellent infrastructure, gold reserves and modern economy, has collapsed to this level just 23 years after liberation?

In fact, how does such a scale of suffering occur on our continent of 1.2 billion people, so rich in mineral wealth and oil and land mass, that it can hold almost every other continent in the world?

Whilst poverty afflicts many countries and famines are a regular occurrence across the world, a closer examination of the recurrence of this misery in Africa suggests there is very little natural about it.

From the 1950's African national liberation movements broke the yoke of colonialism and were granted sham independence, but continued to be invisibly looted under private auspices.

South Africans should have had the good fortune to learn from other liberated countries such as Angola, Mocambique and Zimbabwe and avert the pitfalls that confronted them.

Former and current imperial and colonial powers such as France, Britain, the USA and Israel, all of whom supported Apartheid South Africa that prolonged the oppression of its people, use the military-industrial-corporate complex, the IMF, World Bank, and the United Nations to exploit and capture Africa's resources.

African governments have been forced, through structural adjustments, to divert funds from agriculture, health and education, and divert it into infrastructure that benefits the West. Are we in SA headed that way?

A major cause of poverty and famines, however, is corruption, conflict and war. Geographically strategic Somalia has been at war since 1995 with numerous foreign interventions and famine has been a parallel occurrence. It now faces its third famine in 25 years. South Sudan has half of its population facing starvation and is a country floating on oil.

Western oil companies in cahoots with corrupt government officials loot some \$140 billion a year of Nigeria's black gold whilst nearly two-thirds of its people live on less than R30 a day. Yet, Nigeria has the largest, best equipped army in West Africa, benefitting mostly Western military industries.

Instead of being wealthy and the envy of the world, its cities are filled with homeless children begging for their daily bread.

Just drive through our streets in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town and Durban, and you will notice the same.

Tom Burgis in his book *The Looting Machine* describes a network of anonymous multinationals, corporate investors and bankers, who strike opaque deals with coup leaders and African elites to drain the continents resources.

At independence in 1960, the DRC was the second-most industrialized country in Africa, after South Africa. It has been plundered to such an extent that most of its population is ravaged by poverty. The same scenario afflicts 14 West African states where France holds \$500 billion of the wealth of these West African countries, in its treasury.

African leaders who dare resist the West are killed or become victims of coups. Those who obey are rewarded with security and a lavish lifestyle whilst their people endure extreme poverty.

Corrupt governments are unable to provide their citizens with even the most essential of services such as clean drinking water, medical care, electricity, education and basic infrastructure.

There is minimal primary health care, schooling, electricity, clean drinking water and sanitation.

Many revolutionary leaders who freed their people from colonialism now rule through the same oppressive structures they overthrew.

Why is it that the diamonds that we mine must be sent to Israel? Why can't Africans refine their own oil but buy back refined products at exorbitant costs from the West? Why is it that no African country can produce a car or train or plane or computers, and that it should be bought from Japan or China or Germany or the USA? And why is it that to fly within the African continent, 80% of the routes are controlled by non-African airlines?

Combating poverty will involve processes of political, economic, cultural and social change, and eradicate institutional corruption. This requires a paradigm shift.

A higher socio-economic order needs to evolve whereby wealth is deployed to meet human needs and not political leaders' greed. This also requires a significant change in the mindset of those who own, control and manage corporations and businesses.

We will never stop rescuing babies from the river until we hold accountable those responsible for throwing them in.



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# CHILDREN OF THE PROPHET ﷺ

Imam an Nawawi -may Allah have mercy on him- said, "Rasulullah ﷺ had three sons: the first was Qasim, his name became nickname for the Rasulullah ﷺ (Abul Qasim). Qasim was born before prophecy and he died when he was 2 years old. The second was Abdullah, and he was also called at Thayyib or at Tahir. The third son was Ibrahim, he was born at Medina, year 8 from hijra, and he died when he was 17 or 18 months of age.

As for his daughters, there were four of them, and all of them were descended from Khadija, mother of the believers, -may Allah be pleased with her-.

## FIRST: ZAINAB

The eldest daughter of Rasulullah ﷺ was Zainab

Zainab -may Allah be pleased with her- married the son of her aunt, Halah daughter of Khuwailid, Abu al Ash Ibn Al Rabi'. This marriage took place before her father was appointed as an apostle. Zainab and her three sisters embraced Islam as her mother Khadija embraced it, but her husband, Abu al Ash, didn't follow her and still in his pagan religion. It caused Zainab to not joining the emigration to Medina with her father and sisters; due to her marriage bond.

