

Adapted from

THE PROPHETIC SIRAH
A BIOGRAPHY OF THE PROPHET

MAY ALLAH'S BLESSINGS BE UPON HIM AND GRANT HIM PEACE

al-Hafiz Shaykh Abdur Rahman bin 'Ali ad-Diba'i
May Allah have mercy be upon him

Translated by
Sidi Abdulkader 'Ali Esa al-Haddad

**Composer of this Biography of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)
Al-Hafidz Imam 'Abdur Rahman Ad-Diba'i (866 – 944 H)**

One of the most distinguished and eminent Prophetic *Seerah* text in the Muslim World, is the text composed by a great scholar and expert in the science of *Hadith*, which is none other than, Imam Wajihuddin 'Abdur Rahman bin Muhammad bin 'Umar bin 'Ali bin Yusuf bin Ahmad bin 'Umar ad-Diba'ie ash- Shaibani al-Yamani az-Zabidi ash-Shafi'i.

He was born on 4th Muharram 866H and met his Lord on Friday, 12 Rajab 944H. He was a revered scholar of *Hadith* and was unmatched by any other scholar in that time. He taught *Sahih* Bukhari completely from cover to cover, beyond more than a 100 times.

In the past, scholars with the title of *al-Hafidz* were not referred to those who memorized the Qur'an, as memorization of the Qur'an was common and expected of Muslims back then. Imam ad-Diba'i attained the title of *al-Hafidz* in the knowledge of *Hadith*, that is only conferred upon those who memorize 100,000 *Hadiths* and beyond, with their complete chains of narration. Every day, he would go from mosque to mosque to teach the knowledge of *Hadith*. Amongst his teachers were the esteemed Imam al-Hafiz as-Sakhawi, Imam Ibnu Ziyad, Imam Jamaluddin Muhammad bin Ismail, Mufti of Zabid, Imam al-Hafiz Tahir bin Husain al-Ahdal and more. Besides being a scholar of the Islamic sciences, he was also a *Muarrikh* - an eminent expert in History.

Imam Diba'i's birthplace, Zabid was renowned, even since the time of Prophet Muhammad PBUH. In the year 8H, an entourage from the tribe of Ash'ariah (amongst them was Abu Musa Al-Ash'ari r.a) came to Madinah Al-Munawwarah from Zabid to embrace Islam. Delighted with their arrival, The Prophet Muhammad PBUH made du'a for Allah to bless the town of Zabid and the Prophet PBUH repeated this du'a three times. (Founded in the collections of Al-Baihaqi). With the great blessing of the Prophet's du'a (PBUH), till today, the tradition of acquiring and practicing the sacred knowledge of Islam is still preserved and widespread in Zabid.

Under the guidance and tutelage of the Scholars from his household and the town of Zabid, Imam ad- Diba'i grew up, equipped with the specialization in various disciplines of knowledge, namely the knowledge of *Qiraat*, Arabic grammar, Mathematics, Inheritance, *Fiqh* (Jurisprudence) and more. Upon returning from Haj in 885H, Imam ad-Diba'i specialized the sciences of Hadith, learning the *Sahih* Bukhari, Muslim, Tirmidzi and the *Muwatta'* of Imam Malik, under the tutelage of

the great Shaykh Zainuddin Ahmad bin Ahmad As- Sharjiy (May Allah bless him).

It became a frequent practice of Imam ad-Diba'i to recite *Al-Fatihah* and he highly encourages this to his students and the common people to recite *Al-Fatihah* frequently. This is to the extent that no one would leave his house or gatherings without reciting *Al-Fatihah*. The reason for this emphasis was due to the Imam knowing that one of teachers once dreamt, that the Day of Judgment had arrived and he heard a voice mentioning, "O People of Yemen, enter Paradise!", hence those present asked, "Why is it that the People of Yemen get to enter Paradise?" and the reply was, because they recited *Al-Fatihah* frequently.

Imam Ad-Diba'i was a scholar who was productive in producing prolific writings. This is evident since he has written many great works in various disciplines, in the Sciences of *Hadith* and even History. And the most revered work of the Imam is no other than, the Prophetic *Seerah - Maulid ad-Diba'i*, a compilation of eulogies and narrations on the blessed life of Prophet Muhammad PBUH that has been read in the Muslim world, especially the Malay Peninsula, for hundreds of years. Imam ad-Diba'i dedicated and committed his entire life to benefiting those around him, teaching and writing the books of the sacred sciences of Islam. May Allah sanctify his soul and allow us to benefit from him. *Amin*.

These blessings [*Salawat*] are recited before the *Maulid*.

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

- Lord, bestow blessings upon Muhammad.
- Lord, bestow blessings and peace be upon him.
- Lord, bestow upon him a station in Paradise [*Waseelah*].¹
- Lord, rank him above all the creations [*Fadhilat*].²
- Lord, may You be pleased with the companions.
- Lord, may You be pleased with his descendants.
- Lord, may You be pleased with all the religious teachers.
 - Lord, may You have mercy on our parents.
 - Lord, may You have mercy on all of us.
 - Lord, may You have mercy on all Muslims.
- Lord, may You forgive all sinners (amongst Muslims).
 - Lord, may You listen to our invocations [*Du'a*].
 - Lord, may You not shatter our hopes.
 - Lord, may You send us to visit him at his *Maqam*.
- Lord, may You engulf us (in protection) with his light.
- Lord, may You safe-guard us with Your security (peace).
 - Lord, may You place us in heaven.
 - Lord, may You protect us from Your punishment.
- Lord, may You provide us with the means to achieve martyrdom.
 - Lord, may You surround us with happiness.
- Lord, may You reform those who wish to change (themselves).
 - Lord, may You save us all from all harm.
- Lord, we end with the name of the prophet who intercedes.
- Lord, bestow blessings upon him and grant him peace.

¹ A Rank that Allah has promised in the Hereafter or the Heavens for him.

² An outstanding Eminent position that goes with the Status of *Waseelah*.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

*I seek the protection of Allah from Satan the accursed
In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.*

Verily We granted Thee a manifest Victory (By the treaty of *Meccan Quraysh*), the door was opened for the spread of Islam throughout the world.³

That Allah may forgive you for your sins of the past and those to follow; fulfil His favour to you and guide you on the straight path.⁴

And that Allah may help you with a powerful (effective) help.⁵

Now has come to you a Messenger from amongst you, it grieves him that you should perish (rush headlong to ruin); ardently anxious he watches over you: (and whenever any of you show signs of Faith), his (the prophet's) kindness and mercy surround him and rejoice over him.⁶

But if they turn away, Say: Allah sufficeth me: There is no god but He: in Him I trust - He is the Lord of the Throne, of Glory Supreme!⁷

Verily Allah and His angels (honour and) send blessings on the Prophet: O ye who believe! Send your blessings and salutations on him with all respect.⁸

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

³ Surah 48 al-Fath Verse 1

⁴ Verse 2

⁵ Verse 3

⁶ Surah 9 Tawbah Verse 128

⁷ Verse 129

⁸ Surah 33: Ahzab Verse 56 (You too should send blessings to him!)

Chapter 1

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

All praises belong to Allah, Who is Strong and Dominant.

He demands His rights over his servants.

He is the Resurrector and Inheritor (after all is gone), the Giver (of blessings) and Remover of our bereavement.

He is the Knower of all beings be they in the current, transient or passed events. All the stars, those on the incline, those ascending, and those withering say praises to Him.

The articulate, the silent, the solid and the liquid are professing in the Unity of Allah.

By His justness, He moved the static and with His will, stopped the moving.

[There is no god but Allah] the Wise, Who showed His Wisdom through the wonders of His creations and miracles.

In the orderly arrangement and assembly of His creations.

(He) created the brain, the pieces of bone, the upper arms, the veins, the flesh, the skin, the hair and the blood in poetry and harmoniously overlapping.

From the water that flows out and excretes separately from the spinal column⁹ (of the man) and chest (of the woman into the womb).

⁹ Sulbi means "back bone" (See Surah 86 al-Tariq Verse7)

[There is no god but Allah] the Generous One, Who spreads over His creations a carpet of generosity and worldly talent and provisions.

Descending¹⁰ every night to the lower heaven¹¹ and calling out: "Is there anyone asking for forgiveness? Is there anyone seeking repentance?" [We seek repentance to Allah!]

"Is there anyone seeking a favour; that his request may be granted?"¹²

Would it not be good if you see those who serve standing and crying in front (of Your Lord)?

And (they) are standing in the state between remorse and repentance.

And (the) fear for themselves and thus they reprimand themselves

And (they) run from their sins towards God.

For (they) are the ones who continuously seek forgiveness till the light of dawn. And they returned successfully having achieved their aims with the blessings of Allah, the Beloved, till not one man amongst them returned in despair.

[There is no God but Allah] Glory to Allah, Exalted is He, Who created the Light [Nur] of His prophet Muhammad SAW from His Light [Nur], before He created Adam from clay¹³

Then God laid out His supreme creation in front of all the rest and said, "This is the leader amongst all the prophets, the most respectful of all chosen people and the most respectful amongst those loved."

O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace

And favour upon him and his family.

¹⁰ It does not mean that Allah SWT moves to change His position. al-Bayhaqi r.a's commentary on this hadith explained: 'Whenever He SWT wishes he would send down one of His angels.'

¹¹ Surah 37 As-Saffat Verse 6

¹² Appendix I [Hadith 1 from Abu Hurayrah].

¹³ Appendix I Hadith 2 from Sayyidina Anas r.a and Hadith 12 from Sayyidina Ibn Abbas r.a

Chapter 2

[After Allah showed the Light [*Nur*] of Muhammad SAW in Heaven]

Then the Angels [*Malaikat*] asked¹⁴

“Is that the Light of Adam?” [Allah’s blessings be upon him]

(Allah): “Because of this light, I gave Adam a high status.”

(The Angels asked): “Is it Nuh?” [Allah’s blessings be upon him]

(Allah): “Because of him, Nuh was safe in his boat from drowning, and all his family and friends who disobeyed him perished.”

