# Muhammad's Last Days

### The Guidance He Left Behind







"O people, let any person - or any believer - who has been afflicted with a calamity console himself with my loss, for no one from my Nation will be afflicted by a calamity after me that is more severe upon him than my calamity (i.e., my death)." [Sunan Ibn Mājah #1599]

- When we experience any hardship, we can console ourselves by remembering his death.
- All our hardships would pale in comparison.

- We **do not** have the unconditional love for the Prophet which should be in the heart of every believer.
- We may claim we do love him, but we have nothing but lip service.
- When we lose someone beloved, close and special to, do we not become extremely grieved and devastated?
- Why is it that upon contemplating upon the death of Nabī ﷺ, we feel absolutely nothing?

- Why is this so when the love we should have for Nabī should be greater than the love we have for anyone or anything else?
- "None of you have Imān (faith) until I am more beloved to him than his children, his father and all of mankind." [Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī #15]
- This was the type of love the Ṣaḥābah had for the Prophet . They loved him more than everything, even their own selves.
- Upon the death of the Prophet the Ṣaḥābah became bewildered and confused.
- Someone as strong as 'Umar did not want to believe it.
- Bilal could no longer bear living in Madīnah without his beloved.
- They understood what a great loss it was.

When Abū Bakr and 'Umar visited Umm Ayman after the Prophet's death and she was crying, they asked: "Why are you crying? Is not what Allāh has with Him better for the Messenger of Allāh?"

She replied: "I do not cry being ignorant of the fact that which is with Allāh is better for him. Rather I cry because revelation has ceased to come down from the sky."

[Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim # 2454, Sunan Ibn Mājah # 1635]

Anas said: "On the day the Messenger of Allah entered Madinah, everything became illuminated therein. Then on the day he passed away, everything therein became dark. We had not even shaken the dust off our hands after burying the Messenger of Allāh and we already began to feel the change in our hearts."

[Jāme' Tirmidhī #3618. Sunan Ibn Mājah #1631]

- They no longer had the Nabī's guiding light, advice.
- Through the message he brought, we were brought out of the darkness of misguidance into the light of guidance and Tawhīd.
- "He was a means of peace and protection for his Ummah and when he departed, they were overcome with trials (fitnah), desires, changes and innovations which are uncountable." [Injāḥul Ḥājah]

- In the ending of Safar 11 A.H., he began suffering from headaches and high fever.
- He spent his last week in the room of 'Ā'ishah . He was in so much pain that he found it difficult to move every day from one wife's room to the next. He asked his wives: "Where shall I stay tomorrow?" They all knew what he wanted so they granted him permission to stay in 'Ā'ishah's home. [Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī & Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim]
- His entire life was spent worrying about the Ummah, guiding and advising them towards the straight path.
- And even in his final moments although he was suffering greatly and as his fever rose five days before his death, he was concerned about the Ummah and wished to speak to them.
- He ordered for water from seven water skin pots to be poured over him so that he can gain some relief and energy to talk to his people. [Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī #198]

#### Fears and Concerns:

Competing and fighting with each other over the world

He said: "I do not fear that you will ascribe partners with Allāh after me, but I fear that you will compete with each other to gain this world." [Fiqhus Sīrah pg. 492, Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī, Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim]

Going to extremes in honouring him after his death

He said: "The curse of Allah falls upon the Jews and Christians for they have made their Prophets' tombs places of worship." He would also repeat this statement whilst on his deathbed. He would uncover the blanket over his face when distressed and repeat this statement. [Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī, Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim, Sunan Nasā'ī]

#### Fears and Concerns:

- Şalāh
- \*He led all the ṣalāhs until Thursday- four days before he died. Maghrib ṣalāh on this day was the **last** ṣalāh he led.
- \*Even after this, he was worried about whether the people had prayed or not.

#### Fears and Concerns:

#### Şalāh

In the evening he grew so sick that he could not overcome the strain of his illness or go out to enter the Masjid. 'Ā'ishah said: The Prophet asked: "Have the people performed the prayer?" She replied: "No. They have not. They are waiting for you." He said: "Put some water in the washing pot." We did what he ordered. He washed himself and wanted to stand up, but he fainted. He then asked again "Have the people prayed?" And this happened three times and he kept fainting. [Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī #687, Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim #418, Sunan Nasā'ī #834]

His final advice before he died was also regarding ṣalāh. He said: "The prayer and those whom your right hand possess." And he kept saying this until he could no longer speak. [Ibn Mājah #1625]

### Sunday: A day Before He Died

He set his slaves free, gave the seven dinārs he owned in charity and distributed his weapons amongst the Muslims.

