ٱعُوۡذُ بِاللهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطِنِ الرَّجِيْمِ



## ٱلْحَمْدُ لِلهِ كَمَا هُوَاهُلُهُ وَ الصَّلُوةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدٍ وُلْدِ ادْمَرَكَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصَلَّى 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

## Two Gatherings Held by Allah Almighty Prior to the Creation of Mankind

مُحَدِّ سے صفت بوجھو خدا کی خداسے بوجھئے شانِ مُحَدِّ طلَّی مُلِیْا

Muhammad se sifat poocho Khuda ki Khuda se poochiye Shaan-e-Muhammad

Ask the Holy Prophet - may Allah send peace and blessings upon him - if you wish to know the Divine Being and Attribute of Allah Almighty Ask Allah Almighty if you wish to know the greatness of the Holy Prophet may Allah send peace and blessings upon him

وَإِذَ اَخَذَ اللهُ مِيْتُقَ النَّبِيِّنَ لَمَا اَتَيْتُكُمْ مِّنَ كِتْبٍ وَحِكُمَةٍ ثُمَّ جَاءَكُمُ مِن كَتْب وَحِكُمةٍ ثُمَّ جَاءَكُمُ رَسُولٌ مُّصَدِقٌ لِمَا مَعَكُمْ لَتُؤْمِنُنَّ بِهِ وَلَتَنْصُرُنَّهُ قَالَءَاقُرُرْتُمُ وَاللَّهُ وَلَتَنْصُرُنَّهُ عَلَى ذَلِكُمْ إِصْرِى فَاللَّهَا اَقْرَرُنَا قَالَ فَاشْهَدُوْا وَانَا مَعَكُمْ وَاخَذْتُمْ عَلَى ذَلِكُمْ إِصْرِى فَاللَّهِ اللَّهِ وَلَيْنَ اللهُ عَلَى اللهُ عِدِيْنَ هَا اللهُ عَلَى اللهُ عِدْ اللهُ عَلَى الله

And remember when Allah took, from the prophets their covenant whatever I should give you of the Book and wisdom, then comes to you the Messenger confirming your Books, then assuredly you must believe in him and assuredly you must help him. He said, 'do you agree, and do you accept My heavy responsibility on it. All submitted 'We did affirm; He said, 'then be witness against one another and I am myself among witnesses with you.

# فَمَنُ تَوَلَّى بَعُدَ ذٰلِكَ فَأُولَيِّكَ هُمُ الْفْسِقُونَ ٢

Now whoso turns away after this, then they are the disobedient. (Aale 'Imran 3, Verse 81-82)

One would be surprised to find out that these two Quranic verses are the documentaries of the first two gatherings held by Allah Almighty prior to the creation of mankind. It was held when only the souls of people had been created but no human ever existed at the time. This gathering was held in the world of souls, also known as "Alam al-Arwah". Both the organizer and the addresser of these gathering was none other than our Creator, the Almighty Allah.

Both the gatherings had different themes as well as different attendees. The attendees of the first gathering consisted of all the souls that were to be created as human beings from the beginning of the creation to the last person that is yet to be born. The theme of this gathering was for people to acknowledge Allah Almighty as the Only Divine Being worthy of worship. It is termed "The gathering of Tauheed".

The theme of the second gathering was to take the covenant from other Prophets to support the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – in his mission. Its attendees were not the common folks but only the ones who were closest to the Divine Court of Allah Almighty, and they were His Prophets and Messengers – peace be upon them. The second gathering is termed "The gathering of Seerah".

First Gathering in the Light of Quran and Hadeeth:

And O beloved Prophet! remember, when your Lord brought forth from the loin of Adam's children their seed, and made themselves witnesses against own-selves, 'Am not your Lord? all said, 'Why not we all bear witness', lest you should say on the Day of Resurrection, that we were not aware of it.

Or lest you should say, Polytheism was committed by our forefathers before, and we were their offspring after them Will you then destroy us for what was done by wrongdoers?

