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**ASSAIGNMENT**

**THE REAL PERSONALITY OF HOLY PROPHET (SAW)**

The life of the Holy Prophet (SAW) is a role model for every person of this world who believes in Allah and the Day of Judgment. The world has seen a lot of scholars, philosophers, scientists and preachers but none was as great as the Prophet Mohammad (SAW). Allah sent His messengers in every period of history in every part of world to guide the humanity. And to follow the teaching of Islam and to obey the guiding principles of Allah (SWT). The world had been waiting for the last Prophet Hazart Muhammad (SAW) when it came to exist. This long wait was ended with the arrival of Prophet hood of the Holy Prophet (SAW). He was sent as the last Prophet of Allah Almighty. His Shariah was regarded as the last message of Allah and the previous Shariahs were abolished. His guidance was declared sufficient for all till the end of this world and till the Day of Judgment.

Following are the major aspects of personalities of Holy Prophet (SAW):

**MAJOR ASPECTS:**

* **Ideal life of Prophets as example for whole world.**
* **The life of Holy Prophet (SAW) is perfect model for mankind.**
* **The historical aspect of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) life.**
* **The completeness of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) life.**
* **The comprehensive nature of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) personality.**
* **The practical nature of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) character.**
* **The Message of the Prophet of Islam (SAW).**
* **Faith and Practice**

**Prophets of Allah: The Only Ideals for Mankind:**

* Allah (SWT) has created many creatures in this world to enhance the beauty of this world and to obey and worship him but Allah (SWT) gave superiority to humans over all animals and other creatures and gave tremendous power of mind , sensory perceptions, thinking good and bad for themselves and for others. These power would made humans far better and powerful among all creatures .
* No matter what creed or caste human belong can’t denies the ultimate truth of his power which make human to be responsible and accountable to Allah (SWT) for his all action and deeds that he had done in his whole life. In order to put mankind on the right path Allah (SWT) has send his preachers in order to put humans on right path and avoid them to get won the wrong one. So for that Allah (SWT) has send his Prophets in every period of history to put humans on right path.
* Prophets are the noblest and most favorites personalities of Allah (SWT). There persona is on peak and among the highest peak and the top over all human beings. They do not control the human bodies like kings but their domain is the kingdom of souls. They win the human hearts. They do not carry the power of the sword, yet they wipe out sin and cleanse the human soul. They are not masters of the art of poetry, yet the sweetness of their words is still felt in human culture. Although, apparently they were not senators or legislators, yet laws given by them are still alive and prevail over the ruler and the ruled, the poor and the rich alike, treating everyone equally and fairly. Its not about the faith and religion it is about fact that remain the same for all humans of all mankind.
* For our guidance and leadership we need men who are superior to the common man in their sincerity of purpose, their innocence and purity of heart, their perfection of all higher values. And they can only be the Prophets of Allah.

**The Life of Prophet Muhammad:**

Only the noble and the ideal life of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) can be a universal and eternal example for mankind to follow.

* Prophet Muhammad’s mission includes all these qualities combined in one personality. He was a witness, a bringer of good news, a warner, a preacher of the Truth, a beacon of light all at the same time. It was only natural that it should be so because he was chosen to be the last of Allah’s prophets after whom no prophet was ever to be sent by Allah. He was sent with a code of life which was complete and final. No one was ever going to come to modify it or add anything to it. His instruction was definitive and eternal.
* It was to remain intact till the Day of Judgment. Therefore his personality was made an ideal personality combining the best of human qualities to the degree of perfection.
* We can say that Prophet Muhammad’s mission is different from others in the sense that it has been made universal by God, whereas the other Prophets were sent to a particular nation at a particular time of history. Their mission was not meant to last forever. Their purpose was to provide guidance for a given period therefore the details of their lives and mission, and of the nations they guided have been lost in history. Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) has a special status because he was chosen to be the last of God’s prophets. (He has been called, “the Seal of Prophets” in the Holy Quran.) His life shows the perfection in applying the divine ethical principles in all walks of life in a way that no other human being has ever achieved.