(The Angels asked): “Is it Abraham?” [Allah’s blessings be upon him]

(Allah): “Because of him, Abraham is able to make his case against the worshipping of idols and stars.”

(The Angels asked): “Is it Moses?” [Allah’s blessings be upon him]

(Allah): “Moses is his relative, but this man is the love of Allah, and Moses (only managed to) speak to Him.”

(The Angels asked): “Is it Jesus?” [Allah’s blessings be upon him]

(Allah): “Jesus only carried the good news about his Prophethood. Jesus is only the admiral guard in front of the palace of his Prophethood.”

(The Angels asked): “So who is this person, the beloved respectful one that You bestowed the rightful order? You bestowed him with the supreme throne and You waved many flags upon his leadership?”

¹⁴ Appendix 1 Hadith 2 from Sayyidina Anas r.a. and Hadith 12 from Sayyidina Ibn Abbas r.a.

(Allah): "He is the prophet that I have chosen from the descendant of Lu'ai ibn Ghalib.¹⁵"

His father and mother passed away, he was looked after by his grandfather, then by his paternal uncle, Abu Talib.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

¹⁵ See Appendix I - Note 3. The honourable descendant beginning from Prophet Ismail bin Ibrahim a.s.

Chapter 3

He was raised among the people of *Tihamah*¹⁶; close to the Day of Reckoning; behind his back, there is a sign (mark)¹⁷; Shaded by the clouds wherever he went.

He was obeyed by the rain clouds.

His forehead shone like the morning, his hair was dark like the night.

His nose pointed like the letter '*Alif*', his mouth like the letter '*Mim*' and his eyebrows like the letter '*Nun*'¹⁸

He could hear the sound of the writing pen; he could see the seven stages of the sky.

The camel kissed his two feet, and then the camel was removed of all its sufferings from its heavy load¹⁹.

The *Dhab* (a lizard-like animal) believed in his (the Prophet's status)²⁰.

Even the (Mimosa) Trees gave salutations to him.²¹ And stones spoke to him²². The

Stump of the date's tree cried as if complaining to him²³.

It seemed that his two hands were blessed with food and drinks²⁴.

His heart was always attentive and never slept²⁵; but always guarding his duties and services towards Allah.

¹⁶ The area to the west of the Arabic peninsula from Sinai to Yemen.

¹⁷ The physical mark of Prophethood was said to be on his back as narrated by the companions: It is as big as the pigeon's egg, like a lump of hair, around the shining black mark.

¹⁸ This is an Arabic proverb describing his handsome and fine features.

¹⁹ Appendix I - Notes and Hadith 4: The Camel;

²⁰ Appendix I - Hadith 5: The Dhab.

²¹ Appendix I - Hadith 6: Mimosa Tree.

²² Appendix I - Hadith 7: Stone from Termizid.

²³ Appendix I - Hadith 8: Stump.

²⁴ Appendix I - Hadith 9: Water.

²⁵ Appendix I - Hadith 10: Heart.

If he was disturbed, he forgave and never took revenge.

If he was urged to fight, he kept quiet and did not answer.

Allah carried him to the highest respectable station (position).

In a journey that no one had ever experienced, before or after him.

In a gathering of angels on a march that exceeds all gatherings.

“Until the time I left the station of the two worlds²⁶ and arrived within two bows lengths (of Allah’s presence) during which time I was the companion He spoke to.”

(As spoken by Rasulullah SAW in the hadith)

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

²⁶ Appendix I - Hadith 11(i) and (ii).

Chapter 4

After which I returned him from the station 'Arsh': before his bed gets cold²⁷, after he received what he desired.

Remember, when *Taibah* (Medina) received the honour with his arrival, Then there arrived every man who loved him, some walked and others on trails.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

²⁷ Appendix I - Hadith 11(iii) The Night Journey

Chapter 5

Allah's blessings appear as many as stars in the sky;

Upon Ahmad, the best (guide) in this excellent ride.

Swaying in hearing the person who sang the name of the beloved; touching the emotions of those on the trail²⁸.

Did you not see how it (the camel in excitement) took wider steps²⁹; and tears flowed down from its eyes in happiness?

It looked around for shade to hide its happiness; and longed for the place of history and play.

Do not hold on the ropes nor lead it; for its (the camel) longing for him (SAW) will lead it to the intended village (Medina).

But you must also be engulfed in happiness like that of the camel; if not, you are not sincere in your love.

There, the sight of the village *Al-Aqiq* can be seen; that is the sight of the top of the houses and tents at the village.

And that is the green dome [*Qubbah*];³⁰ in it rests a prophet whose light brightened up the darkness.

The blessings have been achieved, the meeting drew nearer, and happiness has arrived from all sides.

²⁸ The camel's trail (Qafilah) usually has a point man singing upbeat songs to encourage camels to move fast.

²⁹ The fast beat urged the camels to take bigger steps and go faster.

³⁰ The green dome Qubbah is the cover for Maqam Rasulullah SAW in Medina.

Say to yourselves not to waste time; because in front of us is the beloved; today
there is no obstruction.

At ease when you are present with the beloved; because happiness is achieved and
not the opposite³¹.

This is the prophet, Messenger of Allah, best of all creations; who has the highest
status and most honourable position.

The Prophet who ranks high and respected; he receives eternal honour and
respect.

If every day we seek him; searching in our minds and not on a vehicle
And if every day we do this deed; this *Maulid* as a reminder of him, it is like a duty.

May the blessings of Allah, the All Powerful be upon him; as much as the shining
lights of the stars.

That embraced all his family and companions; also his descendants that were
blessed³².

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

³¹ Muslims that migrated to Medina can easily meet the Prophet SAW openly, not so when they were in Mecca before the Hijrah when they were afraid to be seen with him in the open because they were hunted by the Musyrikin.

³² Surah 33 Al-Ahzab Verse 33: "And Allah only wishes to remove all abomination from you, ye members of the family, and to make you pure and spotless."

Chapter 6

Glory to Allah S.W.T who emphasised the importance of Rasulullah, may Allah's blessings be upon him and grant him peace, respect, high position and ranking.

All praise³³ belongs to Allah for all His bountiful gifts.

I witness that there is no God except Allah, the One and Only, no partner has He,
the Lord of the East and West;

And I witness that our leader Muhammad s.a.w is His (Allah S.W.T) servant and messenger appointed to all man, non-Arabs [*Ajam*] and Arabs.

May Allah's blessings and salutations be upon him and his family and companions who did good deeds and received respect.

These Blessings and Salutations are perpetual, it is befitting that those who utter it will not be disappointed when they arrive on the Day of Reckoning [*Qiamat*].

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

³³ Words of the composer of the Maulid.

Chapter 7

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

We begin this *Maulid* with two narrations³⁴ regarding the prophet, whose status is high, of respectable descendants and took the straight path.

God, the all Hearing, and all Knowing, said with regards to him s.a.w, "Allah and His angels send blessings on the Prophet: O' you that believe! Send your blessings on him, and salute him with all respect."³⁵

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

³⁴ Even though the original transcript says, "Hadithain" or Two Hadiths, but what is meant is the news. Only one of which is a hadith from the Prophet s.a.w. and another from a personal experience recited by a story teller [Ka'abil ahbaar], who was described as a pious man, a follower of the companions [Tabi'en].

³⁵ Surah 33: Ahzab Verse 56.

Chapter 9

The first *hadith*³⁶ from a companion who was considered an expert, with an ocean of knowledge in the science of Quranic commentaries, an exemplary learned companion, our leader Abdullah ibn Abbas, may Allah bless them, who narrated from the (Messenger of Allah) s.a.w., “Verily, the *Quraysh*³⁷ was the light chosen by Allah S.W.T before He created Adam by two thousand years. The Light (spirit [*ruh*] of Muhammad s.a.w) glorifies Allah S.W.T and the angels also glorify Allah following it. When Allah S.W.T created Adam, He kept this light in the creation of Adam a.s.”

Said (Messenger of Allah) s.a.w., “So Allah sent down my light to the face of the earth in the loins of Adam,”

“And it was placed in the loins of Nuh a.s when he was on the boat.”

“And placed me in the loins of Ibrahim a.s when he was thrown in the fire.”

“That was how Allah moved me from noble loins and pure wombs³⁸, until He brought me out of my parents. None of them were ever joined together in fornication³⁹.”

O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace

And favour upon him and his family.

³⁶ Appendix I-Hadith 12; From Abdullah ibn Abbas r.a.

³⁷ Appendix I-Hadith 13: Significance of the Quraysh is that the Prophet Muhammad s.a.w. is from amongst them and chosen by Allah.

³⁸ Appendix I-Hadith 14: The light of the Prophet was carried by prophets and messengers before him until it reached his parents.

³⁹ Appendix I-Hadith 15: The status of generations of ascendants of the prophets is honourable and pure without any imperfection.

Chapter 10

This second *hadith*⁴⁰ (experience) was related by Ata'a ibn Yasar from amongst the Ka'abil Ahbaar. He said, "My father taught me the Book of Torah, but there is a section from the book that he closed and hid in a safe box."

"When my father passed away, I then opened the safe box and saw inside the (said) section which read, 'there will come a Messenger at the end of time, born in Mecca and emigrated to Medina and sovereignty until Sham (Damascus)⁴¹,'"

"He cuts his hair and puts on a cloth around his waist⁴². He is the best amongst the prophets and his followers are the best amongst people. They glorify Allah with every honour bestowed on them. They keep the straight rows during their prayers like they did in battles⁴³. The contents of their books is in their hearts⁴⁴, they praise Allah in difficult and good situations."

"A third of them will enter heaven without their deeds being weighed. ["O Allah make us one of them"]

And a third will arrive with sins and wrong doings and they will be forgiven. And a third will arrive with the heavy sins upon them."

So Allah will order the Angels: "O My angels go and weigh their deeds." The angels said, "O our Lord, we find these people doing injustice to themselves and their sinful deeds are like mountains, however, verily they witness that there is no God

⁴⁰ Appendix II - Note 7 Not a Prophetic hadith!

⁴¹ The events as recorded in history have proven these facts.

⁴² Cutting of the hair and using cloth around the waist by the prophet was never done by his people before.

