

إن الحمد لله نحمده ونستعينه ونستهديه ونستغفره و نتوب إليه، ونعوذ بالله من شرور أنفسنا وسيئات أعمالنا. من يهده الله فلا مضل له ومن يضلل، فلن تجد له ولي مرشدا. وأشهد أن محمد صلى الله عليه وسلم عبده ورسوله وصفيه من خلقه وحببيه. بلغ الرسالة وأدى الأمانة، ونصح الأمة و كشف الله به الغمة، و جاهد في الله حق جهاده حتى أتاه اليقين. فأجزه الله عنا خير ما جازيت نبي عن أمته و رسول عن قومه. و إتقوا الله وأعلموا أن ما قل و كفى خير مم كثر و ألهى وما أنتم معجزين ثم أما بعد:

## Introduction

Brothers in Islam,

The title of my Khutba today is "Seera and the rebuilding of the Ummah part one". And I say part one because I planed this a s series that will continue on for sometime. I therefore urge you to approach me if you think that this is a bad idea or have any ideas or suggestions.

Today we talk about a subject that I consider one of the most important subjects in the life of a Muslim, In fact one of the most important subject for all humanity. Today we will talk about studying the biography of the greatest man Allah created since he created Adam (peace be upon him) until the day of Resurrection. Brothers, people might excel in a specific field and fall behind in another. But This man Subhan Allah, excelled in all fields regardless. He excelled in his worship of Allah . In his dealings. In his courage. In his generosity. In his calmness. In his refraining from worldly things. In his wisdom. In his Intelligence. In his humbleness. In every thing this man was ahead of others. Subhan Allah.

We will study the biography of the man to whom Allah addressed him saying in Surat Al Qalam verse 4:

"و أنك لعلی خلق عظیم"

"And you stand on an exulted standard of character".

Imagine that Allah sunhanahu wa talaa described the character of this man as exulted. What standard is this, that Allah The Exulted, The Generous, The Great, subhanah wa taa'la described as an exulted character. This man that Allah swears by him and said IN Surat Al-Hijr(15) verse 72:

"لعمرك انهم لفي سكرتهم يعمهون"

"Verily, by thy life (O Prophet), in their wild intoxication, they wander in distraction, to and fro."

A man Allah subhanah wa taa'la swears by his life. We study the life of a man that Allah will not start to judge mankind until he intervenes on their behalf. We study the biography of the man whom we will not enter paradise except behind him brothers. We will not be given water on the day of Resurrection except from his hand from his water hole and his river. If we know his biography and his way of life and we follow that then there will be salvation. salvation in this life and the next my brothers. And if we are ignorant of his way or we do not follow it, we will be told "sohkan sohkan".

Brothers, We will study the biography of the Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم , the first of creation to be resurrected on the day of Resurrection. Carrying the

banner of gratitude on the day of Resurrection. Owner of the lofty place, and the water hole where we will all gather **صلى الله عليه وسلم**. The biography of the man for whom the gates of heaven were opened so that he may pass with his body to what exists after them. When the Prophet roes with Gabriel in the "Miraj" to the heavens, Gabriel knocked on the doors of the first heaven, the angel asked "who is it?" Gabriel answered "Gabriel", the angle asked "who is with you?" Gabriel replied "Mohamed". The angle asked "Has he been granted permission?". "Yes" Gabriel replied and the gates were opened. The gates of heaven opened for him and the prophet entered into a place no man has ever entered alive. A man the reached a place that no other man or angle ever reached. Even the angles did not reach the place that the Messenger **صلى الله عليه وسلم** reached. The Man brothers that saw Paradise and Hell with his eyes and not just as a vision. We are not comparing the greatness of this man with the greatness of Buddha, Confucius, Hitler, Lenin or Stalin as Michael Pollard did, tin his book "100 Greatest Men". A wonder that people are happy with this book. We compare him to Allah's prophets Noah, Abraham peace be upon them. And Moses and Jesus and with all the prophet of Allah peace be upon them all.

