

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ وُلُودِ آدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصْلَى عَلَيْهِ

In The Name Of Allah The Most Compassionate Very Merciful
All Praise Due To Allah And Peace And Blessings Be Upon His Beloved
Messenger

Tafseer of Surah Taubah, Verse No. 128

لَقَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ عَزِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ حَرِيصٌ
عَلَيْكُمْ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَءُوفٌ رَّحِيمٌ

Assuredly there has come to you a messenger from among yourselves, heavy upon him is your suffering; ardently desirous of your welfare, and to Muslims is most Kind and Merciful.

(AL-Taubah 9, Verse 128)

Tafseer:

Five Attributes of the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him

This verse contains the following five attributes of the holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him:

I. مِنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ

from among yourselves

This part has two methods of recitations (Qira'ats):

a) مِنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ

b) مِنْ أَنفَسِكُمْ

The meaning based on the first method i.e. with ' on the letter ف:

Imam Fakhruddeen Raazi writes:

"The objective of this will be that the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – is a human being like you; as mentioned in Allah's Speech:

أَكَانَ لِلنَّاسِ عَجَبًا أَنَّا أَوْحَيْنَا إِلَيْ رَجُلٍ مِّنْهُمْ

Have the people wondered that We sent down revelation to a man among them.

(Yunus 10, Verse 2)

قُلْ إِنَّمَا أَنَا بَشَرٌ مِّثْلُكُمْ يُوَحَّى إِلَيَّ أَنَّمَا إِلَهُكُمْ إِلَهٌ وَّحِيدٌ

Say you, 'apparently in facial outlook of a man, I am like you, I receive revelation that your God is one God.

(Al-Kahf 18, Verse 110)

وَلَوْ جَعَلْنَاهُ مَلَكًا لَجَعَلْنَاهُ رَجُلًا وَلَكَبَسْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ مَا يَلْبِسُونَ ﴿٦﴾

And if We had made the prophet an angel, even then We would have made him a man, and they would have the same doubt in him as they have now.

(Al-An'aam 6, Verse 9)

(Tafseer Kabeer Vol. 5, p. 178, Al-Bahr Al-Muheet Vol. 5, p. 532, 'Inaayat Al-Qaadi Vol. 4, p. 665, Al-Lubaab Fi Uloom Al-Kitaab Vol. 10, p. 247)

مِنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ i.e. from among yourselves – means that a Messenger came to you who is from your own nation, speaks your language and you acknowledge his status and family background.

Once upon a time there were four people travelling together. They belonged to different countries and spoke different languages. One of them was Arab, the other three were from Iran, Turkey and Rome. They found a coin on their way and hence, all of them spoke different languages they all began to misunderstand each other which led them to quarrel. They finally found a man who could communicate in all four languages. He asked the Arab:

What do you want?

He asked the Persian, Turkish and Roman the same question.

They all replied in their own languages, “I want Grapes” but since, they were unaware of each-other’s language which caused a huge misunderstanding. The man then took the coin from them, bought grapes and distributed among them. They were all happy now and agreed to one other.

(Tafseer Roohul Bayaan)

Hazrat Ja’far Ibn Abi Taalib – may Allah be pleased with him – said in the court of king Najjaashi, “O king, We were ignorant people, used to worship idols and eat the dead, do shameless things, cut off blood ties, ill-treat the neighbors, our powerful used to eat up the belongings of the weak. We were in this state when Allah sent to us a Messenger whose family, truthfulness, trustworthiness and dignity we already knew. He invited us to believe in one Allah and worship him alone and to abandon the idols and stones which our forefathers worshipped, and he commanded us to speak the truth, become trustworthy and pious, treat the relatives and neighbors with goodness and stooped us from doing forbidden things and bloodshed, shameless things, speaking lies, eating up the orphans’ belongings and from commit blasphemy against an innocent woman. He

commanded us to worship Allah alone and not make anyone partners with him. He also commanded us to pray Salah, keep fasts, pay alms, and then we put our faith in him.”