⁴³ Islam encourages keeping a straight row. It is a must in prayers. The loose rows will be occupied by Satan who will disturb the worshippers.

⁴⁴ The Quran could easily be memorized especially by the learned [Alim Ulama] believers; whilst the other books, Law of Moses and Gospel of Jesus, are not. Also, there is no original Taurat and Injil.

but Allah and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah⁴⁵, May Allah's blessing be upon him and grant him peace."

**{I witness that there is no God but Allah}
{And that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah.}**

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

⁴⁵ Those who worship Allah will not stay long in hell; likewise those who shirk towards Allah will never enter heaven.

Chapter 11

So Allah, the Rightful, said, "Because of My respectfulness and Greatness, I will not make equal those who are honest in their witness towards Me, the same as those who lied towards their belief. They will enter the Garden of Paradise with my Blessings."

O Dearest Arranger of the order for this life⁴⁶, and the Exilir for the secrets of life. This eulogist is incapable of completing these praises, even if he was to put forward all his effort. The describer is ineffective, in gathering the limitless descriptions of this generous and liberal character.

This existence (world) is in reference (to you), and you are the intention. O' the Honourable (Prophet s.a.w) who had achieved the Station of *Al-Maqam Al-Mahmud*⁴⁷. Before you there arrived a number of messengers but they were all witnesses to your high station.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

⁴⁶ These are the praises of the Prophet s.a.w. by Imam Daiba'l as everything that was created by Allah was because of Muhammad s.a.w. the perfect man and leader amongst all the leaders on this earth.

⁴⁷ alMaqam alMahmud is the station for the great intercession that is granted by Allah S.W.T to the Prophet Muhammad s.a.w. at the final gathering place in fields of the [Mashyar].

Chapter 12

Place your hearts O' people with common sense, whilst I present to you the qualities of the most beloved, who received special features with the title of honourable, who had ascended and be present with Allah, the Lord who always grants a request, until he (the Prophet s.a.w) can see His beauty without any obstruction and hindrance⁴⁸.

When the time arrived for the rise of the sun of prophethood, in the sky of the high heavens, it was directed by Allah to Gabriel, the chief of the angels; "O Gabriel, announce the good news to all creations, the dwellers of the earth and the heavens with my well wishes and good tidings."

"Regarding the chosen light and the secret (of existence), which I created before the existence of anything and before the creation of the heavens and earth, tonight I move him to the womb of his mother with great happiness."

"I fill this world with his light, support him in his orphan age and I cleanse him and his family with the best of all cleansings."

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

⁴⁸ During the Night of Mi'raj.

Chapter 13

So the station 'Arsh shook in happiness and delight.

And the *Kursi*⁴⁹ increased its magnificence and greatness.

The sky was overwhelmed with light that was so bright, with the voices of the angels vibrating it with the *tahlil*⁵⁰, praising and seeking Allah's forgiveness.

Glory to Allah; All praises belong to Allah

There is no God but Allah; Allah is Great [x4]

Throughout her pregnancy, his mother went through a series of honourable and special experiences.

When it was time for his arrival on earth, with the permission of Allah (the Creator of All Creation), his mother gave birth to the beloved Prophet s.a.w. He was delivered in prostration presenting thanksgiving and praises to Allah like the full moon in its complete splendour, a beauty so bright, it lit up the area⁵¹.

When the reciter [*munsyid*] reads about the birth of the Prophet, all present will rise and stand in respect with proper manner, loyalty and salutation due to him⁵².

Allah's blessings be upon Muhammad

Allah's blessings be upon him

and grant him peace. [x2]

⁴⁹ Al Kursi is a creation of light [Nur] in front of the special station ['Arsh] as described in Surah 2 Al Baqarah Verse 255; "His Throne doth extend over the heavens and the earth."

⁵⁰ Reciting the [tahlil] means "There is no God but Allah".

⁵¹ It was said in one narration that Abdurrahman bin Auf from his Ashaffa'a said that, "When Siti Aminah a.s gave birth to Rasulullah s.a.w I was the one who received him and I heard a voice say, 'Allah bless you' or 'Your Lord bless you'; Then delivered a light so bright that it lit up the area between the East and the West. This hadith is recorded at the end of the Maulid arrangement of Al-Habib Al-Wali Ali bin Muhammad Al-Habshi.

⁵² Appendix I - Note 16: Why stand up?

**O Prophet, Salutation on you,
O Beloved, Salutations on you,**

**O Messenger, Salutations on you
Blessings of Allah be upon you.**

The world lit up brightly rejoicing upon the birth of the Chosen One, Ahmad⁵³.
And members of the cosmos were at ease, and happy with his renewal (via these
glad tidings from God).

The nightingale singing: "Be delighted, O' settler of the two places (heavens and
earth) with this good fortune."

And seek the light from a beauty that is exceedingly superior and unique.

We received the good news with continuous happiness that is never ending.

As we were given a gift that encompassed eternal glory (for this life and the
hereafter).

For my Lord all praises and thanks, that are innumerable in amount.

Since He bestowed upon us with the presence (birth) of Muhammad, the Chosen
One and the Guide.

Welcome! Welcome!⁵⁴ O' the light of my eyes

Welcome! Welcome! The grandfather of Imam Husain

Greetings! Prophet of Allah, Greetings!

Welcome, for verily with you is our happiness

⁵³ Ahmad is another name for Muhammad s.a.w. This Standing Ovation [Qiyam] is from the Maulid Book of Al-Habib 'Ali bin Muhammad Al-Habsyi. Its origin is discussed in Appendix I - Note 16: Why stand up?

⁵⁴ Marhaban: Greetings and salutations welcoming an honoured guest.

Greetings! With his high honoured rank, O' our Lord,
Welcome, give generously and fulfil all our intentions
Greetings! Guide us with his methods and directions,
Welcome, so that we receive happiness and guidance.

**O my Lord, forgive me, for I have sins, O' Allah,
With the blessings of my guide Muhammad, O' Allah**

O my Lord, culminate us with his rank, O' Allah
Sit us around him, well & good, O' Allah
Allah's blessings shower upon him, O' Allah
Noblest of the Messengers, Muhammad, O' Allah
Forever blessings upon him, O' Allah
Which are renewed with every moment, O' Allah

**Allah's blessings be upon Muhammad
Allah's blessings be upon him and grant him peace. [x2]**

O our Lord, (please) make this meeting of ours finish with a perfect ending.
Give us what we ask for, from amongst the best of Your gifts.
And honour our soul, By meeting the best of mankind.
Take it to reach the Chosen One, from us all the blessings and salutations.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

Chapter 14

The Prophet s.a.w was born already circumcised by the careful hands of Allah⁵⁵.

Eyes darkened with the kohl of guidance.

His light radiated throughout the desert⁵⁶.

And the cosmos was filled and lit up with his light.

And entered into his homage whatever remained from creation like those who embraced it previously.

The first miracle [*mukjizat*] was that the *Farsi*'s fire flamed out and their palaces' pillars collapsed⁵⁷. All the Satan in the sky were shot with burning arrows of meteor⁵⁸. Those who became mighty through efforts of *jins* retreated, they were turned to disgrace and submission by his might.

Whereas his radiant presence rose from the enactment of his light, and his beautiful light shone glaringly until he was presented to his nursing mother.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

⁵⁵ Appendix I - Hadith 5: Birth of the Prophet - Circumcised

⁵⁶ Appendix II - Hadith 3: Birth of the Prophet - Light; Appendix III - Hadith 1 & 2: His birth;

⁵⁷ Appendix III - Item 4

⁵⁸ Al-Quran Surah 72 Al-Jin Verse 69 - Before the birth of the Prophet s.a.w. & Appendix III - Item 7.

Chapter 15

The (*Qurasyh*) people asked, "Who is going to support and look after this precious orphan, who is priceless in value?" All the birds said, "We will support him and seize this opportunity to realise this great aspiration."

All the wild beast said, "We have the first rights (and more suited) so that we receive honour and glorification."

Then it was said, "O company of nations, calm down, verily Allah with His wisdom has determined that the Prophet Muhammad s.a.w will have Halimah as his nursing mother."

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

Chapter 16

As it happened, no one wanted to be his nursing mother⁵⁹, as was previously said, the invisible plan unfolded such that Halimah binti Abi Zuaib r.a. was happy to be his nursing mother.

When she saw him, she quickly took the initiative to fetch him, place him (Muhammad s.a.w) on her lap, and cuddle him to her chest.

A smile appeared on his face for her, as a light radiated from his mouth and rose to the sky, she then took him (Muhammad s.a.w) to her trailer and they went back to her family.

When she arrived with him at her village, the blessings [*baraka*] he brought along became apparent in the changes in her sheep⁶⁰.

Then everyday she noticed the signs (evidence) of his superiority and greatness, as (Allah) elevated his status.

Always in the custody of Allah S.W.T's gentleness and safeguard; then he grew up and mixed around with his siblings⁶¹ and other children.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

⁵⁹ No one wanted to be his nursing mother because he was a poor orphan.

⁶⁰ Appendix III – Item 3: His birth.

⁶¹ The other children whom Halimah r.a. nursed.

Chapter 17

One day, when Prophet Muhammad s.a.w was away from his homeland, there suddenly appeared three persons, their faces lit up like the moon and the sun. The other children dashed away, whilst the Prophet s.a.w stood by astonished. Then they laid him on the ground gently and cut open his chest with a fine surgical incision.

They took out the heart of this leader of the descendant of Adnan⁶², they anatomised it with the knife of charity [*ihsan*], they removed from him the Satan's share of him, and they filled him up with patience, knowledge, faith, certainty, and contentment.

Then they returned him to its original place, the beloved s.a.w was standing again where he was previously.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

⁶² See Appendix I - Note 3 - Descendant of Adnan.

Chapter 18

Then said the angels, "O the beloved of the Most Merciful Lord, if you knew what was planned for you amongst the good, then you will know your status amongst other people. You would increase your joy and happiness, be delightful and radiant."

"O Muhammad! Rejoice, for it was spread amongst the flag bearer of the creatures, the knowledge of you. Every creature rejoices at your arrival. Every creation of Allah, the Exalted, will come to acknowledge your leadership, obey your orders, and listen to your speech."