This man has a huge standing, we also compare him with the angles, all of them. With the angle of bounties, with the angle of the seas, with the angle of the mountains with the angles of the throne and even with Gabriel peace be upon him. When Gabriel reached "sidrat al mountaha" he was not able to continue he told the prohet **صلى الله عليه وسلم** "If I were to take another step I would burn" but Allah enabled the messenger of Allah to continue. And so he continued to meat Allah subhanahu wa taa'la. A man with a enormous, immortal standing . And our concern with knowing his biography, his life and every minute that he lived should reflect his great standing. If the study of his biography is generally important it is without doubt even more important in this day and age. And why is it more important Brothers? We can see that state of the Ummah and how it has reached a state of diversity and collapse in many aspects. It is dangerous situation that the Umah is in. And subhan Allah we see a large difference between the description of this Umah in the Quran and the current state that we see with our eyes. For example In Surat Al-Imran verse 110:

كُنْتُمْ خَيْرَ أُمَّةٍ أُخْرِجَتْ لِلنَّاسِ تَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَتَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَتُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَلَوْ آمَنَ أَهْلُ الْكِتَابِ لَكَانَ خَيْرًا لَهُمْ مِّنْهُمْ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَأَكْثَرُهُمُ الْقَاسِقُونَ

YOU ARE indeed the best community that has ever been brought forth for (the good of) mankind: you enjoin the doing of what is right and forbid the doing of what is wrong, and you believe in God. Now if the followers of earlier revelations had attained to (this kind of) faith, it would have been for their own good; (but only few) among them are believers, while most of them are iniquitous:

and in Surat Al-Baqara verse 143:

وَكَذَلِكَ جَعَلْنَاكُمْ أُمَّةً وَسَطًا لِتَكُونُوا شُهَدَاءَ عَلَى النَّاسِ وَيَكُونَ الرَّسُولُ عَلَيْكُمْ شَهِيدًا  
 And thus have We willed you to be a community of the middle way, so that (with your lives) you might bear witness to the truth before all mankind, and that the Apostle might bear witness to it before you.

You then take a look at the reality of the situation of Muslims. You will find them lagging behind in all fields. Lagging in military power. We are also lagging in the

field of economics. Which is difficult to understand given the vast resources of the Muslim Ummah. The Muslim nations are known for their wealth. Oil, minerals and vast amounts of products and shipping routes. And one is unable to understand this retarded economic state given all these resources. We are lagging in knowledge as well. A huge gap between us and the other nations. Some people have estimated the gap to be the equivalent of 100 years in some countries. We are even lagging in unity. It is rare to find to Muslim Nation without some strife between them about their borders. There is something that is very heavy on ones self. Imagine even in character. We always say that civilization is not just about material objects. That character and manners are an important part of civilization. So how are doing for example in our cars on the street. How do we treat each other. How do neighbors treat one another in Muslim countries. How do our public servants treat the populous. What is the status of bribes in our countries and corruption. How is our media doing and the latest movies and the immorality that is becoming uncontrollable in songs and advertisements in the streets and everywhere. Even in places of learning, in our schools and universities you see things that you would never image seeing except in a club!

Brother is a indisputable fact the the Quran is truth void of all falsehood. The Quran says "YOU ARE indeed the best community that has ever been brought forth". It says "And thus have We willed you to be a community of the middle way, so that (with your lives) you might bear witness to the truth before all mankind, and that the Apostle might bear witness to it before you." The Fault is then not in the Quran. The Quran is truthful. But the fault lies with us. We have not been able to follow the Quran correctly. We have not been able to follow the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allah correctly. And that why all this has happened to us.

I do not mention all these problems to bring about despair. But to realize that we need rebuild the Muslim Ummah. To fill in the cracks that have attacked our Ummah. There is hope in rebuilding the nation. In fact the rebuilding of the Ummah is a forgone issue. By Allah the Ummah will rise again. This is an absolute truth. This is what was promised by Allah subhanahu wa ta'ala. And Allah, Brothers never brakes a promise. Allah says in his book In Surat Ghafir(40) verse 51:

إِنَّا لَنَنْصُرُ رُسُلَنَا وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَيَوْمَ يَقُومُ الْأَشْهَادُ

BEHOLD, We shall indeed support Our apostles and those who have attained to faith, (both) in this world's life and on the Day when all the witnesses shall stand up.

