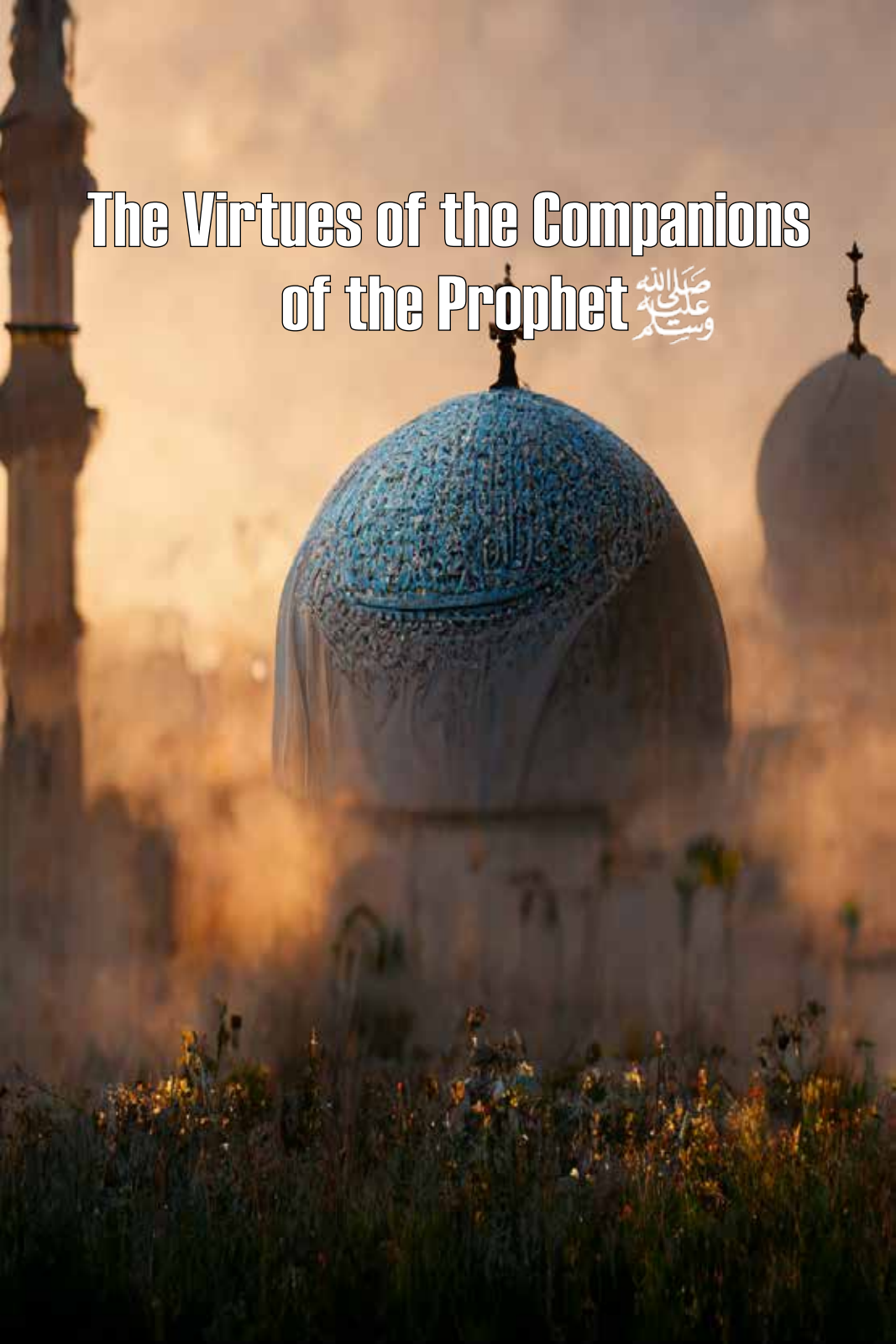


The Virtues of the Companions of the Prophet

صلى الله
عليه
وسلم



The Virtues of the Companions of the Prophet ﷺ

All praise is for Allâh, and may peace and blessings be upon the Messenger of Allâh, the Finality of the Prophets, and upon his family, Companions and anyone that follows in their footsteps until the Day of Judgement. My brothers in Islam, Allâh ﷻ says:

