

Prophet Muhammad is a Mercy for al-'Alameen

(Eid Speech Delivered by Mohamed Baianonie, Imam of the Islamic Center of Raleigh, N.C. on October, 23, 2006)

Alhemdulilaah, Allaah has given us the willpower to fast during *Ramadaan* and the strength to stand up in prayer during the *Qiyaam* of the nights. We are blessed to be gathered here together to pray the *Eid* prayer and listen to the *Eid* speech. Allaah, the Glorious, has guided us to this *deen* (of Islaam) and without His guidance we would be lost. We should be grateful we belong to this *Ummah*, the best nation that has ever existed. We have been honored by Allaah, the Glorious, who has made us from the followers of the prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.), who was sent as a mercy for all of mankind.

Allaah (S.W.T.) sent our prophet Muhammad as a mercy for all humans in this world and on the Day of Judgment. Allaah (S.W.T.) tells prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) in the Qur'aan, in what can be translated as, **“We have sent you (O Muhammad) not, but as a mercy for the Alameen** (mankind, jinn, and all that exists).” [*surat Al-Anbiya'*, (Verse 107)]

The Prophet (S.A.W.) said, *“Surely, Allaah has sent me as a mercy for all creatures and as a guide to those who are pious.”* [Reported by Imaam Ahmad] He also said, *“Surely, I am a gifted mercy.”* [Reported by Imaam Bayhaqi] One time, the prophet (S.A.W.) was asked to beg Allaah to punish the idol worshippers, but instead the Prophet replied, *“Surely, I was not sent to curse, but surely, I was sent to be a mercy.”* [Reported by Imaam Muslim]

Allaah (S.W.T) describes the prophet as a mercy, and similarly, the prophet himself, describes himself in the same way. However, the question we should ask is, do we recognize him as a mercy and introduce him to others as a prophet of mercy? If not, we need to teach our children, our families, all Muslims, and then non-Muslims about this remarkable man (S.A.W.).

We can start this mission by first learning about this man through focused studies on his biography. Afterwards, we need to spread this knowledge to others in the same focused manner. When we take a deeper look into the prophet's life, we will realize how corrupt human society was before the prophet, and how Allaah rescued them with His message. Allaah's message corrected peoples' skewed beliefs, their acts of worship, their mistreatment of each other, and their impolite manners. With Allaah's message, they were able to reach success in every part of this life, as well as in the Hereafter.

Our prophet practiced what he preached, and made himself the best example for everyone. If we take a close look at the prophet's life, we will realize how great his mercy and compassion was for all people, even the worst of his enemies. His mercy was not limited to human beings; in fact, he was just as merciful and compassionate to all of Allaah's creation, including animals, and even plants and trees.

We must make this day of *Eid* a starting point for fulfilling our duties to this great man (S.A.W.). We must present his message to all humanity; this is the best gift that we can give to anyone. This is the best gift that we can give to anyone at this time

when global corruption and destruction is at an all time high. It is the least that we can do for the man who has saved us from total destruction and will intercede for us on the Day of Judgment.

In the past, Allaah (S.W.T.) totally destroyed nations who rejected their prophets and stayed corrupt. Fortunately anyone, believer or not, from the time of the prophet until the end of this world, will be protected from total annihilation even if they are corrupt and do not believe.

Allaah (S.W.T.) tells the prophet, in what can be translated as, "**We sent you not, but as mercy for the *Alameen*** (creatures)." The companion Ibn 'Abbass, (R.A.) explained this verse and said, "Whoever believes in him (the Prophet) will get mercy in this life as well as in the Hereafter, and the one who does not believe (in the Prophet), Allaah (S.W.T.) has saved him from total annihilation in this life, since Allaah (S.W.T.) used to wipe out the non-believing nations in the past."

Allaah (S.W.T.) sent this prophet as a mercy for everyone, believers and non-believers. Humans are fortunate that on that Day of Judgment, the prophet will beg Allaah to relieve humans of the hardships that will befall them on that Day of Gathering.