It was only after some time had passed could Zainab emigrate from Mecca to Medina to maintain her faith and see her beloved father, then her husband joined her and testified the two testimonies to embrace the religion of his father in law and his wife. This small, happy family then reunited in Islam and faith. But their happiness didn't last long. On year 8 H, Zainab passed away and left Abu al Ash and their daughter Umamah behind.

After her death, Umamah was taken care by her grandfather, Rasulullah ﷺ.

As mentioned in some of the hadith, he carried his granddaughter, Umamah, when he prayed. Whenever he prostrated, he put Umamah down and prostrated.

## SECOND: RUQAYYA

Ruqayya - may Allah be pleased with her- was married by her father to a noble companion, Uthman Ibn Affan -may Allah be pleased with him-. They went to emigrate to Abyssinia when the infidels of Mecca were crossing the limit in torturing and abusing the believers. at Abyssinia, this noble couple was blessed with a son and they named him Abdullah.

Ruqayya and Uthman also joined the second emigration from Mecca to Medina. When they lived in Medina, they were tried with the death of their only son who was 6 years old at that time.

Not long after that, Ruqayya also suffered a high fever. Uthman Ibn Affan was very loyal in looking after his wife and always monitor her condition. That was the period when the Battle of Badr occurred, and due to the request of the Rasulullah ﷺ to take care of his daughter, Uthman didn't join the battle. Ruqayya passed away together with the arrival of Zaid Ibn Harisah who brought the news of victory from the battle of Badr.

## THIRD: UMME KULSUM

The third daughter of Rasulullah ﷺ was Umme Kulsum

After the death of Ruqayya, Rasulullah ﷺ married Hazrat Uthman to his other daughter, Umm Kulsum -may Allah be pleased with her.

Therefore, Hazrat Uthman ؓ was also called Zun Nurain (the owner of two lights) since he married to two of the Messenger of Allah's daughters, a gift that none other companions had.

Hazrat Uthman ؓ and Umm Kulsum built their family together until the death of Umm Kulsum on the month Sha'ban, year 9 H. They didn't have any children. Umm Kulsum was buried next to her sister, Ruqayya -may Allah be pleased with her-.

## FOURTH: FATIMA

Fatima -may Allah be pleased with her- was the youngest daughter of Rasulullah ﷺ.

She was born five years before the announcement of prophecy. On the second year after the emigration, Rasulullah ﷺ married her to Hazrat Ali Ibn Abu Thalib ؓ. This couple had their first born on the third year after the emigration, and he was named Hasan. In the month Rajab, the next year, their second son was born and he was named Husein. Their third child, Zainab, was born on the fourth year of emigration and two years after that their second daughter, Umm Kulsum was born.

Fatima was the most similar child to her father, Rasulullah ﷺ, from her walking and talking style. Whenever Fatima came to visit her father at his house, he always welcomed her by kissing her on the forehead and sitting together with her. The love of Allah's apostle to Fatima was expressed in his saying,

«فَاتِمَةُ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا»

"Fatima is a part of me, Whoever enrage her, had enraged me." (Narrated by Bukhari)

He also said,

«فَاتِمَةُ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا»

"The best of women in Paradise are Khadija daughter of Khuwailid, Fatima daughter of Muhammad, Maryam daughter of Imran, Asiah daughter of Muzahim, the wife of Pharaoh." (Narrated by Ahmad)



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# CHARACTER OF THE HOLY PROPHET ﷺ

The key factor that brings reverence and respect to Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) in both the Islamic and the non-Islamic circles is His character. He was the best in character and He also said about in one of His hadiths in the following way:

“God has sent me to perfect good manners and to do good deeds.” (Bukhari)

The lines below discuss some major character traits of Prophet (ﷺ) that every Muslim should spread as much as possible.