In Saheeh Muslim book 041, hadeeth number 6904:

عن ثوبان رضي الله عنه أن رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم قال: « إِنَّ اللَّهَ رَوَى لِي الْأَرْضَ، فَرَأَيْتُ مَشَارِقَهَا وَمَغَارِبَهَا، وَإِنَّ أُمَّتِي سَيَبْلُغُ مُلْكُهَا مَا رُوِيَ لِي مِنْهَا »

Thauban reported that Allah's Messenger (may peace be upon him) said: Allah drew the ends of the world near one another for my sake. And I have seen its eastern and western ends. And the dominion of my Ummah would reach those ends which have been drawn near me.

This is the promise of the truthful صلى الله عليه وسلم. However I need to add two comments. This first is that we want faith in the absolute truth like that of the companions. The faith of the companions like in the battle of the confederates. Review the things that happened in the battle of the confederates and we will go

over it in detail in a later kutba. When the confederates were gathering against the prophet in Madina, 10,000 men. And 10,000 was a enormous number in those times for the Arabs. There was a tribe called Banu Shayban and we will talk about later, whom boasted at being a very large tribe. They would say "our numbers are greater than a thousand and if a thousand are beaten it will not be from lack of numbers". So imagine 10,000 warriors surrounding Madina. This was very difficult for the Muslims. And the messenger of Allah in the midst of this strife breaks the boulder with his hands, the large boulder that the companions were unable to break. He says: "Bismillah" and strikes the boulder and says "Allahu Akbar, I have been given the keys to Al sham. By Allah I see their red palaces now" he then strikes again and more of the boulder broke away and said "Allahu Akbar I have been given the keys of Persia. By Allah I can see the white palace of Madaen " he then strikes a third time and the rest if the boulder fell away and he said "Allahu Akbar I have been given the key of Yemen. By Allah I can see the gates of Sanaa from here". Subhan Allah. Imagine that state of the companions as they are hearing the prophesies of the messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم. The believers said as told by the Quran in Surat Al-Ahzab verse 22:

وَلَمَّا رَأَى الْمُؤْمِنُونَ الْأَحْزَابَ قَالُوا هَذَا مَا وَعَدَنَا اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ وَهُمْ إِلَّا إِيْمَانًا  
وَتَسْلِيمًا

And (so,) when the believers saw the Confederates (advancing against them), they said, This is what God and His Apostle have promised us!- and, Truly spoke God and His Apostle and all this but increased their faith and their readiness to surrender themselves unto God.

Subhan Allah, The Muslims in this difficult situation new that Allah's victory would come soon. Because Allah's victory comes after difficult times. What then were the hypocrites saying? When the hypocrites saw the large gap between the Muslims in Madina and the confederates the said as described by Allah in Surat Al-Ahzab verse 12:

وَإِذْ يَقُولُ الْمَتَافِقُونَ وَالَّذِينَ فِي قُلُوبِهِم مَّرَضٌ مَّا وَعَدَنَا اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ إِلَّا غُرُورًا

And (remember how it was) when the hypocrites and those with hearts diseased said (to one another), God and His Apostle have promised us nothing but delusions!

This is what the hypocrites said. When the based their opinion only on the material aspects in the gap between the numbers of the Muslim and the confederates. The did not give Allah his due. The did not factor in the greatness of Allah and the strength of Allah because the hypocrites do not believe and so this was there opinion. The Muslims, the true believers however know and believe in the greatness of Allah ans they new that as the situation is becoming ever more difficult then the victory from Allah is very near.

Brother the situation with the Muslim Ummah is growing evermore difficult and the victory will come Inn Shaa Allah. This was the fist comment on the issue of the absolute truth. That we need faith like those of the companions.