(Musnad Ahmad Vol. 1, p. 202, Shaikh Ahmad Shaakir said the chain of the Hadeeth is Sahih, Musnad Ahmad Vol. 2, Hadeeth No. 1740, Al-Raud Al-Anf Vol. 2, p. 111, Al-Mu'jam Al-Kabeer Vol. 25, p. 29, Majma' Al-Zawaaid Vol. 6, p. 24)

مِنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ i.e. the best from among yourselves with ' on the letter ف:

Imam Fakhruddeen Raazi – may Allah be pleased with him – writes that the recitation of the Holy Prophet, Hazrat Fatimah and Hazrat 'Ayesha – may Allah

send peace and blessings upon him and his household – is **مِنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ** i.e. a

Messenger came to you who is the best and most honorable amongst yourselves.

(Al-Mustadrak 'Ala Al-Saheehain Vol. 2, p. 240, Tafseer Kabeer Vol. 6, p. 178)

The following Ahadeeth prove that the Holy Messenger – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – is the best, the most honourable and most significant amongst all the humans:

Hazrat Abu Hurairah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – stated:

“I am appointed as the best of every era amongst the children of Adam, and even of this generation in which I am.”

(Sahih Bukhari Hadeeth No. 3557, Musnad Ahmad, Vol. 2, p. 373, Mishkaat, Hadeeth No. 5539)

Hazrat Waathilah Ibn Al-Asqa' – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has stated:

“Allah Almighty has honoured Hazrat Isma’eel – peace be upon him – amongst the children of Hazrat Ibraheem – peace be upon him – and Banu Kinaanah amongst the children of Hazrat Isma’eel – peace be upon him – and then Quraish amongst the people of Banu Kinaanah, and Banu Haashim amongst the Quraish, and then He honoured me amongst the people of Banu Haashim.”

(Sahih Muslim Hadeeth No. 2276, Sunan Al-Tirmidhi Hadeeth No. 3605, Musnad Ahmad Vol. 4, p. 107)

Hazrat Anas – may Allah be pleased with him narrated:

حُبُّ قُرَيْشٍ إِيمَانٌ وَبُغْضُهُمْ كُفْرٌ

“Love of Quraish is Imaan and hatred with them is Kufr.”

(Tafseer Roohul Bayaan)

Hazrat Abbaas Ibn Abdul Muttalib – may Allah be pleased with them – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has stated:

“When Allah Almighty created the creation He kept me among the best creation of all, and when he categorized them into different groups He kept me among the best group of all. When tribes were divided He kept me among the best of all, and when lives were created He kept me in the best among all lives, and when the houses were created He kept me in the best of them, so my life as well as my house are the best of lives and houses.”

(Sunan Al-Tirmidhi Hadeeth No. 3607, Musnad Ahmad Vol. 1, p. 210, Dalaail Al-Nubuwwah Lil Baihaqi Vol. 1, p. 167, Dalaail Al-Nubuwwah Li Abi Nu’aim Hadeeth No. 16)

Hazrat ‘Ali – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – stated:

“I have been descending through marriage from Hazrat Adam – peace be upon him – up to my mother, and not through adultery.”

(Al-Mu'jam Al-Awsat Hadeeth No. 4725, Dalaail Al-Nubuwwah Li Abi Nu'aim Hadeeth No. 14, Dalaail Al-Nubuwwah Lil Baihaqi Vol. 7, p. 190, Majma' Al-Zawaaid Vol. 8, p. 217, Jaame' Al-Bayaan Vol. 11, p. 101, Tafseer Imam Ibn Abi Haatim Hadeeth No. 10158)

Hazrat Ibn Abbaas – may Allah be pleased with them – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has stated: “My parents never met on adultery. Allah Almighty has always been transferring me from pure loins to pure wombs and they were all clean and well-mannered, and when there were two branches, I was the best of both.”