(Al-A'raaf 7, Verse 172-173)

Its details are further described in the following Hadeeth:

بنَعْمَان، يعنى عرفة، فأخرج من صلبه كل ذرية ذَرَأها، فنثرهم بين يديه كالنَّرّ، ثم كلمهم قبَلاً { أَلَسْتُ بِرَبِّكُمْ قَالُوا بَلَى شَهِدُنَا أَنْ تَقُولُوا يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ إِنَّا كُنَّا عَنْ هَذَا غَافِلِينَ أَوْ تَقُولُوا فِيَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ إِنَّا كُنَّا عَنْ هَذَا غَافِلِينَ أَوْ تَقُولُوا فِي وَمَ الْقِيَامَةِ إِنَّا كُنَّا عَنْ هَذَا غَافِلِينَ أَوْ تَقُولُوا إِنَّهَا أَثْمَ كَ آبَاؤُنَا مِنْ قَبُلُ وَكُنَّا ذُرِيَّةً مِنْ بَعْدِهِمْ أَفَتُهُ لِكُنَا بِمَا فَعَلَ الْمُبُطِلُونَ } .

It was reported that Sayyiduna Ibn Abbas – may Allah be pleased with him – said: The Messenger of Allah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – said, "Allah took the covenant from the offspring of Sayyiduna Adam (peace be upon him) in Na'maan, i.e., Arafaat. He brought forth all his offspring and laid them out before Him. He then addressed them, and said:

'Am not I your Lord? all said, 'Why not we all bear witness', lest you should say on the Day of Resurrection, that we were not aware of it.

Or lest you should say, Polytheism was committed by our forefathers before, and we were their offspring after them Will you then destroy us for what was done by wrongdoers?

(Al-A'raaf 7, Verse 172-173)

(Musnad Ahmed Hadeeth No. 2455)

The Second Gathering in the Light of Quran and Hadeeth:

Allah Almighty has made him the leader of all the Prophets of the world, and every Prophet – peace be upon them – has taken a share from his Prophethood and Messengerhood. Allah Almighty had taken oath from all the Prophets and Messengers to believe in him and to provide aid to his mission. The Quran has named this oath as "Meethaaq al-Ambiya" (The oath of the Prophets). Allah Almighty had gathered all the Prophets for this purpose in which Allah Almighty Himself had mentioned the qualities and perfections of his and then commanded them, "All of you must believe in my beloved and become his helpers." The Holy Quran describes this oath in the following manner:

And remember when Allah took, from the prophets their covenant whatever I should give you of the Book and wisdom, then comes to you the Messenger confirming your Books, then assuredly you must believe in him and assuredly you must help him. He said, 'do you agree, and do you accept My heavy responsibility on it. All submitted 'We did affirm; He said, 'then be witness

against one another and I am myself among witnesses with you.

Now whoso turns away after this, then they are the disobedient. (Aale 'Imran 3, Verse 81-82)

انبیاسے کروں عرض کیوں مالکو کیانبی ہے تمہاراہمارانبی

Ambiya se karun arz kyun maaliko

Kya Nabi hai tumhara hamara Nabi

I would like to ask the Prophets (peace be upon them)

Isn't it that my Prophet is your Prophet as well?

The crown of Prophethood is on the head of all the Prophets but the king of all Prophets is our beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him.

#### Prophets Attained Prophethood by Having Imaan in Him:

Imam Qastalaani – may Allah be pleased with him – recorded the Tafseer of this verse from Hafiz Ibn Katheer, that when Allah Almighty created the light of the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – and after honoring it with Prophethood and perfections when he created the lights of other Prophets – peace be upon them – then He commanded the light of Hazrat Mustafa – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – to appear before them and pay attention towards them. When his light appeared before them it outshined their lights due its intense brightness and they spoke up, "O our Lord! Who is this outshining our lights and has surpassed us?" Allah Almighty replied:

"It is the light of Muhammad Ibn 'Abdullah (may Allah send peace and blessings upon him). If you believe in him, I will make you all Prophets." They said, "We believe in him and in his Prophethood." Allah Almighty then said, "I will be your witness." They said, "Yes, Almighty."

Hence, the statement of Allah Almighty:

And remember when Allah took, from the prophets their covenant (Aale 'Imraan 3, Verse 81)

(Mawaahib with Zurqaani Vol. 1, p. 40)

By now one should have grasped the full understanding as to how Allah Almighty took the covenant from His Prophets to acknowledge the Prophethood and leadership of the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him. He pointed out to them the fact that although He had elected them as His Prophets but the greatness of His beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – exceeded them all:

- If you are Prophets, then he is the leader of all the Prophets.
- If you are Nabiyyeen (Prophets) then he is Khatam al-Nabiyyeen (the seal of Prophethood).
- If you are Mursaleen (Messengers) then he is Sayyid al-Mursaleen (the leader of all the Prophets).