**The Historic Aspect of Prophet Muhammad’s Life:**

* There have been narrators and biographers who devoted their life in collecting, recording, classifying and narrating the Prophets sayings, his deeds and everything related to his life. These biographers include his own worthy companions who were his direct disciples, and then those who learnt from them, and then the generation coming immediately after them. In addition, the collectors of the holy Prophet’s sayings and his traditions and his biographers include persons up to 4th century since the Prophet’s migration to Medina. When all this heritage was collected, written and arranged, the personal information about each narrator was also recorded which included such important features as the narrator’s name and family background, his life history, his moral and ethical conduct, etc. The number of these biographical notes is nearly one hundred thousand.

**PROCEDURE**

The early Arabs were naturally gifted with a very strong memory. The Shabaha used to commit to memory each event of the Prophet’s life and each one of his sayings the way the Muslims of today learn the holy Quran by heart .A scholar of the Prophet’s traditions used to learn thousands or even hundreds of thousands of the Prophet’s sayings by heart and retain them. Though later, people used to write them too as an extra precaution, but this was considered a weakness amongst the learned circles. So they used to hide their written notes lest people should think they no longer knew their traditions by heart.

The Sahaba (May Allah bless them) did not think it proper to put the traditions in the written form for three reasons.

* Initially, the Holy Prophet (SAW) had forbidden them to put anything into writing except the Holy Quran while it was being revealed by Allah. He had said, “Do not write anything that you hear from me except the Holy Quran.” The idea was to save the common people from mixing up the word of Allah with the sayings of the Prophet (Peace he upon him). Later, when the Holy Quran had been fully preserved among the Muslims, the Prophet himself permitted his Sahabah to write down his sayings. Even then certain Sahabah avoided the written form out of extreme caution.
* The Sahabah (May Allah bless them) were afraid that if the details of the Prophet’s life and his sayings were put in the written form, the coming generations will not pay due attention and importance to learning by heart and preserving the traditions. It will make them too lax and lazy to attain this knowledge. Their fears proved to be true. The later history of the Muslims proves that with the transfer of knowledge from the bosoms to the books, their insight and piety gradually declined.The Sahabah (May Allah bless them) were also mindful of the fact that anyone who might get hold of a few books, would claim to be a scholar of the Holy Prophet’s traditions. There too, history has proved them right.
* The third reason was that Arabs were proud of their exceptionally strong memory and it was still considered a sign of weakness to resort to writing for preserving a historical event. Even if they wrote something they preferred to keep it a secret. The scholars of the Prophet’s traditions believed that the oral tradition was a great deal safer than writing in order to preserve the sacred knowledge they held in trust. The written work is vunerable to the tricks of the forgerers, whereas the word imprinted on the heart is indelible. It is safe from any sort of change or outside interference.

The Muslims have written thousands of books about the life of Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him) and are still writing. Each one of these biographies is clearer, better documented, more reliable and has firmer historical sources than that of any other prophet of God. The early books about the holy Prophet’s life and teachings were learnt by hundreds even thousands of people from their original authors. They heard them from the original sources, read them and understood them to the letter, and then reported to others.

**The Perfectness of the Holy Prophet’s Life:**

His birth, infancy, childhood, adolescence, manhood; his business deals, his travels; his marriage; his friends before his Prophet hood; his participation in the fight of the Qureshi and the subsequent peace treaty; the title of “Trustworthy” given to him by his people.

* In the famous Battle of Uhad, when the warriors of Qureish managed to confuse the Muslim lines, and tried to surround the holy Prophet by attacking him from all sides, he called out “Who wants to sacrifice his life in my defence?” Hearing this call, seven Ansari youth appeared from no, where and fighting bravely died one by one defending their beloved Prophet (Peace be upon him). An Ansari woman lost her father, her brother and her husband. Each time, when she was informed of the death of one of her loved ones, she asked “but how is our beloved Prophet, the Messenger of Allah?” She was told that he was quite safe. She came to the place where the Prophet had been and found him alive and well, she cried out, “No loss can be greater than your loss. No calamity is a calamity if you are alive. The loss of my father, brother and husband is but a humble sacrifice for your sake.”