(Dalaail Al-Nubuwwah Li Abi Nu'aim Hadeeth No. 15, Tahdheeb Tareekh Dimashq Vol. 1, p. 349, Al-Khasaais Al-Kubra Vol. 1, p. 64)

Hazrat Anas Ibn Malik – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – blessed us with his visit and relaxed at Noon. He was sweating. My mother brought a bottle and wiped the sweat off his body and collected them in the bottle. When he got up, he asked, “What are you doing, Umme Sulaim?” “We collect this sweat of yours for fragrance and this is the best perfume for us.”

(Sahih Muslim Hadeeth No. 2331, Al-Khasaais Al-Kubra Vol. 1, p. 114)

Hazrat Anas Ibn Malik – may Allah be pleased with him – mentioned that the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – was of fair complexion and his fragrance was so great that it could not be compared even with musk and ambergris.”

(Al-Tabaqaat Al-Kubra Vol. 1, p. 317, Musnad Ahmad Vol. 3, p. 259, Al-Bidaayah Wal-Nihaayah Vol. 6, p. 16)

Hazrat Jabir – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that when the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – used to pass through

a street one could smell his fragrance there after he had passed and figure out that he had passed through that street.”

(Sunan Al-Daarimi Hadeeth No. 66, Al-Khasaais Al-Kubra Vol. 1, p. 114)

Hazrat ‘Ayesha – may Allah be pleased with her – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has stated:

“Hazrat Jibreel – peace be upon him – said, ‘I have gone through every portion of earth from east to west and examined closely but I have not seen anyone more excellent than Hazrat Muhammad – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – neither have I come across a better house than that of Banu Haashim.’”

(Al-Mu’jam Al-Awsat Hadeeth No. 6281, Majma’ Al-Zawaaid Vol. 8, p. 217)

2. عَنِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ

Heavy upon him is your suffering

Hazrat Abu Hurairah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has stated:

“Your and my example is like a man who lit a fire, and when the fire made his surroundings enlightened moths and other insects began to fall into that fire and the man was making an effort to save them from falling into the fire but they overcame him and kept falling into the fire, and then I grabbed you by your waist, pulling you away from the fire when you were falling into it.”

(Sahih Bukhari Hadeeth No. 6483, Sahih Muslim Hadeeth No. 2284, Mishkaat Hadeeth No. 149)

Hazrat Abu Hurairah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – stated:

“If it were not difficult for the Muslims”; or “If it were not difficult for my nation, I would summon them to do Miswak at the time of every Salah and would postpone the Isha Salah up to one-third portion of the night.”

(Sahih Muslim Hadeeth No. 252, Sunan Abi Dawood Hadeeth No. 46, Sunan Ibn Majah Hadeeth No. 690)

Hazrat 'Ayesha – may Allah be pleased with her – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – prayed Salah in the Masjid one night and people followed him in Salah, then in the second night, more people joined him in Salah, and then in the third or fourth night also, people gathered but Allah's Messenger – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – did not come out, and he stated in the morning:

“I know what you all have gone through but I did not come out only due to the fear that lest should this Salah be made Fard upon you then you would not be able to pray it.”

(Sahih Bukhari Hadeeth No. 1901, Sahih Muslim Hadeeth No. 177, 178, Sunan Al-Nasa'i Hadeeth No. 2206)

Hazrat Anas Ibn Malik – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that when 50 Salahs were made Fard in the night of Ascension (Me'raaj). The Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – requested in the Allah Almighty's court that his nation is not able to bear it; please make it lighter, and then 5 Salahs were made Fard instead of 50, and He stated that they are 5 Salahs in number but equivalent to 50 in reward.”

(Sahih Bukhari Hadeeth No. 349, Sahih Muslim Hadeeth No. 163, Al-Sunan Al-Kubra Li Al-Nasaai Hadeeth No. 314, Sunan Al-Nasaai Hadeeth No. 448, Sunan Al-Tirmidhi Hadeeth No. 3346)

Hazrat Anas – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – stated:

“Do not keep the fasts of proximity (i.e. continuous fasting without Sahri and Iftaar).” The Muslims asked, “But You keep those fasts, O the Messenger of Allah.” He stated, “Who amongst you is like me? Indeed, my Lord feeds me.”