It is for this reason that every Prophet of Allah, from Sayyiduna Adam – peace be upon him – to Sayyiduna 'Isa – peace be upon him, preached to their nation and imparted with them the greatness of RasoolAllah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him.

### The Waseelah of Sayyiduna Adam – peace be upon him:

Imam Qastalani has quoted a Hadeeth that when Sayyiduna Adam – peace be upon him – asked Allah Almighty, "Why did you keep my calling name Abu Muhammad?" He commanded, "Raise your head, O Adam." When he raised his head, he saw the light of the Prophet Muhammad (May Allah send peace and blessings upon him). He asked, "What is this light?" Allah Almighty replied:

# هٰ ذَا نُورُ نَبِيِّي مِنْ ذُرِيَّتِكَ، اِسْمُهٰ آحْمَدُ فِي السَّمَاءِ وَفِي الْأَنْضِ مُحَمَّدٌ، لَوُلَاهُ مَا

# خَلَقْتُكَ وَلَا خَلَقْتُ سَبَاءً وَلَا أَرْضًا

It is the light of My Prophet from your lineage, whose name in the heaven is Ahmed and on earth, Muhammad. Had it not been for his sake, I would not have created you nor would I have created heaven nor the earth.

It has also been mentioned in Mawaahib al-Ladinniyyah that when Sayyiduna Adam – peace be upon him – came out of paradise, he saw the name Muhammad written everywhere; on the pillars of 'Arsh and elsewhere in paradise. He supplicated to Allah to have mercy upon the father through the virtues of this son. Allah Almighty stated, "O Adam, had you interceded for the entire population of the earth and heavens through his medium, I would have accepted your intercession."

He imparted to his children all his life to always seek the Waseelah of Allah's Habeeb when making Du'a to Allah Almighty.

#### The Ark of Sayyiduna Nooh – peace be upon him:

It has been mentioned in the books of Tafseer that the flood of Sayyiduna Nooh – peace be upon him – lasted for 40 days which drowned everything in its way except those who boarded the ark of Sayyiduna Nooh – peace be upon him – were saved. People aboard were very anxious and began to lose hope as the storm became severe and the wind speed increased which raised the waves higher, and then Allah Almighty commanded to read the Du'a through which Allah Almighty solve their problems:

# وَقَالَ ارْكَبُوْ ا فِيهَا بِسَمِ اللهِ مَجُرّ بِهَا وَمُرْسِبِهَا ﴿ إِنَّ رَبِّي لَغَفُورٌ رَّحِيمُ



And he said, 'Embark therein; in the name of Allah is its moving and its berthing. No doubt, my Lord is assuredly Forgiving, Merciful.

(Hood 11, Verse 41)

Allah Almighty saved them from drowning through His Name's blessings.

It is mentioned in Ma'aarij al-Nubuwwah that the means for their salvation was the name of the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him, which is also supported by the verses of the Qasidah of Sayyiduna Abbas – may Allah be please with him.

It is also narrated that the ark of Sayyiduna Nooh – peace be upon him – reached to safety due to the blessing of the name of our beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – which he had written at the forefront of his ark.

#### Du'a of Sayyiduna Ibrahim – peace be upon him:

Sayyiduna Ibrahim – peace be upon him – made Du'as for the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – in the following verse of the Holy Quran:

'O Our Lord, and send in them a messenger from among themselves, who may recite to them Your signs and teach them Your Book and wise knowledge and may purify them well. Surely, You, alone are the Predominant, the Wise.

(Al-Baqarah 2, Verse 129)

#### Sayyiduna Moosa – peace be upon him:

Hazrat Allama Faasi – may Allah be pleased with him – has quoted the following verses from Torah where Allah Almighty had commanded Sayyiduna Moosa – peace be upon him:

O Moosa, praise Me as I honoured you by speaking to you and provided you the opportunity to bring Imaan in Ahmad, and had you not believed in Ahmad, you would not have gained nearness to Me in My house, nor would you get to relax in My paradise. O Moosa, whoever from amongst the Prophets does not believe in Ahmad and testify and does not desire him, his virtues will be null and void and I would deprive him of wisdom and will not enter the light of guidance in his heart and will erase his name from the register of the Prophets. O Moosa, whoever believes in Ahmad and testifies will reach their objectives, and whoever from amongst my creation rejects Ahmad and falsifies him, they are the losers and regretful and they are the ones with no insight. (Mataali' al Musirraat the commentary of Dalaail al-Khairaat)

Hazrat Abu Nu'aim narrated from Sayyiduna Anas – may Allah be pleased with him – who reported that the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has stated:

Allah Almighty send Wahy towards Bani Israel (through Sayyiduna Moosa – peace be upon him – to inform them) that whoever does not believe in Ahmad, I shall enter him in hell.