**The Comprehensiveness of the Holy Prophet’s Life:**

Only Prophet Muhammad’s personality displays miraculously balanced emotions found in a human being

in a wide variety of situations.

* If you are wealthy, follow the example of the noble trader of Makkah and trustworthy custodian of the treasures of Bahrain.
* If you are poor, look at his example when he was confined to a place called Shi’b Abi Taleb outside Makkah for three years where even the bare necessities of life were denied to him and his children, or when he was forced to leave his hometown and emigrate to Madinah.
* If you are a king, learn about him when he became the absolute ruler of Arabia.
* If you are the ruled, look how he endured the oppression of Qureish in Makkah.
* If you are a victor, look at the commander of the battles of Badr and Hunayn.
* If you are a loser learn your lessons from the battle of Uhad.
* If you are a teacher, look at the noble teacher of Suffah (in his mosque in Madinah).
* If you are a student, look at the student receiving Allah’s Message from Gabriel.
* If you are a preacher, listen to the preacher of Madinah delivering his sermons in his mosque.

These sublime examples of the nobility of the human character and morals that distinguish each messenger of Allah individually are found in the Holy Prophet’s life collectively, for all those who seek truth and guidance from his life.

**Practical Aspect of Prophet Muhammad’s Life:**

* His wife Ayesha (RA) says that in all circumstances and at every moment and in any condition of his life, he remembered Allah. He conveyed Allah’s command to the people that they had to establish obligatory prayers five times a day. But himself he used to pray at eight different times of the day: after sunrise, mid-morning, mid-day, afternoon, after sunset, at night, pre-dawn and then at dawn. For ordinary Muslims, it is obligatory to perform two Rakas after dawn, three after sunset and four each at other times. But the Holy Prophet (SAW) used to pray additional Rakas as which came to around sixty every day and night whereas on his followers it was obligatory to pray a total of seventeen Rak ‘as daily. After the five-time prayer was ordained by Allah, the ordinary Muslims were exempted from the pre-dawn prayer, but the Holy Prophet continued to perform this prayer throughout his life every night.
* Ocassionally, he would stand up in prayer all night. As a result, his feet would be swollen. Ayesha(RA), would say “Allah has forgiven you all your faults, then why do you put so much strain on yourself?”
* He would reply, O Ayesha Shouldn’t I be a grateful servant of my Lord” this means, his long prayers were more of love and devotion to Allah than of his awe for Him.
* He had started offering prayers since the inception of his Prophet-hood. The non-believers of Makkah were extremely hostile to him at that time. But he never cared and would pray in the holy Haram right in their midst.
* Many times his enemies attacked him while he was offering his prayers, but even then he kept praying and never discontinued his prayer because of those attacks.
* The hardest time to offer prayers was when the Muslims were facing their enemy during a

battle. As soon as the time came for an obligatory prayer, the Muslims stood in

* straight rows to pray, led by the holy Prophet (Peace be upon him).
* In the crucial battle of Badr, while the Muslims were facing the enemy, he was in prostration in front of Allah, invoking His Mercy and seeking His Help.
* The Holy Prophet was never late for the prescribed prayer. He never missed an obligatory prayer in his whole life except on two occasions. Once, during the battle of the Ditch, when in the heat of the battle there was no chance at all to offer the afternoon prayer.
* And then at another time when after a nightlong tiring journey, nobody was able to get up for the dawn prayer, the Prophet offered that prayer after sunrise.
* During the last days of his life, he had high fever but he did not miss his congregational prayers. Even when this illness had drained all his energy, he would come to the mosque supported by two of his companions, so that he should not miss an obligatory prayer. Three days before his death, while trying to join the Prayers in the mosque, he lost conciousness three times and was forced

to pray alone.