(Sahih Bukhari Hadeeth No. 1967, Sunan Abi Dawood Hadeeth No. 2361, Musnad Ahmad Vol. 3, p. 170, Sunan Al-Tirmidhi Hadeeth No. 778, Sahih Ibn Hibbaan Hadeeth No. 3574, Musnad Abu Ya'la Hadeeth No. 2874)

Hazrat Ali Ibn Abi Taalib – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that when the verse:

وَلِلّٰهِ عَلٰى النَّاسِ حِجُّ الْبَيْتِ مَنِ اسْتَطَاعَ إِلَيْهِ سَبِيلًا

And for the sake of Allah, the people is to perform Hajj pilgrimage to this House, who could find a way thither.

(Aale 'Imraan 3, Verse 97)

Was revealed the Muslims asked, “Every year, O the Messenger of Allah?” He replied, “Had I said ‘Yes’ the Hajj would have become Fard every year for you.” (Sunan Al-Tirmidhi Hadeeth No. 814, Sunan Ibn Majah Hadeeth No. 2884, Musnad Abi Ya'la Hadeeth No. 517, Musnad Ahmad Vol. 1, p. 113, Musnad Al-Bazaar Hadeeth No. 913, Al-Mustadrak Ala Al-Saheehain Vol. 2, p. 293)

3. حَرِيُّصٌ عَلَيْكُمْ

Ardently desirous of your welfare

Hazrat Khabbaab – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that once the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – prayed a very lengthy Salah. When the Companions asked, “You have prayed a very lengthy Salah compared to your usual prayers, O Allah’s Messenger.” He replied, “Yes. It was in Allah’s love and in His fear. I asked Allah Almighty for three things in this Salah; he granted me two things and stopped me from asking the third one. I asked Allah Almighty not to destroy my nation in drought and Allah Almighty granted it. I asked Allah Almighty not to appoint such an enemy upon my entire nation that is not from them and he granted it. When I asked Allah

Almighty that the people of my nation must not fight among themselves Allah Almighty stopped me from asking this.”

(Sunan Al-Tirmidhi Hadeeth No. 2175, Sunan Nasaai Hadeeth No. 1637, Al-Sunan Al-Kubra Li Al-Nasaai Hadeeth No. 1241, Sahih Ibn Hibbaan Hadeeth No. 7236, Musnad Ahmad Vol. 5, p. 108, Al-Mu’jam Al-Kabeer Hadeeth No. 3641-3644)

Hazrat Abu Hurairah – may Allah be pleased with him – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – stated:

“Every Prophet is granted a special answered (Maqbool) wish, and every one of them has already asked for it in the world but I have kept it safe for my nation on the Day of Judgment, and it will inshaAllah encompass each and every member of my nation save the ones who have committed Shirk (polytheism).”

(Sahih Muslim Hadeeth No. 199, Sunan Al-Tirmidhi Hadeeth No. 3602, Sunan Ibn Majah Hadeeth No. 4307, Musnad Ahmad Vol. 2, p. 426, Al-Mu’jam Al-Awsat Hadeeth No. 1748, Shu’ab Al-Imaan Hadeeth No. 313, Al-Sunan Al-Kubra Vol. 8, p. 17)

Hazrat Jabir Ibn Abdullah – may Allah be pleased with them – narrated that the Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – stated:

“My intercession is for those sinful people of my nation who have committed major sins.” (This Hadeeth is also narrated by Hazrat Anas – may Allah be pleased with him)

(Sunan Al-Tirmidhi Hadeeth No. 2435-24356, Sunan Ibn Majah Hadeeth No. 4310, Sunan Abi Dawood Hadeeth No. 4739, Sahih Ibn Hibbaan Hadeeth No. 6468, Musnad Ahmad Vol. 3, p. 213, Al-Mu’jam Al-Awsat Hadeeth No. 8513, Musnad Abi Ya’la Hadeeth No. 3284, Al-Mustadrak Ala Al-Saheehain Vol. 1, p. 69, Al-Sharee’ah Lil Ajurri p. 338, Hilyat Al-Awliya Vol. 3, p. 200)

بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ

and to Muslims, (the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him) is

4. رَءُوفٌ

most Kind

5. رَّحِيمٌ

Merciful

The Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – stated:

“Deen (Islam) is easy, preach it to others with tenderness and mercy.”