He asked, "Who is Ahmad?" He replied, "I have not created anyone more honourable than him in My Court. I wrote his name with Mine prior to creating

the earth and the heavens and until he and his nation enter the paradise, I have forbidden entry into paradise for my creation." He asked, "Who are his nation?" He replied, "They are the nation who praise Me excessively" and Allah Almighty mentioned other qualities as well. He said, "O Allah, make me the Prophet of that nation." Allah Almighty stated, "Their Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – will be from amongst them." He said, "Make me from amongst his nation." Allah Almighty responded, "You have preceded him and he will arrive towards the end but do not grieve, I shall unite you with him in the house of eternity (paradise)."

Sayyiduna Maseeh 'Isa – peace be upon him:

And remember when Issa son of Maryam, said, 'O children of Israel, I am Allah's Messenger to you, confirming the previous Book Tourat before me and conveying the glad news of the Messenger who will come after me, his name is Ahmad! '

(Al-Saff 61, Verse 6)

He will obviously arrive as the follower of the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him. Allah Almighty made him aware of the honour of the beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – even during his term of Prophethood; for example, Imam Hakim narrated from Sayyiduna ibn Abbas – may Allah be pleased with them – that:

# اَوْحَى اللهُ تَعَالى اِنْ امن بِهُحَبَّدٍ وَ اَمرَمَنُ اَدْرَكَ مِنْ اُمَّتِكَ اَنْ يُؤْمِنُوا بِهِ فَلُولًا مُحَبَّدٌ مَا خَلَقْتُ الْحُنَّةُ وَلا النَّارَ الْحَنَّةُ وَلا النَّارَ

Allah Almighty sent Wahy (upon Sayyiduna 'Isa – peace be upon him) to believe in Muhammad (may Allah send peace and blessings upon him) and to command whomever of your nation you approach to believe in him, for if Muhammad (may Allah send peace and blessings upon him) did not exist, I would have neither created paradise nor hell.

#### Bani Israel:

Along with Sayyiduna 'Isa – peace be upon him, every Prophet of Bani Israel gave them the glad tidings of the arrival of the Final Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him. They instilled the love and reverence of the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – in the hearts of their nation. For as long as they lived, they yearned for a glimpse of the Mubarak appearance of the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him. Whenever they fought the enemies, they sought help through the Waseelah of the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him. Hence Allah Almighty states in the Holy Quran:

And before that they were asking for victory over the infidels through the medium of the same prophet.

(Al-Baqarah 2, Verse 89)

They used to beg through his Waseelah with the following words:

O Allah, help us by virtue of the Prophet who will be appointed towards the end of time, whose praises we find in Torah.

Maulana Jalaluddin Rumi – may Allah be pleased with him – has beautifully documented these facts in his Mathnavi Shareef as follows:

Sajdah mi kardand kae Rabb-e-Bashar Dar 'AyaaN aareesh oora zood tar

Bani Israel used to bow in the court of Allah begging Him to appoint the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – soon

Ta banaam-e-Ahmed aaN yastaftahoon Baaghiyaan-e-shaaN mi shudande sanagooN

They gained so much power by the Waseelah of the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – that whenever they encountered enemies, they sought his Waseelah and were victorious over the rebels.

Har kuja harb-e-muhawwal aamade
Ghauth-e-shaaN karraari-e-Ahmed bade
Whenever they were in a gruesome battle, they sought his Waseelah and
ultimately won the battle.

#### Kissing the Blessed Name Muhammad:

They loved the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – to such an extent that wherever they saw the name of the Holy Prophet - may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – in the Bible, they used to kiss it with utmost love and respect. It was the blessing of that reverence which they had shown to our beloved Prophet - may Allah send peace and blessings upon him that they were safeguarded from several calamities.

