

“And know that among you is the Messenger of Allah”

Quran 49:6

The glorious month of Rabiul Awal is marked by one of the most sacred dates of the Islamic calendar: the remembrance of the day that our blessed Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings upon him) was born. During this month, the Muslim world feels a sense of revival as it is inspired by remembering the blessed Prophet and the life he lived. In this month the feelings of love and sanctity are awakened in the hearts of those who truly testify and witness with their hearts, that there is no God but Allah and that Muhammad is his messenger. The prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings upon him) loved and prayed for his followers. One day while reading verses from the Holy Quran and weeping out of love for his Ummah, Allah (The Most High) sent Jibraeel (peace be upon him) to him to tell him: Verily We will please thee with regard to your Ummah and will not displease thee. [Muslim:520]

It's also been narrated that the messenger of Allah, (peace and blessings upon him), visited the burial grounds close to his death and said, I wish that I had seen our brothers!” the people with him said: “Messenger of Allah! Are we not your brothers?” “No,” he said, “You are my companions. My brothers are those who have not yet come, it is they who believe in me without having seen me. And I will precede them to the Hawd”, (The Hawd: the watering place of the prophet, from which he will give to the people of his Ummah on the day of rising.) They asked him, How will you recognize them?... He said, they will come on the day of rising with white marks(shining) on their foreheads, hands and feet from wudhu’, and I will precede them to the Hawd. (Muwatta:60) -hadith sahih-

So we should rejoice in the the blessing of being part of the Prophet’s Ummah, and in the blessing that the prophet prayed for us and yearned to meet us.

Although, we need to ask ourselves a few dire questions. Where is the presence of the love that transcends to our Prophet (peace and blessings upon him) gone? Where is the yearning from our hearts to be with our prophet (peace and blessings upon him)? Where is our desire to meet him? Where is the loyalty to follow his footsteps? And the love that motivates us to uphold his advice and live by his guidance?

Today we seem to be yearning for peace in our hearts because the world is lacking role models, so many have turned away from the Sunnah of the prophet. The Sunnah is not just eating, sleeping and dressing like the Prophet did, but rather, it encompasses all aspects of his life. We should love the way he did, lead the way he did, help the poor like he did and be merciful like he was.

The Prophet is the perfect role-model for us all, he (peace and blessings upon him) left us with a holistic model to aspire to in all aspects of our lives. He was a husband, father, companion and a leader, he embodied the best leadership qualities caring for the wellbeing and inspiring everyone of his followers. He strove sincerely and in doing so, succeeded in establishing peace, harmony, justice and love to Mankind.

From here we know that Islam is not just a religion but a comprehensive set of guidance for every aspect of our lives. The Prophet left this duty for those who come after him so it is upon us to internalize and implement the characteristics of the Prophet in all roles that we undertake in our daily lives.

How are we to read the verse: that amongst us is the messenger of Allah, peace and blessings upon him? Even though many Muslims are not upholding his guidance, he is with us in his faithfully conveyed message, he is with us because Allah (The Most High) shows him our collective deeds and he seeks forgiveness for us. He is with us because even many of those non practicing Muslims, when they see or hear any unfair remarks about him, they become upset, because they know that the sacrifices he made throughout his life was for the benefit of each and every one of us. He is with us, he never left us, we should ask ourselves: are we with him???

(May Allah bless him and grant him peace)