He was the leader of all mankind and yet he lived a simple lifestyle - detached from the materialism of this world and he also left this world like this.

#### Monday- The Day He Departed From This World

Az-Zuhrī narrates that Anas bin Mālik told me: "Abū Bakr used to lead the people in prayer during the fatal illness of the Prophet until Monday. When the people aligned (in rows) for the prayer the Prophet # lifted the curtain of his house and started looking at us and was standing at that time. His face was (glittering) like a page of the Qur<sup>3</sup>ān and he smiled cheerfully. We were about to be put to trial for the pleasure of seeing the Prophet, Abu Bakr retreated to join the row as he thought that the Prophet se would lead the prayer. The Prophet se beckoned us to complete the prayer and he let the curtain fall. On the same day he died." [Sahīh Bukhārī #680]

This was Fajr şalāh and he died before Zuhr of that day.

#### Monday- The Day He Departed From This World

When the pangs of death started, 'Ā' ishah leaned him against her. She used to say: "It was one of the favours of Allah towards me that Allāh's Messenger # expired in my house on the day of my turn while he was leaning against my chest and Allah made my saliva mix with his saliva at his death. 'Abdur-Rahman entered upon me with a Siwāk in his hand and I was supporting (the back of) Allah's Messenger (against my chest). I saw the Prophet looking at it (i.e. Siwāk) and I knew that he loved the Siwak, so I said (to him), "Shall I take it for you?" He nodded in agreement. So, I took it, and it was too stiff for him to use, so I said, "Shall I soften it for you?" He nodded his approval. So, I softened it, and he cleaned his teeth with it. In front of him there was a jug or a tin containing water. He started dipping his hand in the water and rubbing his face with it, he said, "None has the right to be worshipped except Allah. Death has its agonies." He then lifted his hands (towards the sky) and started saying, "With the highest companion," until he expired, and his hand dropped down. [Saḥīḥ Bukhārī #4449]

Innālillāhi wa innā ilayhi rājiʿūn.

#### Monday-The Day He Departed From This World

Monday, in Rabī'ul Awwal, 11 A.H. Age: 63.

"That day was the darkest day, filled with worry, difficulty, and tests for humanity, just as the day of his birth was the most fortunate day in which the sun rose." Abul Ḥasan ʿAlī Nadwī- Sīratul Khātamin Nabiyyīn

Abū Bakr remained calm and said:

"He who worships Muḥammad, he is dead but He who worships Allāh, He is ever living and will never die."

Muḥammad is no more than a messenger; other messengers have gone before him. If he were to die or to be killed, would you regress into disbelief? {3:144} [Ṣaḥīḥ Bukhārī]

The death of the Prophet strings forth two unchanging realities which are the foundations of belief in Allāh and the foundation of all universal truths:

- 1. The oneness of Allāh
- 2. The attitude of submission and servitude to Allāh.
- \*It shows us that death will come to everyone with no exceptions.
- \*As Allāh says in the Qur ān: "Every soul shall taste death." {29:57} [Fighus Sīrah pg.498-499]

#### Farewell Hajj Sermon-Precious Timeless Advices

#### 1. Protecting the life, honour and property of a Muslim

"Verily your blood and your wealth and your honor are sacred upon you like the sacredness of this day in this month and in this city. (You will meet your Lord, and He will ask you about your deeds.) So, after I am gone, do not return to disbelief, with some of you striking each other's necks." [Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim #1679]

\* This reflects the importance of building love and unity amongst each other and staying away from violence, bloodshed and causing harm to each other.

#### 2. Prohibition of Interest

[Sunan Ibn Mājah #3055, Sunan Abī Dāwūd #3334, Jāme' Tirmidhī #3087]

#### 3. Beware of Shaytan

"Satan has lost all hope that he will ever be worshipped in your land, but he is satisfied to be obeyed in other matters you deem insignificant." [Musnad Aḥmad, Mustadrak Ḥakim 1/93]

\* This is something we always have to be mindful of and we must constantly seek Allāh's protection from this evil. Shayṭān is our biggest enemy.