"The camel will come to you, asking for help and seeking protection⁶³. The *Dhab* and the gazelle will witness your prophethood⁶⁴."

"The trees, the moon and the wolves will soon pronounce your prophethood⁶⁵."
"The *Buraq*⁶⁶ which will be your ride, longs to see your beauty."

"Gabriel, as the minister of your kingdom, had declared and has spoken of you across all horizons."

"The moon too will be ordered to split for you⁶⁷."

O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace

And favour upon him and his family.

⁶³ Appendix I - Hadith 4 - The camel.

⁶⁴ Appendix I - hadith 5 Dhab - a large lizard like the biyawak in this region.

⁶⁵ Appendix I - Hadith 6 on Tree.

⁶⁶ Appendix I - Hadith 11 - The Buraq was his s.a.w ride during the night of Isra' Mi'raj.

⁶⁷ Miracle of the moon splitting is explained in Surah al-Qamar Verse 1 & 2, also see Appendix V - Splitting of the moon - The Qurasyh called it magic.

Chapter 19

Every being in the cosmos was waiting and longing for your appearance. Their expectations were to see your radiant light.

While the Beloved s.a.w was quietly listening to their voices, his smiling face beamed like the morning light.

Then came Halimah declaring, crying out and said, "Pity this strange (or odd) boy!"

Then the angels said, "O Muhammad, you are not strange (or odd), but you are close to Allah and you are Allah's best friend and the one loved by Him."

Again Halimah said, "Pity, this lonely boy." The angels said, "You are not alone, O Muhammad! Rather you are the one full of support. Your companion is the Glorious, the Praiseworthy, your friends are the angels and those who believe in the Oneness of Allah."

Again Halimah said, "Pity this orphan child!" Then the angels said, "What a glorious praiseworthy one amongst the orphans! Verily you have a grand and special status with Allah."

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

Chapter 20

When Halimah saw that (Muhammad s.a.w) was saved from danger⁶⁸, she brought him home relieved and happy. Then she narrated the incident to some of the priests [*al-Kahin*]⁶⁹.

She repeated to the priest what had happened to him (Muhammad s.a.w), so the priest [*al-Kahin*] said, “O Prince of the *ZamZam*⁷⁰ and *Maqam*⁷¹, prince of *Ar'rukun*⁷² and *Al-Baitul Haram*⁷³, were you awake when you experienced these events or were you asleep?⁷⁴

Then the Prophet s.a.w said, “Rather, with due respect to the God of the Universe, I saw them clearly, there is no doubt in this (experience), and it was not a deception.”

Then said the priests [*al-Kahin*], “O child! Rejoice because you are the leader of the Nations. Your Prophethood is the key and last of the prophets. The angel Gabriel will descend upon you. And upon the carpet of holiness, Allah, the Lofty, will address you. Who can count what qualities (abilities) are in your possession? The reciter's lips are incapable of describing just a fraction of your qualities.”

O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace

And favour upon him and his family.

⁶⁸ Siti Halimah felt happy because the prophet was saved from this strange phenomenon.

⁶⁹ Al-Kahin is a priest with knowledge of the ancient stories in the old books.

⁷⁰ Zam-zam is the well of Mecca in the House of Allah [Baitullah], blessed by Allah.

⁷¹ Al-Maqam is that of the footprint of Prophet Ibrahim a.s which is encased in glass near the Ka'abah.

⁷² Al-Rukun are the corners of the Ka'abah, one of which is the black stone [Hajar al-Aswad].

⁷³ Al-Baitul Haram is the Ka'abah.

⁷⁴ The priest [*al-Kahin*] called the prophet the prince of these places to symbolize that his teaching will be similar in history to that of Ibrahim a.s and Ismail a.s.

Chapter 21

Let it be known that Rasulullah s.a.w was the best of man physically and in character, the most righteous in his guidance to the path of truth. His morals were that of the Al-Quran⁷⁵.

Pardon is his habit, giving sincere advice and doing good deeds, and forgiving the sins of others if it is within his capacity.

However, when one disregards and transgresses the rights of Allah, no one can stop his anger. Whoever sees him, respects him by intuition. When the poor called upon him he always granted them.

The Prophet spoke truthfully however bitter it was. He never hides anything from Muslims or cheats and harms others.

Whoever saw his face recognised that it was obviously not one of a liar. Verily, Rasulullah s.a.w never criticizes or shames others.

Whenever the Prophet was happy, his face was beaming like the crescent. When he spoke, his words appeared as if the people were picking sweet fruits from his mouth.

When he smiles, the whiteness of his teeth appeared like patches of clouds. Whenever he spoke, the words seemed like pearls falling from them. Whenever he spoke about something, it was like musk emanating from his mouth.

⁷⁵ Allah praised him in Surah al-Qalam Verse 4: "And thou (standest) on an exalted standard of character."

Whenever he passed by certain places, it will be known that he went by that area by the pleasant aroma he left behind.

Whenever he sat in a congregation his aroma lingered for a few days. Pleasant fragrance was always with him even though he never used any perfumes.

If he walked amongst his companions it is as if the moon is surrounded by flowers of stars.

Whenever he approached a place at night, his light appeared and the people felt as if it was day time [*zohor*].

And Rasulullah s.a.w was very generous with his charity and windfall. He treated with kindness the orphans and widows.

Some companions said of his character, "I have not seen anyone more attractive with black turban⁷⁶ and red cloak⁷⁶ than he, Rasulullah s.a.w."

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

⁷⁶ Refer to Appendix IV - Item 1 - Red and Black.

Chapter 22

It had been said by the people, "His face was like the full moon"⁷⁷, and they said: "even brighter than the moon with no shade of clouds." He was overwhelmed with noble character and he is where all perfection terminates."

Some people tried to explain his features by saying, "I have never seen anyone like him, before him or after him."

The eloquent tongue fails to describe his good character.

Transcendent is Allah who placed (him) s.a.w in elevated and shining places. Who caused him (s.a.w) to travel by night [*isra'*] to the very close place (space of the bow) or nearer still.

Supported him with infinite miracles.

(Allah) equipped him with perfect qualities that are difficult to fully describe and gave him five favours⁷⁸ that were never given to anyone before.

Gifted with words which were concise but comprehensive. [*Jawami'ul kalimi*]⁷⁹. In short, no one could achieve his special status.

For him, there is appropriate speech in every place; all perfection originates from his perfection.

He was never puzzled by any question and/or answer. And his tongue never uttered anything but the truth.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

⁷⁷ Appendix IV - Item 2.

⁷⁸ Appendix IV - Item 3 Five favours.

⁷⁹ Refer to Appendix IV - Item 4 *Jawamiul kalimi*.

Chapter 23

What more can be said of the person who was mentioned in the Al-Quran, and whose qualities were made known in the Torah, Gospel, Book of Psalms and Quran⁸⁰.

Allah S.W.T brought him (up) to see and speak to Him⁸¹. Allah honoured him by associating his name with that of Allah's, to show and prove his high status.

Allah S.W.T made him the light and blessings for the entire universe, filled all hearts with happiness because of his birth.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

⁸⁰ He s.a.w was mentioned in all the four books.

⁸¹ Moses only spoke to God and when asked to see God, he was denied, whilst Muhammad s.a.w saw and spoke to Allah during his Mi'raj.

Chapter 24

O full moon (Prophet s.a.w) that has achieved all perfection, how can I describe
your high status?

You are the one that rose above the high horizon, with your light, you erased all
falsehood.

O Flag of Guidance, because of you the universe is lit up with lights, gifts and
favours.

Our Lord, Allah, bestow blessings upon you eternally in the early morning and
evening.

And upon all your family and companions, Allah the Lofty of Loftiness, bestowed
with perfection.

*O Allah, bestow blessings, grant peace
And favour upon him and his family.*

Du'a (Supplication)

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

All praise and thanks belong to Allah, Lord of all the Worlds. O Lord, bestow Your blessings and grant peace upon our Leader Muhammad s.a.w, his family and all his companions. O Lord, make us and all present amongst those who receive his intercession, and we hope for Allah's mercy and favour.

O Allah, with the honour of this great leader, his family and companions who took the right path, make us the best breed from his [*ummah*] people (in the Day of *Mahsyar*), cover us with his sanctity. Gather us tomorrow in his group. Use our tongue in praising and defending him. Make us live clinging firmly to his practices [*sunnah*] and obey him, and make us die loving him and his family [*ummah*].

O Lord, please make us enter heaven with him, for indeed, he is the first to enter it. And descend us together with him on to its (paradise) castles⁸², for verily, he is the first person to descend upon it. Have compassion on us on the day he intercedes for all creation, for You have mercy upon all of them.

O Lord, please give us the opportunity to visit him every year⁸³, do not make us amongst those who are negligent in remembering You and him even for a little while.

O Lord, please render anyone in this assembly who has a single misdeed cleansed with the water of repentance⁸⁴ [*taubah*]; and You conceal his sins with the garment of forgiveness.

⁸² The Castles of Paradise is in Heaven.

⁸³ A person does not have to go to Medina to visit the Prophet s.a.w. Attending the Maulid majlis is a good substitute.

⁸⁴ The water from the rive Kauthar in Heaven (Surah 108).

O Lord, last year there were friends amongst us who returned to You (*Rahimahu Mullah*) and thus were unable to be present this year because of Your *Qadha*⁸⁵, so please do not prevent them the blessings and rewards of this moment and its importance.

O Lord, have compassion upon us,
When we become the companions of the grave (x3)
And provide us with the earnest attempt [*ilham*] to do good deeds that will remain shining throughout time.

O Lord, please make us amongst those who appreciate and remember what You conferred upon us, appreciate and be thankful for Your favours, and think about the Day of Meeting with You. Make us live and be preoccupied with obedience towards You. When You cause us to die, let us die without being charmed [*fitnah*] or forsaken. Please conclude all our affairs with the best of endings.

O Lord, enshroud us from the evil of those who are cruel. (x3)
Please protect us from the charms (and temptations) of this earth.