It was also his habit to forgive the mistakes of the believers, hence Allah

Almighty commanded him:

فَاعْفُ عَنْهُمْ وَاصْفَحْ

so pardon them, and overlook them.

(Al-Ma'idah 5, Verse 13)

He mentioned the following merciful nature of the Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him:

بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَءُوفٌ رَّحِيمٌ

and to Muslims (the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him) is most Kind and Merciful.

But He state for Himself as follows:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ بِالنَّاسِ لَرَءُوفٌ رَّحِيمٌ

Verily Allah is very Kind and Merciful to human beings.

(Al-Baqarah 2, Verse 143)

There is an indication that as the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – is created, his mercy is also created by Allah and therefore

he is merciful to one specific group and on the other hand Allah Almighty is the Creator and hence, His mercy is also ultimate and therefore it's for everyone, for it is expected from His Mighty attribute, the Creator. Hence, Allah Almighty states:

إِنَّ رَحْمَتِي وَسَعَتْ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ

“My Mercy encompasses everything.”

It is for this reason that one who already is blessed with the mercy of Allah Almighty is only worthy of receiving the mercy of His beloved Messenger – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him –, or else, he is deprived of any mercy. Therefore, the mercy of the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – is actually a reflection and the manifestation of Allah’s Mercy, hence, Allah Almighty Himself addressed His beloved Messenger:

فِيمَا رَحْمَةٌ مِّنَ اللَّهِ لَنْتَ لَهُمْ

Then, it is of the mercy of Allah that O beloved! You became gentle for them.

(Aale ‘Imraan 3, Verse 159)

Hazrat Abu Bakr Ibn Muhammad – may Allah be pleased with him – states:

“I was seated by Hazrat Abu Bakr Ibn Mujaahid – may Allah be pleased with him – and Hazrat Abu Bakr Shibli arrived. Hazrat Abu Bakr Ibn Mujaahid stood up, hugged him and kissed on his forehead. I asked, “Hazrat, why are you giving him such great honour while he is just a crazy man in the opinion of people of Baghdad?” Hazrat Abu Bakr Ibn Mujaahid replied, “I treated him in same manner I saw the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – treating him. I saw the Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – in my dream, and then I saw Hazrat Shibli coming. The Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – stood up for him and kissed on his forehead. I said, “Do you have such great respect for Hazrat Shibli, O the Messenger of Allah?” He replied, “He recites:

لَقَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِّنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ عَزِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنْتُمْ حَرِيصٌ

عَلَيْكُمْ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَءُوفٌ رَّحِيمٌ

Assuredly there has come to you a messenger from among yourselves, heavy upon him is your suffering; ardently desirous of your welfare, and to Muslims is most Kind and Merciful.

(AL-Taubah 9, Verse 128)

After Salah and then recites Durood upon me.”

(Jila Al-Afhaam p. 241)

Alahazrat Imam Ahmad Raza – may Allah be pleased with him – states:

“O the sinners of the Ummah! Did you not observe this merciful nature of the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – at its peak when Allah Almighty granted him to ask for three wishes and he was given the choice to ask for whatever he wished. Any of his wishes that he asked was not for himself, he dedicated all for you. I swear by Allah! He asked for his two wishes in the world and both were for your (Ummah’s) sake, and he saved one for the hereafter, when there will be none who will be able to save you besides the merciful Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him. I swear by the one who has created him! A mother can never ever be so merciful on her only son as much as he is on his one Ummati (follower).

(Fatawa Razvia Vol. 29, p. 583)