## 1. All For The Sake Of Allah:

Prophet (ﷺ) as selfless as a person could be in life. All his undertakings and motives were just to fulfill the order of Allah and He did not undertake any action out of His personal desire and will. He lived everyday of His life for the sake of Allah and everything which He did was for the Almighty. The extent of His selflessness can be seen from the example of His preaching in the valley of Taif, where people lead naughty children to throw stones at Him while He was preaching. He had to run for His life and He was all covered in blood. But still He did not complain to Allah about Him, rather one of His companions narrates:

“The Prophet (ﷺ) resembled a Prophet who was harmed by His people. He wiped the blood from His face and said: ‘O God! Forgive my people, for they know not!’” (Bukhari)

Such is the selflessness in His character and every moment of His life was for the sake of Allah and spreading His message.

## 2. Mannerism:

Prophet (ﷺ) was the epitome of good manners. Every action that He undertook in life represented the highest morals and manners that a person could exhibit. He was an Ideal being in terms of manners and ethics, the likes of which the world has not seen. As one of His companions notes about His manners:

“The Prophet (ﷺ) did not swear at anyone, nor was He rude, nor did He curse anyone. If He desired to reprimand someone, He would say: ‘What is wrong with him, may dust be cast in his face!’” (Bukhari)

Thus if a Muslim is to give an example of the manners of someone, there would be none more suitable than Muhammad (ﷺ).

## 3. Humor:

People think that being a religious leader of Islam, Prophet (ﷺ) had nothing to do with humor, rather He was all strictness and stringency. This perception is wrong, as Prophet (ﷺ) was the one with the finest sense of humor, the likes of which again cannot be seen in anyone. His sense of humor was not vulgar in any sense or anything that would debase or make fun of someone, rather it was fine. Anas (RA) reports such an example by saying:

“Once a man asked Muhammad (ﷺ) for an animal to ride. He replied that He would give him the baby of a she-camel to ride on. The man asked ‘What would he do with a she-camel baby?’ Muhammad (ﷺ) replied, ‘Is there any camel which is not born of a she-camel?’”

## 4. Peace Lover:

The general notion regarding Islam and Prophet (ﷺ) is that they both encouraged violence in people and were and are not in favor of peace. It is totally baseless, because the religion Islam itself is peace and Prophet (ﷺ) was a lover of peace. He wanted people to live in harmony and always encouraged people resolve their differences by opting for peace, instead of going for violence. In one of His hadith Prophet (ﷺ) said:

“Let us go to resolve the situation and make peace between them.” (Bukhari)

Thus, Muslims should spread His message of peace by giving examples out of the actions He undertook to ensure peace.

## 5. Kind To The Kids:

Prophet (ﷺ) always treated kids with kindness and mercy. He always enjoyed their company and played with them to make them happy. One such example can be seen from His life when He used to say to kids:

“I’ll give such and such (i.e. gift or so) to the one who comes to me first.”

So they used to race and fall on His back and chest. (Ahmad)

This shows His treatment towards kids and there are countless other examples in His lifetime where He commanded parents to be loving and caring towards their children.

## 6. Generosity:

Generosity is another hallmark of the personality of Muhammad (ﷺ). He was the most generous person there could ever be. He preferred others over Himself and always fulfilled the needs of anyone who came to Him to ask for something. One of His companions notes:

“The Prophet (ﷺ) did not refuse to give anything which He had to someone if he asked for it.” (Bukhari)

His generosity is something that Muslims should aspire to and spread the examples of His generosity to other people as well so that the world could become a better place.

## 7. Caring Of Women:

Another allegation against Islam is that it is a religion that oppresses women, therefore, being the bringer of the religion, Muhammad (ﷺ) is also attributed with women oppressing attributes. This perception is also wrong, because Prophet (ﷺ) was very caring of the rights of the women and commended His followers to give special treatment to women by giving them respect and equal rights that they ought to have. In one of His hadiths He said:

“Whoever (brings up) two girls till they come of age, will be in the next world along with me, like my two fingers joining each other.” (Abu Dawud)

If He were an oppressor of women, He could have simply mentioned male orphan children, however, He gave preference to raising up of female children. This shows the care He had for women and their rights.

## 8. Pleasantness:

Another misconception is that Prophet (ﷺ) would be someone who would always be harsh and strict on the



people He interacted with. It is also a wrong perception because Prophet (ﷺ) was the most pleasant person. He would greet everyone with a smile and always spoke to people with gentleness. His companion said about Him:

“I have never seen a man who smiled as much as the Messenger of Allah.” (Tirmidhi)

This shows that the personality of Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) was pleasant and gentle. A person who would smile most of the times ought to leave a good impression on people, and wherever He would go He ought to have spread love and pleasantness.