Maulana Rumi - may Allah be pleased with him - describes this fact in the following couplets of his Mathnavi shareef:

Bood dar Injeel naam-e-Mustafa AaN sar-e-PaighambaraaN bahr-e-safa

The name of Sayyiduna Mustafa, the master of all Prophets and the ocean of spirituality - may Allah send peace and blessings upon him - was written in the Bible

Taaifa nasraaniyaN bahr-e-Thawaab ChooN raseedande ba-aaN naam-e-khitaab Seeking its blessings, wherever the Christians found his name and title...

Bosa daadande ba-aaN naam-e-shareef
Roo-nahaanande baraaN wasf-e-lateef
They used to kiss his blessed name and place their face over his glorious title.

Aiman az sharr-e-ameeraan-o-wazeer Dar panaah-e-naam-e-Ahmed mustajeer

They were safeguarded against the evil of rulers and emperors by virtue of the blessed name Ahmed of the Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him.

Nasl-e-eeshaN neez ham bisyaar shud Noor-e-Ahmed naasir aamad yaar shud

Their generations also flourished, and why would they not, for the light of Ahmed (may Allah send peace and blessings upon him) was helping them every step of the way.

#### Allahu Akbar!!!

Now, where are those gustaakhs, those insolent creatures, who mock if one kisses their thumbs places them over his eyes out of love for RasoolAllah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – at the time of Azan!

They must open their eyes and see the barakah one receives by virtue of the blessed name of Sayyiduna Muhammad – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him.

Glad tidings to those who kiss their thumbs and place over their eyes when hearing the Mubarak name of Sayyiduna Muhammad – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – in Azan, for they will never become blind.

Read further on this topic in the book of AlaHazrat Imam Ahmed Raza – may Allah be pleased with him – entitled "Muneer al-'Ainain".

For those who listen and see with the eyes and ears of acceptance, it is enough said and done for them, but for the ones whose hearts are sealed from accepting truth, an entire library of proof will not satisfy. They will always be snooping around to find faults. To demonstrate their character, I would like to narrate a story:

Once upon a time, there was a Wali who possessed the ability to display miracles. His sainthood was well known and established among people but his wife was always after his case for whatever reason and never gave him the due credit for his great personality and always looked for a fault in him. One day, in a state of jalaal, he took a flight in the air and flew circles around his house in the upper horizon. When his wife saw a man flying in the air, she was mesmerized by this miracle and revered this person for displaying such a great miracle.

Moments later, when the Wali entered the house, he sat on the Musalla and engaged in his Wazaaif and Tasbeeh, his wife broke the silence and criticized him for it, "What is the use of swinging this Tasbeeh and taking gulps of wazeefahs?!! What is so special about your Tasbeeh and Wazeefahs? Today, I saw a great Wali flying in space, and look at you, you are good for nothing."

The Wali asked her for confirmation, "Did you really see him flying with your own eyes?"

"Yes", she replied "I saw him with my own eyes flying in space, flying circles over our house." There was so much excitement in her tone.

The Wali said revealing the truth, "O Allah's slave, it was me. Did you not recognize me with the kurta and the turban I was wearing? I displayed this miracle, so you mend your ways and see me for who I am and stop with your ill-treatment of me."

Thereupon his wife said, "Oh, I see, so it was you. I should have known better; your trajectory was crooked."

This is the attitude you get from ungrateful people.

Allah Almighty honoured our beloved Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – by organizing this special gathering to signify his station in His Court and to instill his greatness in the hearts of other Prophets – peace be upon them – by taking covenant. The Prophets – peace be upon them – taught their nations the loved and respect of our master Nabi Muhammad – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him.

Even the Christians loved and revered him to this degree which became a means for their success in all their endeavours but Alas! Worldly love and greed got the better of them, as Allah Almighty states in the Holy Quran:

And when the Book from Allah (the Holy Qu'ran) came to them, which confirms the Book in their possession (the Taurat / Torah) – and before that they used to seek victory through the medium of this very Prophet

(Mohammed – peace and blessings be upon him) over the disbelievers; so when the one whom they fully recognised (the Holy Prophet) came to them, they turned disbelievers – therefore Allah's curse is upon the disbelievers.

(Al-Baqarah 2, Verse 89)

May Allah Almighty instill the true love for our beloved master Muhammadur RasoolAllah – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – in our hearts.

Ameen!

Kafir hai who bad-bakht jo us dil ko kahe dil

Jis dil me na ho ulfat-e-Sarkaar-e-Madinah

The unfortunate, who considers a heart that is free from the love of Sayyiduna

RasoolAllah, is nothing short of a kafir!