

MIFTAAH SEMINAR

TRIALS AND TRIUMPHS FROM THE SEERAH



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SESSION 1

Introduction

- The Prophet SAW had several victories and several hardships throughout his life.
 - The trials that we go through are there to bring us closer to Allah SWT.
- The Prophet SAW was very honest with his emotions.
 - He SAW cried for the loss of several of his loved ones including his daughters, his sons, and his companions.
 - When Abdulrahman bin awf asked the Prophet SAW why he was crying after the loss of his son Ibrahim, the Prophet SAW said, “the eyes weep and the heart aches, but we will only say that which pleases Allah SWT”.
- He SAW said that the most hardship came on the prophets, then on the pious people.
 - This shows that the amount of hardships a person goes through is not a representation of Allah’s lack of love for them. Allah SWT tests the ones whom He loves the most.

- Allah SWT shares the hardships of the other Prophets in the Quran as a way to comfort the Prophet SAW through his hardships and to comfort us through our hardships.
 - The Quran acknowledges the Prophet's SAW pain and it finds a treatment to it rather than ignoring it.
- This course will cover:
 - The Year of Sorrow
 - The Prophet's SAW Ascension to the Heavens
 - The Battle of Uhud
 - The Battle of Badr
- The course will focus on how we should deal with hardships through the ways that the Prophet SAW dealt with them, as well as how we should deal with prosperity and wealth through the ways that the Prophet SAW dealt with prosperity and wealth.

The Year of Sorrow

- Before this year, there were 3 years of boycott on the Prophet SAW and the companions.
 - There was no break for the Prophet SAW between hardships.
 - Every year of his life had difficulties.
- A few days after the boycott, in the 10th year of Prophethood, the beloved uncle of the Prophet SAW, Abu Talib, passed away.
 - Abu Talib, although he was not Muslim, was one of the biggest supporters of Islam.

- When Islam began to go public, Quraysh did a lot to hurt the Prophet SAW. One day they came to Abu Talib and offered to trade a young man for the Prophet SAW. Abu Talib disagreed because he knew that they would harm him SAW.
- Quraysh later came to Abu Talib and told him that the Prophet SAW had separated the people, and that he SAW can practice Islam, but that it should remain private. Abu Talib went to the Prophet SAW and told him what Quraysh had said. The Prophet SAW was hurt when his uncle said this. He SAW said, "I swear by Allah SWT if you were to put the sun in my right hand and the moon in my left, I would not stop calling towards Allah. There are two conditions for which I would stop. Either I die doing this or the message of Islam is conveyed to the corners of the world". Abu Talib responded with a poem which told the Prophet SAW that as long as he is alive, the people of Quraysh can not hurt him. He also said that he knew Islam was the truth and that if it was not for the mocking of the people of Mecca, he would be the first person to hold up the flag of Islam.

- When Abu Talib was on his deathbed, the Prophet SAW came and sat next to him while all of Quraysh was around. He SAW told Abu Talib to say the shahadah. Abu Jahl and the non muslims started to convince him to remain on the religion of his forefathers. Abu Talib was too afraid of what the people would say because he was a noble member of Quraysh, and he did not accept Islam.
- Abu Talib had given the Prophet SAW around 40 or more years of continuous support.
 - He had been caring for the Prophet SAW since he was 8 years old even though he was extremely poor.
- After the death of Abu Talib, the Prophet SAW began to pray for his forgiveness.
- Allah SWT then revealed the following verse stating that Muslims can not pray for a non Muslim after they pass away as disbelievers:

مَا كَانَ لِلنَّبِيِّ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْ يَسْتَغْفِرُوا لِلْمُشْرِكِينَ وَلَوْ كَانُوا أَوْلِيَا قُرْبَىٰ مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُمْ أَنَّهُمْ أَصْحَابُ الْجَحِيمِ

It is not for the Prophet and those who have believed to ask forgiveness for the polytheists, even if they were relatives, after it has become clear to them that they are companions of Hellfire (Al-Tawbah 113)

- A few days later, Allah SWT revealed another ayah to comfort the Prophet SAW:

إِنَّكَ لَا تَهْدِي مَنْ أَحْبَبْتَ وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ يَهْدِي مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَهُوَ أَعْلَمُ
بِالْمُهْتَدِينَ

(O Prophet), you cannot grant guidance to whom you please. It is Allah Who guides those whom He will. He knows best who are amenable to guidance (Al-Qasas 56)

- This ayah was revealed to inform the Prophet SAW that guidance is in the hands of Allah. He SAW could not have guided his uncle if Allah SWT did not guide him.
- A few months after the passing of Abu Talib, Khadijah RA passed away.
 - Aisha RA stated that she could not count the number of times that the Prophet SAW praised Khadijah RA.
 - She RA also stated that she had not been jealous of any of the Prophet's SAW wives more than she was of Khadijah, even though she was not alive.
 - One day the Prophet SAW praised Khadijah. Aisha RA asked him why he still praised her when Allah SWT had replaced her with someone younger and better (speaking about herself). The Prophet's SAW face became red out of anger, and he SAW said "I swear by Allah, Allah has not replaced anyone with Khadijah. She believed in me when no one believed in me. She gave me support when everyone rejected me. She supported me with herself and her wealth when everyone else deprived me of support".

- One day, Khadijah RA was coming to the Prophet SAW with food. Angel Jibreel descended from the sky to the Prophet SAW and said, “Oh Prophet of Allah, Khadijah is coming to you with a utensil with food in it. Allah is sending His salaam to Khadijah, and give my salaam to her as well”.
 - In this scene, Allah the Greatest is giving His salam and the greatest angel is giving his salam through the greatest human SAW to the greatest woman RA.
 - The Prophet SAW had 6 children with Khadijah RA. They had:
 - Zaynab
 - Ummi Kulthoom
 - Ruqayah
 - Fatima
 - Qasim
 - Abdullah (aka Tayyib)
 - All of their children passed away during the life of the Prophet SAW except Fatima RA.
- After this, life in Mecca had become very difficult because the Prophet SAW lost his main supporters. Therefore, the Prophet SAW went to Taaif to try to gain support and invite people towards Islam.

- He SAW went with Zaid bin Haritha to the tribe of Banu Thaqeef in Taaif. He invited the three tribe leaders, Abd Yaleel, Masood, and Habib, to Islam.
- They all disrespected him, and as he SAW left Taaif he got pelted with stones for 11 kilometers by the children of Taaif.
- On the night of Uhud, Aisha RA asked the Prophet SAW if he had seen a day worse than Uhud. The Prophet SAW said that the moment he experienced with the people of Taaif was worse than what happened in Uhud.
 - This was because after Uhud, the Prophet SAW was injured, and he had lost many companions, but he had his ummah to go back to. In Taaif, he SAW had lost his support, and the abuse of the people of Taaif was more psychologically damaging because he did not have his uncle or Khadijah RA to go back to.