#### 9. Concerned About Orphans:

Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) did not just love who were around Him, nor did He only loved those who were related to Him, rather He considered the entire society. In society, He was especially considerate of orphans and would commend His followers to take special care of the orphans as they did not have parents to look after them. In one of His hadiths, He said:

*“The best house among the Muslims is one where an orphan is well treated, and the worst house among the Muslims is one where an orphan is badly treated.”* (Ibn Majah)

Muslims must take a leaf out of His treatment of orphans and treat the orphans fairly and wherever one sees the orphans being oppressed, a Muslim should raise voice for it and stop it from happening.

#### 10. Cooperation:

Prophet (ﷺ) is the best and the highest among people, however, whilst all the greatness and grandeur, He was cooperative towards people and helped others in doing the chores in any way He could help them. He never treated Himself as someone special, rather He would mix with common people and cooperate with them in any way He could. As one of His companion narrates regarding the battle of Trench:

“I saw the Messenger of Allah on the Day of the Trench carrying dirt (that was dug from the trench) until His chest was covered with dirt.” (Bukhari)

Thus, a Muslim must also not value status or rank, rather be helping towards people and give his or her fair share in the efforts that all of the people are putting.

#### 11. Animal Rights Activist:

Perhaps Muhammad (ﷺ) was the first animal rights activist on the face of this earth who raised voice for the fair treatment of animal. He told people that animals were also creation of Allah and they deserved to be treated fairly, instead of being harsh, strict and ignorant towards them. Hazrat Aisha (RA) narrated:

“I once found difficulty in riding a horse, so I kept reining it in repeatedly. The Prophet (ﷺ) then said, ‘You must have gentleness.’” (Muslim)

Ergo, Muslims should learn from His treatment of animals and should try being as gentle and as considerate towards animals as possible and treat them fairly.

#### 12. Disassociation From Worldly Possessions:

A person who is so selfless that He would give anything that He had to anyone who asked for it and would do

everything for the sake of Allah, it is quite natural that person has little or no concern with the worldly possessions. Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) did not want anything of this world, rather whatever He had He spent it on other people and helped them solve their material problems and issues. Regarding this attribute of His personality, one of His companions notes:

“Rasulullah (ﷺ) did not leave any gold or silver currency, or a slave, male or female, after his death. He only left behind his white mule, his weapons and a piece of land which He declared as charity.” (Bukhari)

Prophet (ﷺ) was the Prophet of Allah, the leader of Islam however, when He passed away all He left was nothing as mentioned in the above hadith. Therefore, one can realize the disconcert He had for the worldly possessions and material things.

#### 13. Modesty:

Another striking personality attribute of Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) is His modesty. He was the modest of all and never encouraged any kind of vulgarity, rather He was bashful and strongly encouraged modesty in His followers. In one of His hadiths, He said:

*“Modesty is a part of teachings of the previous Prophets and anyone who lacks it is most likely to do whatever he likes.”* (Reported by Abdullah ibn Maslamah)

Thus, modesty is imperative to Islam and Prophet (ﷺ) being a living and breathing Islam ascertains that He was modest in every respect.

#### 14. Considerate:

Whether it be animals, women, children, orphans, enemies, fellow Muslims, followers, elders, or it be anyone in the society, for everyone of them Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) was considerate. He would love children and orphans, He would treat animals fairly, He would give women their rights, He would respect the elders, He would provide what people asked of Him, thus He was considerate to everyone without any discrimination. Prophet (ﷺ) said in a hadith:

“I stand up for prayer intending to prolong it. In the meantime I hear the wailing of a baby and I have to shorten my prayer, being apprehensive lest my recitation of a long verse may tell upon the baby’s mother.” (Bukhari)

#### 15. General Appearance:

In His general appearance, Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) as beautiful, pure, simple, gentle and yet so common as any other person could be. His general appearance is detailed by one of His companions in the following way:

“The Prophet (ﷺ) was a person of average height. His shoulder were wide. His hair reached his earlobes. Once I saw Him adorned in a red garment; I never saw anything more beautiful than Him.” (Bukhari)

In a nutshell, no matter whichever walk of life it is, whatever situation of life it is, a Muslim is to turn towards the personality of Muhammad (ﷺ) and find that particular piece of guidance from it. Muslims must spread the life of Prophet (ﷺ) because it is not only good for Muslims, rather the goodwill that comes from it has a universal appeal and will help make the world a better place.