O Lord, makes this Noble Messenger our intercessor, and because of his intercession bestow upon us a lofty position during the Day of Judgement.

O Lord, let us quench out thirst from the well (pool) of our prophet Muhammad s.a.w with an easy and unhurried drink that will not make us thirsty forever.
Assemble us under his flag tomorrow (Day of *Mahsyar*)⁸⁶.

O Lord, with his (the Prophet's) high esteem beside You, forgive us, our fathers, our mothers, our teachers, and those bestowed with authority on us, those who

⁸⁵ Passed away as ordained [Qadha] by Allah.

⁸⁶ Day of Mashyar is the day of gathering for judgment.

organise this event (respectable assembly) at this minute, all believers and Muslims, male and female, living and those who have passed away.

Verily You are very close in answering all prayers, and granting all needs, and forgiving all sins and misdeeds, O Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

May Allah's blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad s.a.w, his family and companions and grant them peace. Glory to You, Lord of the Supreme Power, above what the infidels [*kuffar*] attribute to You, and peace be upon the Messengers, Praise and Thanks to the Lord of the Universe. Ameen.

Recite *Al-Fatihah* seeking His acceptance, achieving all hopes in the presence of our leader, the Prophet s.a.w.

Recite *Al-Fatihah*.

O our Lord, Grant us our request, for definitely You are All hearing and the Omniscient. And forgive us for You are Most Forgiving, and Most Merciful. Give a good ending to all our good deeds and lives, O Allah, the Generous One. All praise is due to Allah alone, the Lord of all the worlds.

O Prophet peace be upon you,

O Messenger peace be upon you,

O Loved One peace be upon you,

Allah's blessings be upon you.

A full moon rises over us,
 The other moon disappears
 We never saw the likes of your whole beauty (goodness),
 O face of gladness
 You are the sun, you are the moon
 you are light upon lights
 The (Golden) door you open is even more priceless
 You are the light of hearts
 O my beloved, O Muhammad
 O star of east and west
 O supporter, O praised one
 O leader of both the *Qiblas*
 Whoever sees your face, gets happiness
 O the one who is kind to both parents
 Your clear and cool fountain
 Is our goal on the Day of Reckoning.
 (We) never saw a camel craving for love (and sympathy),
 in the night journey except for you.
 Clouds shade (you) from the heat (of the sun),
 The Honourables send their greetings to you.
 The tree trunk came crying to you,
 And humbled itself in front of you,
 (We) seek your protection, O my beloved,
 Like an estranged deer.
 Whenever the caravan gets ready to go, (the lead chanting began) praising you
 during the departure.
 I came with tears flowing

I said, "Please stop for me, O Guide."
And deliver for me these letters,
Which (express) profuse yearnings.
To the place (of the prophet),
In the morning and the evening.
Everyone in the universe is passionately in love,
with you, O one with a perfect face.
And they all have passion for you,
longing and yearning for you.
The meaning of your existence to mankind
is always perplex, yet apparent.
You are the concluding messenger,
that is grateful to the Lord.
Your poor servant, who looks up to,
Your numerous multitude favours.
Verily I only have good thoughts of you, O bearer
And herald of glad tidings and warnings.
Help and protect us,
O Shelterer of Hell (*Sa'ir* - Fire).
O Succour and O Provider of Relief,
in all duties and warrants.
Became cheerful the weary servant when removed from him the
difficulties/sadness.
You are like the Full Moon rising,
and you have the best of qualities.
None other than you in principles,
One and only, O Grandfather of Hussein.
May Allah bless you,
forever till eternity.
O Lord, the Holder of Goodness,

O Lord, the Elevator of Status.
May You remove all my sins,
Forgive me of my wrongdoings.
For You forgive all errors,
and all misdeeds and grace sins.
You are the veil of all shortcomings,
You are the eraser of all faults.
The Knower of secrets and concealments,
You grant all appeals.
O Lord, have mercy upon us all,
and blot out (our) sins.
O Lord, have mercy upon us all,
for all the good deeds.

End of Maulid.

~

Blessings and peace be upon you, O leader of the Prophets,
Blessings and peace be upon you, O Last of the Prophets,
Blessings and peace be upon you, O One that Allah sent as a mercy for all the
universe.
May the good pleasure of Allah, the Exalted be upon all the companions of the
Prophet of Allah, Ameen.

~

Allah is the Light

Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth.
The parable of His Light is as if there were a Niche
And within it a Lamp:
The Lamp enclosed in glass;
The glass as it were a brilliant star:
Lit from a blessed tree, an Olive,
Neither of the East nor of the West,
Whose oil is well-nigh luminous,
Though fire scarce touched it:
Light upon Light!
Allah do guide whom He will to His Light:
Allah do set forth parables for men:
And Allah do know all things.

The Blessed House

(Lit is such a light) in houses,
Which Allah have permitted to be raised to honour;
For the celebration, in them, of his name:
In them is He glorified in the mornings
And in the evenings, (again and again).

Surah 24 Al Nur Verses 35 & 36

Appendix I

1) Invocation

From Bukhari, narrated by Abu Hurayrah, may Allah be please with him, that the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him said, "Our Lord, the Blessed, the Superior, comes down every night to the nearest Heaven to us when the last third of the night remains, saying: "Is there anyone to invoke Me, so that I may respond to his invocation? Is there anyone to ask Me, so that I may grant him his request? Is there anyone seeking My forgiveness, so that I may forgive him?" "

2) His Creation and Lineage.

i) From Bukhari, narrated by Anas, may Allah be please with him, the *Buraq* was brought to the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him then he said, "When Allah, Glorious and Exalted is He, created Adam, peace be upon him, He made me descend o the earth in his loins. He put me in the loins of Nuh in the Ark and cast me into the fire in the loins of Ibrahim. Then He continued to move me from noble loins to the pure wombs until He brought me out from my parents. None of them ever met in fornication." (It was also related by ibn Abi 'Umar al'Adani in his Musnad.)

ii) When was he appointed?

ibn Sa'd said. "Affan ibn Muslim and 'Umar ibn 'Asim al-Kilabi informed us they said, "Hammad ibn Salamah informed us on the authority of Khalid al-Hadhha, he on the authority of 'Abdullah ibn Shaqiq, he on the authority of Abu al-Jad'a; he said, "I said: "O Prophet of Allah! When did you receive Prophethood?" He, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "I received Prophethood when Adam was yet between soul and body.""

3) Lu'ai bin Ghalib

He was the seventh ascendant of the Prophet; Muhammad bin Abdillah bin Abdul Muttalib bin Hashim bin Abdul Manaf bin Qusai bin Hakim bin Murrah bin Ka'ab bin Lu'ai bin Ghalib bin Fehr bin Malik bin Nadhr bin Kinanah bin Khuzaimah bin Mudrikah bin Ilyas bin Mudhaar bin Nizar bin Ma'ad bin Adnan.

4) The Camel

A tradition about a camel relates that, "The Prophet once asked some people about a certain camel and they told him that they wanted to slaughter it."

In one version he said, "It has complained of too much work and too much fodder," and in another version, "It complained to me that you want to slaughter it after you have made it toil in hard labour since it was small." This was recorded in At-Tabarani and ibn Majah in his *Sunan* regarding the expedition of *Dhat ar-Riqa'*.

Al-Isfira'ini mentioned that in the above hadith, the split-eared camel had told the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, about itself, it was freed and put out to pasture. The wild beasts avoided it, calling out to it, "You belong to Muhammad!" After the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him died, it would neither eat nor drink until it died.

5) The Lizard [*Dhab*]

'Umar, may Allah be please with him, said that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, was with a group of his Companions when a Bedouin who had caught a lizard [*dhab*] came. The Bedouin asked, "Who is this?" They replied, "The Prophet of Allah." He said, "By al-Lat and al'Uzza, I do not believe in you nor does this lizard believe in you." He threw it in front of the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, who said, "Lizard!" It answered in a clear tongue which everyone heard, "At your service, O adornment of the One who will bring the Rising!" He asked, "Who do you worship?" It said, "The One Whose throne is in the heaven and Whose power is in the earth, Whose path is in the sea, Whose mercy is in the Garden and Whose punishment is in the Fire." He asked, "Who am I?" It replied, "The Messenger of the Lord of the Worlds and the Seal of the Prophets. Whoever confirms you is successful and whoever denies you is lost."

The Bedouin became Muslim. (This hadith is weak in *isnad* although many quote it, disagreeing about whether it is weak or forged.) (Hayatul-Hayawan, Bab Dhab)

6) Mimosa Tree

Ad-Darimi, al-Bayhaqi, al-Bazzar recorded that ibn 'Umar, may Allah be please with him said, "We were with the Messenger of Allah, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, on a journey and a Bedouin came up to him and he asked, "Bedouin, where are you going?" He replied, "To my family." He s.a.w said, "Do you want something good?"

The man asked, "What is it?" The Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him said, "That you testify that there is no god but Allah alone without partner and that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger." The Bedouin asked, "Who will testify to what you say?" He replied, "This mimosa tree." It advanced from the edge of the *wadi*, furrowing the earth until it stood before him and he asked it to testify three times and it did so and then returned to its place.

While ibn 'Abbas, may Allah be please with him, said that the Prophet may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said to a Bedouin, "Tell me whether I should summon this trunk of the palm tree to testify that I am the Messenger of Allah." He said, "Yes, do so." He called it and it began to furrow a path until it reached him. Then he said, "Go back," and it did so. This was recorded in Bukhari's history also by al-Bayhaqi and ad-Darimi. At-Tirmidhi said, "This is a sound hadith."

7) Stone

Recorded by Tirmidhi that 'Ali ibn Abi Talib, may Allah honor him said, "I was walking with the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him in Mecca, we left the city and every tree and stone said the greetings [*salam*] to the prophet."

8) Stump

The hadith about the stump corroborates these reports. It is famous in itself and well known. It is related by many parallel paths of transmission. The *Sahih* collections relate it. It was related by about ten of the Companions, including Ubayy ibn Kalb, Jarir ibn 'Abdullah, Anas ibn Malik, 'Abdullah ibn 'Umar, 'Abdullah ibn 'Abbas, Sahl ibn Sa'ad, Abu Sa'id al-Khudri, Burayda, Umm Salama, and al-Muttalib ibn Abi Wada'a, may Allah be please with all of them. Tirmidhi said that the hadith of Anas is sound.

