Respecting the Messenger of Allâh

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Supervised by: ABDUL MALIK MUJAHID

Headquarters:

P.O. Box: 22743, Riyadh 11416, KSA Tel: 00966-1-4033962/4043432 Fax: 00966-1-4021659 E-mail: darussalam@naseej.com.sa Website: http://www.dar-us-salam.com Bookshoo: Tel: 00966-1-4614483

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U.S.A.

- Houston: P.O. Box: 79194 Tx 77279
 Tel: 001-713-722 0419
 Fax: 001-713-722 0431
 E-mail: sales @ dar-us-salam.com
 Website: http:// www.dar-us-salam.com
- New York: 572 Atlantic Ave, Brooklyn New York-11217
 Tel: 001-718-625 5925

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FRANCE

Editions & Libairie Essalam
 135, Bd de Ménilmontant 75011 Paris (France)
 Tél: 01 43 381956/4483 - Fax 01 43 574431
 Website: http: www.Essalam.com
 E-mail: essalam@essalam.com

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Publisher's Note

In our religion the highest ever to be respected and worshipped is Allāh. After Him we respect our Prophet more than anyone else.

It is because Allāh has ordered us to respect the Messenger . He has told us that the Messenger was on an exalted standard of character. Allāh and His angels send blessings upon the Prophet. He has also ordered us to send blessings upon him whenever his name is mentioned.

The Prophet himself has said that no one will become a true believer unless the Prophet becomes dearer to him than anyone else. He has also said that he who loves him will be in Paradise with him.

So, it is a part of our religion to respect and love the Messenger ...

May Allāh increase his love in our hearts.

Abdul Malik Mujahid General Manager, Darussalam

Respecting the Messenger of Allāh

Virtues of the Prophet

Our beloved Prophet had many good qualities that testify to his great status and rank with Allāh. Among the many good qualities of the Messenger ::

1. Muhammad is the master and chief of all mankind. On the Day of Resurrec- tion, the first person to be returned to life from the grave will be our Prophet . Also, our Prophet will be the first person to be allowed to intercede with Allah for other people on the Day of Resurrection. This is called the right of Shafaa'ah (intercession) and the Prophet will be the first one to use it, with Allah's Permission. During the night of Israa and Mi'raaj, Allāh took the Prophet on a journey from Makkah to Jerusalem, then to heavens, then back to Makkah, all in one night. On that night, the Prophet swas the Imaam of all the Prophets in prayer.

- 2. The Prophet shad the greatest trust in Allāh, and Allāh helped and protected him against all his enemies.
- 3. Muhammad is the Last and Final Prophet and Messenger from Allāh. Also, Allāh has given the Qur'ān, the best Book that Allāh revealed to mankind, to our Messenger and his *Ummah* (the Muslims).
- 4. The Prophet had the best conduct and behavior. Allāh describes him in the Qur'ān by saying:

﴿ وَإِنَّكَ لَعَلَىٰ خُلُقٍ عَظِيمٍ ﴾

"And verily, you (O Muhammad) are on an exalted standard of character." (68:4)

The Prophet was the most generous, courageous, humble and truthful person who ever lived. He was also the kindest person to his family and friends. He was

sinless, the shyest, and the most compassionate person, and he had many other good qualities.

We mentioned a few of the Prophet's good characteristics and great qualities to teach us why we should respect him. There are many other good things we could say about our beloved Prophet , who was the greatest man and the best Prophet from Allāh.

Quraysh, the Prophet's Tribe, Admitted His Good Qualities Before Islam

Before Allāh sent Muhammad as a Prophet, he was known to his tribe, the Quraysh, to be a good man. Also, during that time, the Prophet did not worship the idols, attend the celebrations around idols, drink alcohol or lie.

Dear son and daughter! Do you remember the story of the Black Stone? The tribes of Quraysh had a difference between them about who should place the Black Stone in its place. They rebuilt the Ka'bah just five years before Allāh sent Muhammad as a Prophet. When they finished rebuilding it, only the Black Stone remained to be put in its place. Placing the Black Stone was a great honor to them and each tribe wanted this honor for themselves. They argued with each other for four days, and war

almost broke out between them. One of them said that they should accept the judgment of the first person to enter from the Masjid's door. Allah decided that Muhammad would be the first person to enter the Masjid from its door at that time. They all became very happy and said, "This is Al-Ameen. We accept him as judge between us. This is Muhammad!" Al-Ameen is the description they gave to the Prophet before Islam because he was honest and truthful. When the Prophet se came near them and asked them what had happened, they told him the whole story. The Prophet placed a cloak on the ground and placed the Stone in the middle of it. He asked the chiefs of each tribe to all hold the cloak to carry the stone. When they reached where the Stone should be placed, the Prophet stook the stone with his own hands and placed it in its place. This was the Prophet's wise judgment between the tribes of Quraysh. They all

accepted his judgment.

This story shows the Prophet's wisdom and the good solution he gave to his people when they had a difference between them. Also, this story shows that the leaders of Quraysh had great respect for the Prophet and his good conduct, even before Allāh sent him as a Prophet.