The second comment is that what is your role in the rebuilding of the Ummah? Many of us are waiting for someone else to come and rebuild the Ummah for us. But where is the role that Allah has made your responsibility in the rebuilding of the

Ummah? We return to the Quran where Allah make clear that we each have a responsibility:

كُنْتُمْ خَيْرَ أُمَّةٍ أُخْرِجَتْ لِلنَّاسِ

“YOU ARE indeed the best community that has ever been brought forth for (the good of) mankind”

You... all of us.

and

كُلُّ نَفْسٍ بِمَا كَسَبَتْ رَهِيْنَةٌ

(On the Day of Judgment,) every human being will be held in pledge for whatever he has wrought

And Surat Az-Zumar verse 7:

وَلَا تَزِرُ وَازِرَةٌ وِزْرَ أُخْرَى

And no bearer of burdens shall be made to bear another's burden.

Even if all the Muslims do not fulfill their responsibilities Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala will only judge you on your responsibilities. So has Allah promised and this is part of Allah's justice.

OK so what is the relationship between the study of the seerah and the rebuilding of the Ummah? Brothers, these days everyone wants to rebuild the Ummah in his way or as per his vision. We should follow communism to rebuild the ummah. And we spend 30 years following communism only to discover that it is useless Subhan Allah some countries continued to follow communism even after the countries that invented it stopped following it. Some people say that we should follow capitalism and we spend years and years following capitalism. One country will say lets use French law, It seams good. Other will say no no, we will use English law or Italian law. And we collect pieces of different ideologies from the east and the west and of course we differer and we argue over different ideologies. But what are we supposed to do when we differ? To whom do we go for guidance? Listen to the advice of the messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم as he describes a similar situation:

In Sunan Abu Dawoud book 40, hadeeth number 4590:

عن العرياض بن سارية رضي الله عنه قال : وعظنا رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم موعظة وجلت منها القلوب وذرفت منها العيون , فقلنا يا رسول الله كأنها موعظة مودع فأوصنا , قال - أوصيكم بتقوى الله عزوجل , والسمع والطاعة وإن تأمر عليك عبد , فإنه من يعش منكم فسيرى اختلافاً كثيراً . فعليكم بسنتي وسنة الخلفاء الراشدين المهديين عضوا عليها بالنواجذ , وإياكم ومحدثات الأمور فإن كل بدعة ضلالة.

Narrated by Irbad ibn Sariyah:

One day the Apostle of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم gave us a lengthy exhortation at which the eyes shed tears and the hearts were afraid. A man said: Apostle of Allah! It seems as if it were a farewell exhortation, so what injunction do you give us? He then said: I enjoin you to fear Allah, and to hear and obey even if it be an slave, for those of you who live after me will see great disagreement. You must then follow my sunnah and that of the rightly-guided caliphs. Hold to it and stick fast to it. Avoid novelties, for every innovation is an error.

And from here we can see that the study of the lives of the prophet and the lives of the caliphs is a necessary step to discovering the correct path to rebuilding the Ummah. We will not be able to rebuild it any other way.

In these series of khutbas we will discuss an aspect of the messenger's life. We will talk about the Makian Era of the prophet's life. The aim of this series is not to tell every event that happened to the prophet in Makkah, that would take a very long time and would be an impossible task. Why? Because the events of the prophets life have been captured with so much detail. Every minute of his life was recorded from the time the message was revealed until he died. No other man has his life recorded so. The most minute of details were recorded. And maybe the wisdom behind the marriage of the prophet from so many women was to preserve the wisdom they learned from the prophet and spread knowledge of things that ordinary people would not see to the rest of the Ummah.

So what is the reason behind this large recordings of so much details? Because the messenger of Allah ﷺ is a role model . A complete role model and there will be no more prophets until the day of judgment. Allah says in the Quran in Surat Al-Ahzab verse 21 :

لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ لِّمَن كَانَ يَرْجُوا اللَّهَ وَالْيَوْمَ الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا

VERILY, in the Apostle of God you have a good example for everyone who looks forward (with hope and awe) to God and the Last Day, and remembers God unceasingly.