While it was recorded in Sahih Bukhari that Jabir ibn 'Abdullah, may Allah be please with him said, "The mosque was constructed of the trunks of palm trees with a roof laid on top of them. When the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, addressed the people, he would lean against one of the trunks. When the pulpit [*mimbar*] was built, we heard the trunk made a sound like a camel." In 'Anas version, "Until the mosque was shaken by it's moaning." In Sahl's version, "People wept a lot when they saw that." In the version of al-Muttalib and Ubayy, "Until it nearly split and burst apart, at which the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, came to it and placed his hand on it. Then it was still."

9) **Water**

From Sahih Muslim, narrated by Jabir ibn 'Abdullah, may Allah be please with him that a man came to the Prophet to ask him for a food, and he gave him half a wasq of barley. He, and his wife and guests continued to eat from it until he weighed it. The Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, came and he told him that. The Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, aid, "If you had not weighed it, you would have continued to eat from it and it would have remained with you." Qatada also relates this from Anas, mentioning, "a vessel in which water overflowed from between his fingers." Qatada asked Anas, "How many were you?" He replied, "About three hundred." Humayd said that there were eighty men. Thabit said that there were about seventy men.

10) **Heart does not sleep.**

From Sahih Bukhari and Muslims, ibn Sa'd narrated that the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him said, "My eyes sleep but my heart does not sleep. I am not made the same as you but my Lord still gives me food and makes me drink."

11) **Isra' and Mi'raj**

i) The event occurred instantaneously in one night such that the place where Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, laid down did not get a chance to turn cold. The human mind just cannot accept this. The *Qurasyh* doubted him and called it sorcery. But through the visions of the Almighty he, may Allah's

blessings and peace be upon him told them what he saw and various other sources confirmed it.

ii) Surah 53 Al Najm Verse 1:

By the Star when it goes down, Your Companion is neither astray nor being misled. Nor does he say (ought) of (his own) Desire. It is no less than inspiration sent down to him: He was taught by one Mighty in Power, Endued with Wisdom: for he appeared (in stately form), While he was in the highest part of the horizon: Then he approached and came closer, And was at a distance of but two bow-length or (even) nearer; So did (Allah) convey the inspiration to His servant; (conveyed) what he (meant) to convey. The (Prophet's) (mind and) heart in no way falsified that which he saw. Will ye then dispute with him concerning what he saw? For indeed he saw Him at a second descent, Near the Lote-tree beyond which none may pass: Near it is the Garden of Abode. Behold, the Lote-tree was shrouded (in mystery unspeakable!) (His) sight never swerved, nor did it go wrong! For truly did he see, of the signs of his Lord, the Greatest!

iii) The Night Journey to Jerusalem [*Bayt al Muqaddas*].

It was narrated by Muhammad ibn 'Umar al-Aslami that the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, was taken by night on the twenty seventh night of *Rejab*, and one year before the blockade in the mountain pass of Abu Talib, to Jerusalem [*Bayt al Muqaddas*].

The Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said: "I was mounted on a beast whose size [*Buraq*] was between a donkey and a mule, with two wings in its thighs, which came up to its hoofs and were set in them. When I went near it to ride, it became restive."

"Thereupon Gabriel placed his hand on its head and said, "O *Buraq*! Are you not ashamed of what you are doing? By Allah no servant of Allah has ridden you before Muhammad, more honoured in the sight of Allah."

"It felt ashamed till it was covered with sweat, and became calm; then I mounted it. It moved its ears, and the earth shrank to such an extent that its hoofs (seemed to touch its surface) at the end of the range of our sight. It had a long back and long ears. Gabriel accompanied me and he never lost touch with me nor did I till we reached Jerusalem [*Bayt al Muqaddas*].; and *al-Buraq* reached its halting place. It was tied at the place where the beasts of the other prophets were tied."

He (Prophet) may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said: "I saw the other prophets who had assembled there for me. I saw Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and, I thought there must be someone to lead them (in prayers); Gabriel made me go forward till I offered prayers in front them and inquired from them (about their mission)." They said, "We were commissioned with unity (of Allah)."

Some of the (narrators) said: "The Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, had disappeared that night, so members of the family of 'Abd al-Muttalib went out to search for him. Al-'Abbas went to Dhu Tuwa and began to shout: "O Muhammad! O Muhammad!"

The Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "I am here."

He said: "O my brother's son! You have worried the people since the (beginning of the) night, where have you been?"

He, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said: "I came from *Bayt al Muqaddas*." (meaning that he had gone to Jerusalem and just returning back home!) He (al-'Abbad) said, "In one night?"

He, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "Yes."

He said: "Did you experience anything which was not good?"

He, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "I did not experience anything but good and well."

Umm Hani said, "He was taken on this journey from our house. He slept the night with us; he offered the night [*Isha*] prayers, and then he slept. When it was pre-dawn we awoke him (to offer) morning prayers [*Fajr*]." He, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, got up and offered morning prayers and then he, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "O Umm Hani! I offered '*Isha* prayers with you as you witnessed, then I reached *Bayt al-Muqaddas* and offered prayers there; then offered morning prayers before you."

After this he got up to go out; I said to him, "Do not relate this to the people because they will not believe you and will harm you."

He, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said to Gabriel, may peace be upon him, "O Gabriel! My people will not confirm it." He, may peace be upon him, replied: "Abu Bakr will testify to it; and he is *al-Siddiq*."

The narrator added, "Many people who had embraced Islam and offered prayers went astray (as they could not accept this news)". The Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, continued, "I stood at *al-Hijr*, visualised *Bayt al-Muqaddas* and described its signs. Some of them said, 'How many doors are there in that mosque?' I had not counted them so I began to look at it and counted them one by one and gave them information concerning them. I also gave information about their caravan which was on the way and its signs. They found them as I had related.

Then the Almighty, revealed in Surah 17 *al-Israa* Verse 60, "Behold! We told you that your Lord do encompass mankind round about: We granted the Vision which We showed you but as a trial for men."

ibn Sa'd said, 'It refers to the vision of the eye which he saw with his eye. What the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said: "I found myself in *al-Hijr* while the *Quraysh* were putting questions about my nocturnal Journey. They asked me about *Bayt al Muqaddas* which I had not fully recollected, so I became nervous like which I had never been. Allah brought it before me and I was looking at what they were asking about; and so I informed them. I was shown the group of the Prophets and lo! Moses was standing and offering prayers, and lo! He appeared to be hard working as if he was a member of the tribe of (Azd) Shanu'ah, lo! 'Isa ibn Maryam was offering prayers standing. The person most resembling him is 'Urwah ibn Mas'ud al-Thaqaf, and lo! Ibrahim was offering prayers standing and the person most resembling him is your companion, referring to himself. When it was the time of prayer I led them. When I had finished the prayers, a person said to me, "O Muhammad!" It is Malik, the warden of hell, salute to him. I turned to him, and he was the first to offer me greetings [*salam*].

12) Ibn 'Abbas, may Allah be please with him, said that the spirit of the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, was a light in the hands of Allah, Glorious and Exalted is He, two thousands years before He created Adam. That light glorified Him and the angels glorified Him by his glorification. When Allah, the Exalted created Adam, peace be upon him, He entrusted that light into his loins.

13) Wai'ila ibn al-Aqsa' said that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "Allah chose Isma'il from the children of Ibrahim and He chose the *Banu Kinana* from the children of Isma'il. He chose the *Qurasyh* from the *Banu Kinana* and He chose the *Banu Hashim* from the *Qurasyh*. He chose me from the *Banu Hashim*." At-Tirmidhi said that this hadith is sound. Muslim also recorded it in the *Sahih*.

14) The Messenger of Allah, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "Allah brought me down to earth in the loins of Adam, placed me in the loins of Nuh and then cast me into the loins of Ibrahim. Allah continued to move me from noble loins and pure wombs until He brought me out of my parents. None of them were ever joined together in fornication."

at-Tabarani recorded a hadith narrated by ibn 'Umar, may Allah be please with him, who related that the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "Allah, Glorious and Mighty is He, sifted through His creation and chose the *Banu Adam* from them. Then He sifted through *Banu Adam* and chose the Arabs from them. Then He sifted through Arabs and chose the *Qurasyh* from them. Then He sifted through the *Quraysh* and chose the *Banu Hashim* and chose me from them. I am the best of the best. Whoever loves the Arabs, loves them through love for me. Whoever hates the Arabs, hates them through hatred of me."

15) Muhammad, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, is a pure descent from Adam, peace be upon him and to continue from Note 3 above, Abu Muhammad 'Abdul Malik ibn Hashim, the Grammarian [*ahli nahnu*] said, from Lu'ayy bin Ghalib through 'Adnan bin Udd (or Udad) bin Muqawwam bin Nahur bin Tayrah bin Ya'rub bin Yashjub bin Nabit bin Isma'il bin Ibrahim (the friend of the Compassionate) bin Tarih (who is Azar) bin Nahur bin Sarugh bin Ra'u bin Falikh bin 'Aybar bin Shalikh bin Arfakhshadh bin Sam bin Nuh bin Lamk bin Mattushalakh bin Akhnukh (Idris who was the first of the sons of Adam to receive prophecy) bin Yard bin Mahlil bin Qaynan bin Yanish bin Shith bin Adam."

16) **The Qiyam - Why stand up?**

Standing Ovation [*Mahal Qiyam*] in Reciting *Maulid*

When the reciter [*munshid*] reaches the narration of the actual birth of the Holy Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, all present will stand in

respect and devotion to the Holy Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, they all offer greetings [*salam*] from the depth of their hearts, with deep love and affection in a resounding chorus during the standing ovation.

Although this standing ovation [*Qiyam*] is normally read together with the *Maulid-u'n-Nabi*, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, it cannot yet be established who actually composed it as it was also reproduced in the *maulid* composed by Imam Barzanji as well as in "The Glory/Nobility of the Whole World" [*Sharaf al-Anaam*] composed by al-'Allamah Shaikh Ahmad bin Qasim.