"O you who have Imān! Enter into Islām (submit to the Sharī<sup>c</sup>ah) completely (by wholeheartedly and willingly fulfilling all the commands of the Sharī<sup>c</sup>ah) and do not follow on the footsteps of Shayṭān (who will tempt you to pick and choose only those aspects of Islām that please you) for he is certainly your open enemy (as he tempts you to do baseless things and engage in innovations)" {2:208}

#### 4. Kind Treatment to Women. Fulfilling Rights of Women

"Behold! There are rights for you upon your women, and rights for your women upon you. As for your rights upon them, then they are not to allow anyone on your bedding whom you dislike, nor to permit anyone whom you dislike in your homes. Behold! Indeed their rights upon you are that you treat them well in clothing them and feeding them." [Tirmidhī #3087]

\*Our Beloved Prophet chose this to be one of his parting advices.

#### 4. Kind Treatment to Women. Fulfilling Rights of Women

- \* Long before western human rights organizations and feminism campaigns existed, Islām granted a woman her true worth and a status that is unmatched.
- ❖ In these brief words, he highlights that both men and women have rights over each other.
- \* He highlights the role of the male as the provider and the balanced relationship which should exist between the man and the woman.
- Equity not blind equality as the feminists advocate for.
- \* We do not need to abide by their standard when Our Beloved Prophet has outlined the most perfect standard for us.

#### 5. Abandoning Racism and Nationalism

"All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over black nor a black has any superiority over white except by piety (taqwā) and good action." [Musnad Aḥmad]

- ❖ In a time where we are judged because of the colour of our skin or the country we are from and in a world which is divided based on national pride, egotism and race, we are reminded that none of this matters in the sight of Allāh. Only piety and good deeds grants one superiority in Allāh's sight.
- \* Islām is for the entire mankind regardless of race or ethnicity.
- \* The Prophet was the living example of these words. He chose Bilāl , a black slave to have the honour of being his Mu<sup>c</sup>addhin. Even in his final days, the last army he dispatched, he made Usāmah, the son of a freed slave its leader.

#### 6. Spread knowledge

"Those who are present should pass on my message to those who are absent. For perhaps to whom it is conveyed will understand it better than the first one who heard it"

[Şaḥīḥ Bukhārī #67. Ibn Mājah #233. Şaḥīḥ Muslim #1679]

\* He reminded us of the importance of propagating what we learn and spreading the message of Islām to others.

#### 7. Fulfilling Allāh's Rights-The Farāiḍ

"Fear Allah your Lord, pray your five prayers, fast your month of Ramadan, give charity from your wealth, and obey those in authority over you. You will enter the Paradise of your Lord." [Jāmeʿ Tirmidhī #616]

- 8. Remembering Objective of this life, doing deeds for Allāh. Living for the hereafter
- "Remember, one day you will soon meet Allah and He will ask you about your deeds." [Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim #1679]
- \*He reminded us of our objective in this world. Its temporary nature. We will have to give an account of our every action.

#### 9. Hold onto the Quran and Sunnah

"I leave behind me two things. If you hold onto them. you will never go astray-, the Qur'ān and the Sunnah of his prophet." [Ḥākim 1/93]

- This encapsulated the message of which he came with.
- ❖ In these words, he ties his entire mission together: he left behind the Quroān and Sunnah for us to follow. To implement.
- ❖ If we follow upon this parting advice, we will never go astray. InshāAllāh.

- 9. Hold onto the Quran and Sunnah
- \*His message culminated and perfected all the previous Divine messages.
- \*Allāh prevealed after this farewell sermon:

"Today I have perfected your Dīn for you, completed my bounty upon you and chosen Islām as your Dīn." {5:3}

- \* Islām is the most perfect religion.
- \* The message the Prophet brought is the most perfect message.
- His sunnah is the most perfect lifestyle.
- \*There is no need to turn to any other ideology to reinterpret, or compromise or innovate anything within the most beautiful and perfect teachings the Prophet taught us to gain the stamp of approval from the modernists and liberalists and conform to their standard way of life.

- \*The Prophet left us with the two shining lights, the Qur'ān and Sunnah.
- \*Allāh has called us the Ummah of Nabī as the best of nations.
- \* Let us be contented and truly hold onto these most precious gifts we have been blessed with.



I am pleased with Allāh as the lord, Islām as the religion and Muḥammad signas the Prophet.

[Jāme' Tirmidhī, Abū Dāwūd]

# May Allah grant us the true love of the Prophet and the ability to follow upon his sunnah and advice.