We are required to follow the footsteps of the prophet. We are required to follow him when he was calm and when he was angry. We are required to follow him when he was happy and when he was sad. When he was traveling and when he was not. In every moment of his life if he accepts something then this is the situation that we should accept and if you gets angry in a situation when we should get angry in the same situation. So the study of the prophets biography is very important indeed.

The other reason why it would be difficult to mention every thing in the life of the prophet is the amazing variety in the prophets life. For sometime he is being pursued, the victim of much evil as we see in the hijrah of the prophet to Madina when he left makkah with only Abu Baker El Sadeek. At that time there were bounties for both their heads until he reaches Madina. And another time we find him with power sending letters to the most powerful rulers of the time. The emperor of Persia, and Rome to the king of Egypt and all the kings of his time. Observe the tremendous difference in situations lived by the same man.

At one stage the prophet might be at peace with a tribe and another stage at war with them. So why did he make peace at his specific situation but went to war at a different situation. At one stage the prophet is so poor he ties rocks to his stomach to ward off hunger pains and at another stage we see him become rich with treasures coming in from all over the Arabian peninsula and his spending money for Allah's cause in an unprecedented fashion. A man that deals with the idol worshipers, with the Jews with the Christians, with the hypocrites and with the believers. Sometimes he wins sometimes he loses. Every situation that a man can

experience, that a nation can experience has been experience by the messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم.

The third reason is that along with the prophet was a magnificent generation of companions that created a string of incidents that has no end. Tens of volumes could not contain them. If a great man lives amongst trivial people there will arise no incidents. But when a great man lives amongst great people that interact positively with him in every situation, they move with passion, they think seriously and intelligently, they discuss things amongst themselves with understanding then every one of these companions becomes a large story by himself. Abu Bakr for example needs tens of volumes to describe his actions. The same for Umar, Uthman and Ali and Asayidah Aysha and saiday Sfiyah and all the Muhajereen and Ansar. And you will grow weary counting all these people. Thousands of volumes have been written on these companions and at the end of the day this is all but a part of the biography of the blessed messenger of Allah.

The fourth reason is that as the greatness of the person and his action grows the more time is needed to study, analyze and explain these actions. Every year of the prophet's life is filled with events that consume a lifetime of analysis and understanding. Brothers, the seerah is a well of knowledge that will never run dry, we will forever be realizing new information from the life of the best of men.

So this is an important topic. Learning how to rebuild the Ummah by studying the biography of the prophet.

Bothers, there is a period of time on Friday when Allah does not refuse any supplication. I urge you to use the time between the two khutbas to ask Allah for forgiveness, hoping that such a time may be upon us.

## 2nd Kutbah

الحمد لله وكفى. والصلاة على نبيه المصطفى وعلى اله وصحبه وسلم

Any study made on the seerah will enrich you. But we will highlight 4 important concepts that will maximize our gains from the study of the seerah.

First concept is that we would like to understand the 2<sup>nd</sup> source of sharia law. There are several sources for sharia law. The first is the Quran and the second is the Sunnah of the prophet. The sunnah is defined as every saying or action or consent by the prophet. It is not possible to understand the sunnah without studying the seerah of the prophet. We can't even understand the Quran itself without understanding the seerah. And as the seerah is the source of the sunnah, learning the seerah is about learning our religion. This is our religion so listen closely so that you make sure you are not leaving some important piece out!

There also seems to be some people who want to distance themselves from the sunnah and claim that they will follow the Quran only.

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: Let me not find one of you reclining on his couch when he hears something regarding me which I have commanded or forbidden and saying: We do not know. What we found in Allah's Book we have followed.

And Allah says in Surat Al-Hashr, verse 7:

وَمَا آتَاكُمُ الرَّسُولُ فَخُذُوهُ وَمَا نَهَاكُمْ عَنْهُ فَانْتَهُوا وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ شَدِيدُ الْعِقَابِ

Hence, accept (willingly) whatever the Apostle\* gives you (thereof), and refrain from (demanding) anything that he withholds from you; and remain conscious of God: for, verily, God is severe in retribution.