During one of his 'umrah, al-Habib Abdul Rahman bin Ubaidillah Assegaf, who wrote the *Kitab Badha'i al-Taboot*, recited the *maulid* with his congregation at the *Haram*. When they reached the part mentioning the birth of the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, they all stood up.

The religious officer [*mutawalli*] standing nearby saw this (the *Qiyam*) and told the Habib and his congregation not to stand and to stop the recitation of these blessings and greetings. The Habib explained to the *mutawalli* why they stood but in order not to cause any disturbance they adhered to his request and stopped.

In a while the call [*adhan*] for *Maghrib* prayers was called. King Abdul 'Aziz al-Saud came into the Ka'abah area to pray. The worshippers present stood up in respect of the King but the Habib did not. King Abdul 'Aziz noticed this from the corner of his eye. After the prayers he asked his console to summon the Habib. When asked why the Habib did not stand like the others, the Habib did not answer but instead ask very politely who was greater, the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, or the King. The King commented that it was a ridiculous question and surely it was the Prophet who was greater.

The Habib then related the incident with the *mutawalli* earlier and apologised for not standing up because the *mutawalli* had told him not to stand. The King then directed those in charge of *Haram* not to stop Habib Assegaff from his worship and recitation.

Standing during the *maulid* is considered as *Qiyas* from a yearning feeling towards the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, and showing the enthusiasm towards the arrival of the Messenger of Missive [*Risalah*] in our life.

This is common, because standing up in admiration which is advisable by Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, as mentioned when Sa'ad bin Mu'adz,

may Allah be please with him, arrived then the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said to the people of Medina [*Ansar*] "Stand up for your master."⁸⁷ Similarly Thalhah, may Allah be please with him, stood up for Ka'b bin Malik, may Allah be please with him.

It is true that there have been differing opinion [*ikhtilaf*] amongst from the learned [*ulama*] about standing up to respect people. However, as explained by Imam Alkhattabi that it is good manners if a servant stands up to greet his master, also if a student stands up to greet his teacher [*shaykh*], and if people stand up to welcome the great and rightful leader [*Imam*] or even a political leader or a King as such. Imam Bukhari had also said that what is forbidden is to stand for the leader who is sitting. Imam Nawawi explained that it is allowed to stand up to respect people. The Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, stood up to welcome his daughter, Fatimah, may Allah be please with her, when she arrived. Yet there are another opinions that forbids people to stand up to respect others!⁸⁸

Whilst there are new opinion critical and forbidding believers to stand up out of respect, definitely they too will stand up if Rasulullah, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, comes in their presence. It is near impossible for a religious, righteous and faithful Muslim who was sitting to continue sitting leisurely when suddenly Rasulullah, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, comes in! Certainly standing up during the standing ovation [*mahal qiyam*] when reciting the *maulid* has nothing to do with the above arguments because the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, is not present [*dhahir*] when the congregation recites the *maulid*. Nonetheless, there is the opinion that the soul of the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, would be present during the reciting of the *maulid*. Even though that is not our focus in this discussion, such matters are mysterious and unseen [*ghaib*] matter which cannot be explained with present [*dhahir*] laws.

Even though it is well known from a *Sahih* hadith reported by 'Abdullah bin 'Amr bin Al-As, may Allah be please with him, who reported that the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "Then invoke a blessing on me, for everyone who invokes a blessings on me will receive ten blessings from Allah."

⁸⁷ Sahih Bukhari Hadith No.2878 and Sahih Muslim Hadith No.1768.

⁸⁸ Refer to Fathul Baari Almasyyhur Chapter 11 and Syarh Imam Nawawi of Sahih Muslim Chapter 12 page 93.

All the above arguments aside, it is different matter if the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, had forbidden his companions from standing up to honour him.

It is a big difference when we stand up in remembrance of The Prophet's, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, great deeds and leadership. We are not just paying respect to his status and merits, regardless he is present or not, we are also standing up because of our longing, yearning feeling towards Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him. It is similar with what we perform each time we pray, that is, we recite greetings towards the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, even though we do not see him.

It has been told that Imam Al Hafidh Taqiyuddin Assubkiy, may Allah be please with him, who was a great and respectful Imam in his era, was gathering with all *Muhaddits* and other great *Imams* and during the gathering, the words of worship towards Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, were read. When reciting the poems they stood up including Imam Assubkiy and all the Imams who were present. Hence they obtained the glory comfort and what they did became a good example for us.

Imam Ibn Hajar Alhaisamiy, may Allah be please with him, announced that it has become an agreement amongst many Imams that performing the *maulid* is *Bid'ah Hasanah* and it is considered as *sunnah*.⁸⁹ This means that if it is performed, we will receive reward and if it is not performed we will not get punishment.

Imam Assakhawiy, may Allah be please with him, also said, that since the third century of *Hijriyah*, this action has started to be celebrated with many religious meals and alms given, and this great celebration performed around the world has brought a lot of blessings to those performing it.⁹⁰

Indeed, it is very evident that celebrating the *maulid* is aimed at gathering Muslims to a public sermon [*Tablig*] and establishing ties of kinship relationship [*silaturrahim*] while at the same time listening to Islamic sermons, performing salutations [*salawat*] and greetings [*salam*] towards Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, as well as performing commendable worship towards Allah, the Exalted.

⁸⁹ Sahih Muslim Book 004, Hadith Number 0747.

⁹⁰ Based on the Hadith Sahih Muslim No.1017 - The Chapter Bid'ah.

These had been permitted by the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, hence bringing back the believers' love for the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him. These actions are aimed at raising missive [*risalah*] amongst those who are negligent [*ghaflah*] in their duties to Allah. Therefore any leader [*Imam*] and learned [*Fuqaha*] will not deny it because it is clearly one of the ways to raise the faith of Muslim. This fact cannot be denied by each and every Muslim using any logical and jurisprudence [*syari'ah*] arguments because it is a matter of being loved [*mustahab*], as mentioned in *syari'ah* laws that, "All that brings or creates an obligation with it, is in itself an obligation," according to the law.

For example, as we know that conveying privy parts [*aurat*] while performing prayers [*shalat*] is a must and an obligation according to Islamic law while buying clothes is not an obligation [*mubah*]. However, because we are going to perform prayers and by coincidence we do not have the clothes to cover the *aurat* unless we buy it first, then buying the clothes in this case becomes an obligation, because it is required in performing another obligation, which is prayers.

Consequently, the celebration of the birth of the Prophet Muhammad, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, is held for as a public sermon [*tablig*] and spreading religious advice [*Dakwah*], and indeed, spreading of religious advice is an obligation for the people if they are in denial, in a time when the people [*ummah*] do not care much about their Messenger, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, neither love or yearn for their Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, nor eager to perform according to his deeds.

To achieve this public sermon, the Imams encouraged celebration of *maulid* Prophet Muhammad, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him. Hence, the *maulid* celebration has become an obligation, because it is the mediator between public sermon and spreading of religious advice. This act also assists to introduce the history of the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, and at the same time, helps maintain and establish relationships.

Just like writing and filing the Al-Qur'an which was not necessary during the period of the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, but this activity became supererogatory act [*sunnah*] during the period of the companions of the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, because they needed to have more explanation from the Qur'an. However, it became an obligation after many companions passed away, as they fear that the total Qur'an would be

disappear from the people, although Allah has proclaimed that the Qur'an is well guarded by Allah, the Exalted.

This matter has been understood and explained by the Rightly Guided Leaders [*khulafa'urraşyidin*] may Allah be please with them, the religious leaders [*Imam*] and the experts in *hadith* [*Muhadditsin*], the learned [*'ulama*], Islamic jurist [*fuqaha*], believers [*mukminin*] and even common Muslim.

However, it is only some of our Muslim brothers, who insist to disobey this. May Allah give them deeper understanding and broaden the mind, *Amin*.

To Allah belongs the Spiritual Guidance
[Wabillahittaufiq]

Appendix II

Account of the Birth of the Prophet May Allah's blessings and peace be upon him

- 1) ibn Sa'ad narrated that, "The Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, was born on Monday, the 12th of the month of *Rabi'ul Awwal*; and the invasion of the people of the Elephants [*ashabul Fil*] took place in the middle of *Muharram*, fifty-five days prior to this event."

2) Light radiates

ibn Sa'ad also narrated with seven chains of transmission that, "Verily 'Aminah binti Wahab, may Allah be please with her said, "I became pregnant with him, meaning the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, but I felt no discomfort till I delivered him. But when he was separated from me there emitted with him a light which made everything between the East and the West bright. Then he fell in the earth resting on his hands and took a handful of earth and raised his head to the heavens; and some say that he was reclining on his knees, raising his head to the heaven, and there emitted with him a light which illuminated the places of Syria and its markets, till I saw the necks of camels at Busra."

3) Light radiates

Another narration by ibn Sa'ad, who said that, "Verily the mother of the Prophet, may Allah be please with her said, "when I delivered him, there emitted a light from my womb which illuminated the palaces of Syria, so I delivered him clean as the lamb without impurities, and he fell on the earth with his hands resting on it."

- 4) ibn Sa'ad narrated that it was said that the Prophet's mother, may Allah be please with her, said, "I noticed as if a meteor came out of me with which the earth was lighted."

5) Circumcised

Another narration by ibn Sa'ad records that the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him was born circumcised and with navel chord cut; this caused 'Abd Muttalib to wonder and he was pleased. He remarked, "This child of mine will achieve greatness, which he did."

- 6) ibn Sa'ad narrated that it was said that, "When 'Aminah binti Wahab, may Allah be please with her, delivered the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him and the bearer of good news came to 'Abdal Muttalib, he was sitting in *al-Hijr* with his sons and some members of his tribe. He was informed that 'Aminah, may Allah be please with her, had delivered a boy. The news pleased 'Abdal Muttalib, and he stood up along with those who were there. Then he entered her apartment. Thereupon she informed him of what she had perceived and what was said to her (by the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) and to what she was commanded. He (al-'Abbas) said, 'Abdal-Muttalib took him and carried him to the Ka'abah and standing there he prayed to Allah and thanked him for what He had bestowed on him."