Alhmedulilaah, Allaah, the Most Merciful, will accept the Prophet's intercession and will remove the hardship from people on that Day of Gathering and will allow the believers and non-believers to move on to the next event of that day.

The prophet's message was sent as a complete system for humans. Islaam is a system designed by Allaah (S.W.T.) for humans. His system gives us the best recipe for attaining the pleasures of this life as well as those of the Hereafter.

Ever since humans have existed, they have faced problems and hardship because of their deviation from Allaah's guidance. However, if they had followed Allaah's guidance, then they would have reached happiness and success in this life as well as in the Hereafter.

This is the way it has always been throughout ancient human history until today. We know this from historical evidence from the *Qur'aan*. Without the message of Allaah, humans would suffer in hardship until the Day of Judgment. Allaah (S.W.T.) says what can be translated as, "**But whosoever turns away from My Reminder** (revelations), **verily, for him is a life of hardship, and We shall raise him up blind on the Day of Resurrection.**" [*surat Ta-Ha*, (Verse 124)]

In the *Qur'aan*, Allaah (S.W.T.) describes all of His revelations, the Torah, the Gospel, and the *Qur'aan*, as guidance, mercy, and light bestowed upon humanity. If we use these books of guidance then surely we will live successful lives in this world and the Hereafter.

Normally, humans must choose a way of life, some system to run their affairs. They can choose between two systems: either the system designed by Allaah (S.W.T.) through His messengers or a system developed by human beings. Certainly, there is a significant difference between both types. Allaah's system and His rulings are

guidance, mercy, light, and healing. On the other hand, manmade systems are full of gaps, darkness, unhappiness, and are full of disease, loss and are cursed. That's what we will find if we examine the state of humanity in the past and present. And this fact will hold true and continue on in the future.

The question we should ask is why is there such a big difference between Allaah's system and the manmade systems? This difference is because Allaah (S.W.T.) is the Creator and the Creator alone knows what benefits His creatures and what harms them, and Allaah's knowledge is unlimited and always right, and full of mercy and wisdom. On the other hand, humans are Allah's creation, and their knowledge no matter how sophisticated it gets will always be limited. Human knowledge varies from time to time, and while it may be correct at one point, it may be proven false later on. As we know, there were many scientific findings that were considered facts for many years until a scholar proved it to be false.

Despite what humanity has accomplished in scientific advances and discoveries, it is still suffering from many serious and complicated problems that threaten human existence and stability. These problems are economical, political, social, psychological, moral etc. This suffering exists because humanity has not discovered Allaah's system and has not applied the rules of Allaah (S.W.T.) in their lives.

Islaam is the *deen* of Allaah (S.W.T.) and His system is the only way to rescue humanity from problems and dangers surrounding it today. Peace be upon all of Allaah's prophets including Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and finally Muhammad who have delivered Allaah's message of Islam to humanity.

As Muslims today, we have a great responsibility in rescuing and saving humanity. We should begin this century by presenting the greatest gift we can give to our families, our communities and all of humanity. There is no better gift than the knowledge and practice of Islam.

We can present this gift by having correct and strong *Imaan* (faith). We must practice good deeds and apply Islaam as a total way of life. The best way to call people to Islaam is to show them our Islamic manners. This was the way the prophet (S.A.W.) delivered the message of Islaam to all people.

Finally, let us remember again how Allaah (S.W.T.) described the prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.), "**as a mercy for the *Alameen*** (mankind, jinn, and all that exists)." And let us remember what the prophet Muhammad himself said, "*Surely, Allaah has sent me as a mercy for all creatures and as a guide to those who are pious.*"

I pray to Allaah to make this day of Eid a good day for all of us and for all Muslims all over the world. And we ask Allaah (S.W.T.) to help us fulfill our duties, and to accept our righteous deeds. We ask Allaah (S.W.T.) to forgive our faults and mistakes, and we beg Him to keep us on the straight path. We ask Him to give us the strength to be good examples of Islaam like the prophet (S.A.W.) and his companions. May Allaah (S.W.T.) bring this day every year while you are in good health and *Imaan*. Peace, mercy, and blessings from Allaah (S.W.T.) upon you all. "*Aameen*"