* That was the Holy Prophet’s practical example of love and devotion to Allah. He enjoined the Muslims to fast. The Muslims are required to fast during the month of Ramadhan, thirty days a year. But, there never was a month or a week when the holy Prophet was not fasting.
* Ayesha (RA) says that when he began fasting, it seemed he would never stop. He forbade the Muslims to fast for longer than a day, but himself he would fast for two or sometimes three days at a stretch without taking any food at all.
* His worthy companions wanted to follow suit but he would not allow them saying, ‘Who

amongst you is like me? My Lord provides sustenance for me.” He fasted continuously during the months of Sha’ban and Ramadan every year.

In addition to that he would fast on the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth day of every month. He would fast for ten days in the month of Muharram and six days in the month of Shawwal. Every week, Monday and Thursday were fixed for fasting. That was the practical example of his fasting.

* He ordered the Muslims to pay Zakat and spend on the needy. But he was the first to set an example. You have already heard his first wife Khadijah’s evidence who had said “O Messenger of Allah! You help people who are unable to pay their debts. You help the poor and spend money on people in distress.” He did not ask his followers to give up everything they owned. Nor did he shut the doors of the Kingdom of Heaven for the wealthy. He simply asked them to spend a portion of their wealth for charitable purposes for the sake of Allah.

**LESSON FOR MUSLIMS TODAY:**

**Honesty and Truthfulness**

* Always speak the truth in your life no matter what’s the situation is. Learn to be truthful, honest and sincere.
* One should be honest in trading or in business. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW) was very honest in conducting trade and in His day to day affairs.

**Focused and dedication**

* We learn to be kind, gentle, patient and tolerant just like Prophet Muhammad (SAW).
* Do good always even to those who offended you, give charity to the poor and help the needy without expecting any material reward in return just like our beloved Prophet Muhammad (SAW).

**Compassionate attitude**

* The Prophet’s message was not well received by all. Those who were too engrossed in idol worship refused to listen to his voice of reason and logic, started causing him physical pain and injury.
* A woman used to throw trash on him every day when he walked past her house but the noble Prophet (SAW) never rebuked her instead when one day the woman did not show up to throw trash at him, it prompted him to visit her house. Finding her ill and bed ridden, he was kind to her and inquired after her health. The woman was thoroughly ashamed of her actions and repented at once, accepting Islam. This is how the prophet used his merciful trait to conquer his enemies and convert them into his well wishers.

**Modest attitude as ruler**

* Despite being the ruler of Makkah and beloved of his companions, the Prophet (SAW) never distinguished himself from his companions.
* He ate what they ate, he dressed as they dressed and used to talk to them in a courteous way.
* His charisma was entirely based on his friendly and loving attitude that charmed everyone around him to no end.

**Leading as example**

* He was always a role model and example for his followers.
* In the famous battle of the Trench, the Muslims were outnumbered and awfully short on supplies. Hunger and suffering were common during those times.
* A companion once came to the Prophet (SAW) and complained regarding his hunger and pointed to a stone fastened around his stomach to prevent hunger.
* The Holy Prophet (SAW) lifted his shirt and pointed towards not one but two stones fastened to his own stomach.

**Use everything for good**

* After the battle of Badr, When the Muslims captured many prisoners of war, the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) ordained that all prisoners who were unable to pay their ransom could obtain freedom if they taught ten Muslims to read and write.
* This fact alone shows the wisdom of the Prophet (SAW) and his willingness to adopt anything that was beneficial and good for his people.
* This act of the Holy Prophet’s (SAW) also goes to show how much importance and emphasis he laid on education.

**Simple life**

* A man of humble means and behavior, the Holy Prophet (SAW) adopted a simple and modest lifestyle. Despite being the conqueror of Makkah, he did not take to worldly treasures or possessions.
* The night of his passing, the great Prophet’s house did not have oil to light a lamp.
* Such was his greatness that his regard for this world was nothing as compared to the spiritual world.

**SUMMARY:**

We as a Muslims are fortunate to have a role model and perfect guide in the form of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW). Achieving the same level of success that he did is impossible but the purpose of his life was for us to study, learn and implement his virtues in order to succeed in this life and the after life.