And that day 'Abdal Muttalib recited, "All praises belong to Allah, who bestowed on me this boy of pure character. He has been the leader of the boys in his cradle, (so) I entrust him to the care of Allah the Lord (of the pillars of the Ka'abah)."

I wish to see him attain maturity, and I seek refuge from the evil of malicious person.

"(I seek refuge) from the evil of the agitated envious person."

- 7) The second *Hadith* is not a Prophetic narration but a recollection by Ata'a ibn Yasar of an incident when he was young.

The truth of his narration is confirmed by the Quran in Surah 159 al-Araf Verse 159, which said:

"Those who follow the Messenger, the unlettered Prophet, whom they find mentioned in their own (Scriptures) - in the Law and the Gospel - for he commands them what is just and forbids them what is evil; he allows them as lawful what is good (and pure) and prohibits them from what is bad (and impure); he releases

them from their heavy burdens and from the yokes that are upon them. So it is those who believe in him, honour him, help him, and follow the Light which is sent down with him, it is they who will prosper.”

Appendix III

His birth - What is related about the occasion.

These are the signs which appeared when he was born and the miracles [*mukjizat*] related by his mother, may Allah be please with her, and those present.

1. He, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, lifted his head when he was born, looking skywards. A light emitted with him when he was born. Umm 'Uthman ibn Abdil' As saw the stars lowering themselves and a light appeared when he was born so that she could see nothing but light.
2. The midwife, ash-Shifa' Umm AbdurRahman ibn 'Awf said, "When he dropped into my hands and sneezed, I heard someone say, 'May Allah have mercy on you!' and the entire horizon was illuminated for me so I could see the castles of the Greeks." (Abu Nu'aym)
3. Halimah, his wet-nurse, and her husband recognised the blessings that came with him and the abundance of her milk for him and of the milk of her old she-camel and the fertility of their sheep, the vigour of his youth and the excellence of his growth.
4. These are the wonders that took place the night he was born when the arcade of Chosroes shook and its balconies fell down, the waters of Lake Tiberias ebbed, and the flame of Persia, which had not been put out for a thousand of years, was extinguished.
5. When he, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, ate with his uncle, Abu Talib, and his family as a child, they always had their fill of food and drink. When he, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him was absent, they ate and were not satisfied. All the sons of Abu Talib got up in the morning dishevelled whereas the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, was invariably neat, oiled and wearing kohl.

6. His nurse, Umm Ayman, said, "I never saw him complain of hunger or thirst either as a child or as an adult." (Narrated by Ibn Sa'd and Abu Nu'aym)

7. Another example recorded in *Sahih* Bukhari and *Sahih* Muslim of what happened is that the heaven was guarded by stars and meteors thus cutting off the spying of Satan and preventing them from listening. Hatred for idols grew naturally in him, and he, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, abstained from the things done in the Time of Ignorance. Allah protected him, even in keeping his modesty as in the famous tradition about when Ka'abah was rebuilt and he, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, took off his wrapper and put it round his neck to use for carrying stones making himself naked. He kept on falling down until he put his wrapper back on. His uncle asked him, "What is wrong with you?" He, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, replied, "I was stopped from being naked."

8. Another example related by Ibn Sa'ad was that he, may Allah's blessings be upon him, was shaded by clouds whenever he travelled. Khadijah, peace be upon her, said, "When he was approaching they would see that two angels were shading him." She mentioned that to Maysara and he told her that he had seen that happening from the time they set out with him on their journey. It is related that Halima also saw a cloud shade him when he was with her.

(Maysara, a servant worked for Khadijah, peace be upon her, in her trading and accompanied Muhammad, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him on several trips when Khadijah, peace be upon her, employed him to trade for her.)

9. Before he, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, was a Prophet, on one of his journeys, he alighted under a dry tree. All around it became green and the tree itself became full grown, spread out and lowered its branches for him for all to see. In some traditions, the shade of the tree inclined towards him to shade him. It was mentioned that he has no shadow in the sun or moon because he was a light. Flies did not alight on his clothes or body.

10. He, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him was made to love withdrawing from the world until the time he was given revelation. He told people about his coming death and its nearness and where his grave would be in Medina and that it

would be in his house. What is between his house and the *mimbar* is one of the Meadows of the Garden.

Appendix IV

1. Colours associated with the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him.

Al-Hamrah (red colour)

'Abd Allah ibn Numayr and Ya'la ibn 'Ubayd informed us on the authority of al-Ajlah, on the authority of Abu Ishaq, from al-Bara; he said: "I have not seen anyone more attractive in a red cloak than the Messenger of Allah, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him."

Abu al-Walid Hisham al-Tayalisi ibn 'Abd al-Malik informed us: Shu'bah informed us on the authority of Abu Ishaq; he said: I heard al-Bara describing the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, and he said: "I saw him in a red cloak and I did not see anyone who looks better than him."

Al-Aswad (black colour) and turbans

Waki' ibn al-Jarrah and 'Affan ibn Muslim informed us on the authority of Hammad ibn Salamah from Abu al-Zubayr: "Verily, the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, entered Mecca and he was wearing a black turban."

Waki' ibn al-Jarrah informed us on the authority of Musawir al-Warraaq, from Ja'far ibn 'Amr ibn Hurayth, he on the authority of his father: "Verily, the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, delivered a sermon before the people, and he was wearing a black turban."

2. His Features

From *Sahih* Bukhari, narrated by a-Bara', Abu Ishaq narrated that al-Bara' was asked, "Was the face of the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, as bright as a sword?" He said, "No, but as bright as a moon."

Allah, Glorious and Exalted is He, gave him, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him a choice regarding his death. There are marks of honour and nobility in the hadith describing his death. Then angels prayed over his body. The Angel of Death asked permission which he had never done with anyone before him. There was a call they heard, "Do not remove the shirt from him when he is washed." It is related that al-Khidr and the angels consoled the People of his House when he died.

3. Five Favours

From *Sahih* Bukhari and narrated by Jabir ibn 'Abdullah, the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "I have been given five things which were not given to anyone else before me:

- i) Allah made me victorious by awe (by His frightening my enemies) for a distance of one month's journey.
- ii) The earth has been made for me (and for my followers) a place for praying and a thing to perform *Tayammum*, therefore, anyone of my followers can pray when and wherever the time of prayer is due.
- iii) The booty has been made *halal* (lawful) for me yet it was not lawful for anyone else before me.
- iv) I have been given the right of intercession (on Judgement Day).
- v) Every Prophet used to be sent to his nation only but I have been sent to all mankind."

4. Jawami'ul kalimi

- i) From Ash-Shifa of Qadi 'Iyad, from the hadith of al-Hasan ibn 'Ali Talib from ibn Abi Hala on the Prophet's qualities:

Al-Hasan ibn 'Ali, may Allah be please with him said, "I asked my uncle Hind ibn Abi Hala about the features of the Messenger of Allah since it was not known to me. I wanted him to describe them to me so that I could retain them in my mind. Al-Hasan said, "Tell me how he spoke." Ibn Abi Hala replied, "The Messenger of Allah, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him was always subject to grief and was always reflective. He had no rest and he only spoke when it was necessary. He spent long periods in silence. He began and ended what he said correctly. His words were comprehensive without being either superfluous or wordy or inadequate."

- ii) In another similar hadith from *Sahih* Bukhari and narrated by Abu Hurayrah, may Allah be pleased with him, reported that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "I have been given superiority over the other prophets in six respects, I have been given words which are [*Jawami'ul kalimi*] concise but comprehensive in meaning."; and other five as above.

Appendix V

“Splitting of the moon and holding back the sun”

Surah 54 Al-Qamar Verse 1 and 2:

“The Hour (of Judgement) is nigh, and the moon is cleft asunder (has been split) but if they see a sign, they turn away, and say, “This is (but) transient magic (sorcery).”

Allah, Glorious and Supreme is He, inform people about the splitting of the moon using past participle and refers to the unbelievers turning away from His signs. The commentators and the master of hadiths collectively agree that it took place.

From Ash-Shifa of Qadi 'Iyad, ibn Mas'ud, may Allah be please with him, said, “The moon was split into two parts during the time of the Messenger of Allah, may Allah’s blessings and peace be upon him. One part was above the mountain and the other part below it. The Messenger of Allah, may Allah’s blessings and peace be upon him said, “Witness!” While in *Sahih* Bukhari, Mujahid’s version said, “We were with the Prophet.” In one of the paths of transmission from al-A'mash we find something similar. ibn Hanbal recorded that it was also related that ibn Mas'ud al-Aswad said, “When I saw the mountains between the two halves of the moon...”

Masruq said that this was at Mecca and added that the unbelievers of *Qurasyh* said, “The son of Abu Kabsha has bewitched you.” One of them said, “If Muhammad has bewitched the moon, his magic is not such that it would extend to the entire earth. Ask those who have come from other cities whether they saw it.” They came and were questioned and told them that they too had seen it.

As-Samarqandi related something similar from ad-Dahhak in which Abu Jahl said, “This is magic, so send to the people of the remote areas to see whether or not they saw it.”

The people of the remote areas confirmed that they too had seen it split in two. The unbelievers said, “This is a continuous magic.” Alqama also related it from Ibn Mas'ud, and these four had it from 'Abdullah.

It is also related from Jubayr ibn Mut'im by his son, Muhammad, and in turn his son, Jubayr. It is also related from ibn 'Abbas by 'Ubaydullah ibn 'Abdullah ibn 'Utba. Mujahid related it from ibn 'Umar and AbdurRahman as-Sulaimi and Muslim ibn Abi

'Imran al-Azdi related it from Hudhayfa. Most of the paths of transmission of these *hadiths* are sound.

References

These references and traditions of historical facts on the life history of the Prophet, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him [*Seerah Nabawiyya*] can be found in the Section on History [*Seerah*] in the following books:

Sahih Bukhari

Sahih Muslim

Sahih Dawud

Seerah (an-Nabawiyya) by ibn Hisham

Shamaa'il of Tirmidhi

Shifa of Qadhi 'Ayad

At-Tabaqat of ibn Sa'ad