Allah is warning us, if we do not follow the commands of the prophet he will be severe in retribution! The companions did not separate between Quran and sunnah

2<sup>nd</sup> concept is that we want to get to know the personality of the prophet and understand who is this man who is the best of all creation and who is the final messenger of Allah. The greatest personality that walked this earth. And the most important thing to remember about the prophet is that he is a messenger, a messenger from Allah. And Allah chose from all humanity Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم to deliver his message. And the life of the prophet is the practice application of that message. Anything that the prophet did is what Allah wants from us. If for any reason the prophet did not choose the best path in a situation, Allah would send Gabriel to the Messenger to rectify his action.

3<sup>rd</sup> rule is that we want to learn to love the messenger of Allah for Faith is not complete without this.

Narrated 'Abdullah bin Hisham

We were with the Prophet and he was holding the hand of 'Umar bin Al-Khattab. 'Umar said to Him, "O Allah's Apostle! You are dearer to me than everything except my own self." The Prophet said, "No, by Him in Whose Hand my soul is, (you will not have complete faith) till I am dearer to you than your own self." Then 'Umar said to him, "However, now, by Allah, you are dearer to me than my own self." The Prophet said, "Now, O 'Umar, (now you are a believer)."

Do you put the love of Mohamed before the love of yourself? The deep understanding the greatness and the sacrifices of the prophet is a sure way to grow affection for this man. And as your love for the prophet grows so will your faith and Eman.

Brothers Allah has counted sending this man to us as a favor to the Muslims. In Surat Al-Imran verse 164 he tells us :

لَقَدْ مَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذْ بَعَثَ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِّنْ أَنفُسِهِمْ يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِهِ وَتُرَكِّبُهُمْ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَإِن كَانُوا مِن قَبْلُ لَفِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

Indeed, God bestowed a favor upon the believers when he raised up in their midst an apostle from among themselves, to convey His messages unto them, and to cause them to grow in purity, and to impart unto them the divine writ as well as wisdom - whereas before that they were indeed, most obviously, lost in error.

So try very hard to plant seeds of love in your heart or I am afraid the consequences will be very dire. In Surat At-Tauba(9) verse 24 Allah says:

قُلْ إِن كَانَ آبَاؤُكُمْ وَأَبْنَاؤُكُمْ وَإِخْوَانُكُمْ وَأَزْوَاجُكُمْ وَعَشِيرَتُكُمْ وَأَمْوَالٌ اقْتَرَفْتُمُوهَا وَتِجَارَةٌ تَحْسَبُونَ كَسْبَادَهَا وَمَسَاكِينُ تَرْضَوْنَهَا أَحَبَّ إِلَيْكُمْ مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَجِهَادٍ فِي سَبِيلِهِ فَتَرَبَّصُوا حَتَّى يَأْتِيَ اللَّهُ بِأَمْرِهِ وَاللَّهُ لَا يَهْدِي الْقَوْمَ الْفَاسِقِينَ

Say: "If your fathers and your sons and your brothers and your spouses and your clan, and the worldly goods which you have acquired, and the commerce whereof you fear a decline, and the dwellings in which you take pleasure - (if all these) are dearer to you than God and His Apostle and the struggle in His cause, then wait until God makes manifest His will; and (know that) God does not grace iniquitous folk with His guidance."

4<sup>th</sup> concept is to learn wisdom from the examining different aspect of the prophets life. The life of the prophet is wisdom itself. Learning by understanding the causes behind the prophets actions and how he made decision is key to understanding Islam. I mean If the people who spread fear in the name of Islam could study the action of the prophet and understand the motivations behind them then I am sure they would not be able to continue what they are doing.

Allah Commands us to salute our prophet saying: "Verily Allah and His angels shower blessings on the Prophet (s). O, Believer! Send blessings upon him and salute him with a worthy salutation."

Allah orders justice and ihsan and to be generous to our family and kin, and forbids

fahshaa, monkar and injustice, so does Allah advise us so that we may remember. So remember Allah and he will remember you, thank him for his bounties and he will increase them for you. And remember that the remembrance of Allah is greater and Allah knows what you do.