# REBRANDING ISLAM

BY FAIZEL KHAMKAR

The crown prince of Saudi Arabia, Mohamed bin Salman (MbS), has stated that his country will return to its former path of moderate Islam. Erdogan the president of Turkey has correctly asserted that this must be seen as a political ploy to woo Western nations. He has further pointed out that there is no such thing as moderate Islam or any other kinds of Islam and that there is only Islam. An important point of departure is that since the colonialist masterminded the inception of Saudi Arabia the moderate path was never followed. The only Islam referred to by the Turkish president teaches moderate actions in all spheres of life and deviating from that is deviating from Islamic teachings. A correspondent from one of the media houses has daringly raised the point that moderate Islam is a political term used by the very same colonial dictators that MbS is trying to cosy up to in order to differentiate people that are to be specifically targeted in the mythical war against terrorism. It is also an ideal tool to weaken the natural structures of the Muslim community. These points mentioned above would warrant us to tread carefully.

The bombing of innocent civilians in Yemen continues unabatedly and the destruction of the infrastructure of Yemen to appease their puppet masters does not announce any moderation of actions. Ironically it is these actions which resulted in MbS's statement as these actions are mirroring the extremist (political term hawkishness) tendency of the Saudi regime in the same way as its Western backers and resulting in a backlash. Lost credibility cannot be won back simply by claiming a move to the centre.

Furthermore the aggressive pursuit of hegemony is a very expensive and senseless exercise. This coupled with the irrational chase of acquiring arms has led to a financial crisis. It is foolishly deemed that in modernizing Saudi Arabia new avenues for financial ease will be opened. Modernity within the Saudi context is legalising haraam and as such cannot be equated to Islam, moderate or not. Islam does not oppose modernity but is the only system which places yardsticks to measure its good and bad. The vision of the new modern Islam of Saudi Arabia cannot be seen in any other way but an attempt to bring about some or other form of financial stability in a country which is predicted to have a stagnant economic growth of zero percent.

It is this misrepresentation of modernity with moderate Islam that begs the question: Who will interpret the Islamic laws and on what basis. The public has already been warned by that psychopath president of the United States that the U.S.A will contribute to such interpretations and implementations of various laws. This coming from the blind leading the blind will result in a recipe for destruction. The Muslim world is well endowed with Islamic scholars who will not be brought out because of their high moral standing and this could lead to bloodshed in order to obtain a consensus on wrongfulness. The Islamic scholars are spread out throughout the globe and will therefore not be pressurised as would have been the case of them based solely in Saudi Arabia. Furthermore it has been mooted that Saudi Arabia be broken up into four states. This would fit the idea of modernity as to separate practice from religious dogma. What MbS and his father have overlooked is that this would lead to weakening their base and falling into the hands of their enemies disguised as their allies and protectors.

The next question is who would drive this vision. MbS cannot do it alone and would require a leadership team around him. This leadership team must be in sync with his thinking and tolerant of his personal agenda of power and greed. The purge carried out almost simultaneously as his "historic" announcement resulting in the current leadership of Saudi Arabia to dissolve in thin air must have been calculated with this object in mind together with the entrenching of his power. It is rumoured that such a team has already been selected.

This rebranding of Islam can only be described as an ill wind that blows no good.

*Balaghal Ula Bi Kamaalihi*

He reached all heights through his perfection

*Kashafad Duja Bi Jamaalihi*

He removed all darkness through  
his beautiful reflection

*Hasunath Jamee'u Khisaalihi*

Perfect was his each and every action

*Sallu Alaihi Wa Aalihi*

Send benedictions on him and his family



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# INTERNATIONAL NEWS FOCUS

BY FAKIR HASSEN

**Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA** – Many of the more than 200 people, among them members of the large royal family, who were detained for questioning are still under arrest as Crown Prince Salman cracked down on corruption in the Kingdom. Despite claims by critics that Salman was consolidating his power base through this populist tactic, a government spokesman said that 208 people had been summoned for questioning and that seven had been released without being charged. The arrests, he said, were based on three years of investigations that produced considerable evidence of corruption. He said that the arrests were aimed at rooting out the corruption and reclaiming embezzled funds amounting to more than \$100 billion.