﴿وَالسَّابِقُونَ الْأَوَّلُونَ مِنَ الْمُهَاجِرِينَ وَالْأَنْصَارِ وَالَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوا عَنْهُ﴾

“And the foremost to embrace Islâm of the *Muhâjirûn* (those who migrated from Makkah to Al-Madinah) and the *Ansâr* (the citizens of Al-Madinah who helped and gave aid to the *Muhâjirûn*) and also those who followed them exactly (in Faith). Allâh is well-pleased with them as they are well-pleased with Him.” (9:100)

﴿مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ وَالَّذِينَ مَعَهُ أَشِدَّاءُ عَلَى الْكُفَّارِ رُحَمَاءُ بَيْنَهُمْ تَرْتَدُّهُمْ رُكْعًا سَجِدًا يَبْتَغُونَ فَضْلًا مِنَ اللَّهِ وَرِضْوَانًا سِيمَاهُمْ فِي وُجُوهِهِمْ مِنْ أَثَرِ السُّجُودِ ذَلِكَ مَثَلُهُمْ فِي التَّوْرَةِ وَمَثَلُهُمْ فِي الْإِنْجِيلِ كَرَزَعٍ أُخْرِجَ سَطْفُهُمْ فَتَازَرَهُ فَلَسَّ قَلْبَهُمْ عَلَى سُوقِهِ يُعْجِبُ الزُّرَّاعَ لِيغِيظَ بِهِمُ الْكُفَّارَ وَعَدَّ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ مِنْهُمْ مَغْفِرَةً وَأَجْرًا عَظِيمًا﴾

“Muhammad ﷺ is the Messenger of Allâh. And those who are with him are severe against disbelievers, and merciful among themselves. You see them bowing and falling down prostrate (in prayer), seeking Bounty from Allâh and (His) Good Pleasure. The mark of them (i.e., of their Faith) is on their faces (foreheads) from the traces of prostration (during prayers). This is their description in the Taurât (Torah). But their description in the Injeel (Gospel) is like a (sown) seed which sends forth its shoot, then makes it strong, and becomes thick and it stands straight on its stem, delighting the sowers, that He may enrage the disbelievers with them. Allâh has promised those among

them who believe (i.e., all those who follow Islâmic Monotheism, the religion of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ till the Day of Resurrection) and do righteous good deeds, forgiveness and a mighty reward (i.e., Paradise).” (48:29)

These verses and many others have one common theme. That is the excellence of the Companions of the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ. The Companions of the Prophet ﷺ were the first people that carried the Message of Islam to the world. They were the defenders of Islam. They were the ones that fought and struggled for the sake of raising the Word of Allâh ﷻ and propagating His Message. Through them, Allâh ﷻ delivered His religion and made it victorious. Therefore, they were the group who if Allâh ﷻ had not made them victorious at that time of history, He would never have been worshipped again. At that time the Prophet ﷺ looked at them and rose his hands praying to Allâh ﷻ saying:

«اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّ تَهْلِكَ هَذِهِ الْعِصَابَةُ، فَلَنْ تُعْبَدَ.»

“O Allâh! Should this group be defeated (on this day) you will no longer be worshipped.”

Many verses and *Ahadith* focus on the excellence of the Companions. They were the ones that believed in Allâh ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ. They supported the Messenger ﷺ, protected him and followed the guidance he brought. They certainly were the best people and the most honored by Allâh ﷻ after the Prophets. The Book of Allâh ﷻ and the *Sunnah* of the Messenger ﷺ have emphasized their piety, honesty, credibility and devotion to Qur’ân and *Sunnah*. For this the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ pointed out their excellence and warned us against denying them their proper status which they deserve, or even forgetting this status with the passage of time. He further recommended that they be considered and regarded as long as life goes on just like his own family. He said:

«اللَّهُ اللهُ فِي أَصْحَابِي، لَوْ أَنْفَقَ أَحَدُكُمْ مِثْلَ أُحُدٍ ذَهَبًا، مَا بَلَغَ مُدَّ أَحَدِهِمْ
وَلَا نَصِيفَهُ.»