**Rajasthan, INDIA** – Two Muslim men were gunned down in Alwar by Hindu extremists who accused them of smuggling cows. Cattle traders Umar Mohammed and Tahir Khan were transporting cows from Mewat in Haryana to Bharatpur in Rajasthan when they were stopped by alleged cow vigilantes. The slaughtering of cows has been banned in many states of India by the government and a few Muslims have been previously lynched by Hindu cow vigilante mobs.

**Colombo, SRI LANKA** – Police arrested four people including a Buddhist monk and a police officer accused of taking part in an attack on a mosque, as part of a crackdown on violence against the minority Muslim population. Police said the four were members of the hard-line Bodu Bala Sena (BBS) or Buddhist Power Force organisation, which Muslim groups have blamed for a string of recent attacks on businesses and mosques. President Maithripala Sirisena's government has come under fire from

opposition groups and diplomats for not doing enough to crack down on hard-line Buddhist groups and protect Muslims. More than 20 attacks on Muslims, including arson at Muslim-owned businesses and petrol-bomb attacks on mosques, have been recorded since April 17.

**Geneva, SWITZERLAND** – Prominent thinkers, authors, diplomats and other personalities gathered to see the Muslim World League launch the "Role of Religions in the Reinforcement of Global Peace" forum. The forum called for intensifying meetings between Muslim scholars and scholars from other faiths in order to discuss outstanding issues and problems and form familiar concepts about them. The forum also stressed the importance of getting rid of the effects of historical conflicts to promote peace and mutual understanding and rejected the culture of violence and exclusion.

**North Carolina, USA** – A US Marine Corps drill instructor has been sentenced to 10 years behind bars after being convicted of tormenting and abusing young recruits, especially Muslim-Americans, including one who later killed himself. Gunnery Sgt. Joseph Felix, a 34-year-old Iraq veteran, was convicted of dozens of criminal violations including taunting three Muslim recruits as "terrorists" or "Daesh" and ordering two of them to climb into an industrial clothes dryer, spinning one of them around in the scorching machine until he renounced his faith.

**Paris, FRANCE** – Tensions erupted as French officials and residents of a Paris suburb tried to block Muslims from conducting Jumu'ah prayers in the street due to a shortage of mosques in the city. Carrying a large banner reading "Stop Illegal Street

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**Prayers,** Mayor Remi Muzeau led more than 100 demonstrators in a show of force to dissuade Muslims from praying on the town's market square. Worshippers have been praying there every Friday for months to protest the closure of a prayer room.

**Washington, USA** – American University is now offering a graduate certificate in Islamic finance to better prepare professionals to compete and do business in both emerging and established markets. The curriculum includes courses that focus on the role of Islamic finance in the global economy and Islamic capital markets. Coursework also focuses on Sukuk (Islamic bonds), which are structured to generate returns without generating interest, which is prohibited in Islam. American University is a leader in global education, enrolling a diverse student body from throughout the United States and nearly 140 countries.

**Riyadh, SAUDI ARABIA** – Saudi Arabia's Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture, the National Centre for Palms and Dates, and the Saudi Technology Development and Investment Company (TAQNIA), plan to establish the biggest regional factory to recycle palm, date and agricultural waste. The factory is expected to transform a third of the palm, dates and agriculture product waste from the 1,7 million tons generated by the agricultural sector in the Kingdom into economic products.

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# **URS MUBARAK**

***Hazrat Makhdoom Alahuddin Ali Ahmed  
Sabir Kalyari***

## ***Sabri Splendour***

*'Tis in the vineyard of Ganj-Shakar  
Songbirds refresh the hymn of Kalyar  
A moon and such glory full emerge  
Season when lovers faithful resurge  
Secrets of the vow who will announce  
Thirsty, oblivious, they who renounce  
Passionate is he about whom they sing  
Generous the wedding feast for a king  
Who in this galaxy shone as bright  
Kept veiled a star in the dark of night  
Now is the time when hearts will ignite  
The moth finds home in the firelight  
Welcome, oh Beggar, where have you been  
You too, a guest of Ala'ud-deen*

*- Irshad Siddiqi*

***Al Kausar***