“Fear Allâh in anything regarding my Companions. If any one of you offered as much as (mount) Uhud in charity, he would not achieve the reward equal to a (*Mudd*) half bushel weight of theirs, nor half of that.”

Furthermore, the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ advised that they be loved, revered and perceived respectfully. One day, the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ heard Khalid bin Al-Waleed ؓ bickering with Abdur-Rahman Bin Awf ؓ. You all know that Khalid was one of the Companions, but he was one of the late ones, whereas Abdur-Rahman was one of the early Companions of the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ. When the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ heard Khalid raising his voice over Abdur-Rahman’s voice he said:

«هَلْ أَنْتُمْ تَارِكُونَ لِي أَصْحَابِي، لَا تَسُبُّوا أَصْحَابِي فَوَاللَّهِ لَوْ أَنْفَقَ أَحَدُكُمْ مِثْلَ أُحُدٍ ذَهَبًا، مَا بَلَغَ مَدَّ أَحَدِهِمْ وَلَا نَصِيفَهُ.»

“Would you not leave my Companions (alone)? Do not insult them. By Allâh if you offered as much charity as [mount] *Uhud*, it would not be equal to a (*Mudd*) half bushel weight of theirs, nor half of that.”

Thus a Companion of the later days did not have the same excellence that an early Companion had. A behavior like raising the voice was considered an insult to the early Companion. If this behavior coming from a late Companion like Khalid رضى الله عنه deserved the anger of Allâh ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ, what would you say about those who criticize, accuse and even slander the Companions of the Prophet ﷺ? Don’t they realize that by doing so they hurt the Messenger ﷺ himself?

The Companions of the Prophet ﷺ relayed the book of Allâh ﷻ to the people. They also conveyed the path and *Sunnah* of Muhammad ﷺ. Therefore, if anyone discredits them or accuses them of being such and such; he not only denies their excellence over and favor upon all the people after the Prophet ﷺ, but also challenges the authenticity of the message conveyed. It is therefore, a challenge to the origin of Islam. In other words, by discrediting and putting down the Companions of

Muhammad ﷺ, one is questioning the credibility of the Messenger of Allâh ﷻ, and turning away from the Book of Allâh and the *Sunnah* of the Prophet ﷺ. Discrediting the Companions is discrediting the trustworthy narrators that transmitted the Book of Allâh ﷻ to us and the *Sunnah* of the Messenger ﷺ. This will lead those who accuse the Companions and discredit them to doubt the authenticity of the Qur'ân and *Sunnah*, which inevitably will lead them to reject the Message itself, which is Islam.

To acknowledge the trustworthiness of all the Companions and abstain from cursing them, criticizing them, or disparaging them, are parts of safeguarding the Book of Allâh ﷻ and the *Sunnah* of the Messenger ﷺ, as well as Islam itself. On the other hand, Committing any of the above, or getting oneself involved in any of the Companions' disputes among each other, or putting some of them down in order to honor others, shall only lead to disqualifying Islam and its bearers. The trustworthiness of the Companions of the Prophet ﷺ was established by the Qur'ân and confirmed by the Messenger of Allâh ﷻ. The accusations made by some people against the Companions, will eventually reach the Messenger of Allâh ﷻ whether they know it or not. It is also a fact that whenever someone assails the companions of the Prophet of Allâh ﷻ, he starts trespassing the limits that Allâh ﷻ has set, against which no one should trespass. By doing so, he will eventually start rejecting the teachings of Islam.

My brothers in Islam, preserve the reverence for the Messenger ﷺ, his Companions and his family in your heart and demonstrate it by your actions. Allâh ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ loved the Companions. For that reason, we should also love them. Refrain from involvement in anything that might lead to questioning them or belittling their achievements. Beware of the people who discredit them, object to their opinions or mock their achievements. Those sick-hearted people's only intention is to doubt the authenticity of the Qur'ân and the *Sunnah* of the Prophet ﷺ. Beware of them if you want to protect your faith and safeguard the Message of your Prophet ﷺ. They are cursed ones for whom Allâh ﷻ has prepared a great torment for their attacks on the integrity of the Messenger of Allâh ﷻ and the doubts they raised against Islam. By this, I conclude my speech and therefore ask Allâh ﷻ for forgiveness.