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Delightful Dialogues

The Prophet's Dialogues with His Companions

Translated by
Abdulrahman Kelani

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Preface

Even more than being a means of learning, dialogue is the only means for communication among people, as the human is a social being that cannot live but among a community. In order for him to maintain his life within the community and express his basic needs, he must communicate with those around him. Even a child must communicate with his parents to tell them what his needs are.

Whoever ponders over the *sīrah* of the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ with fairness realizes that Muhammad ﷺ is truly the Messenger of Allāh. It is not possible for a human to have in his life the best of human character and the best of ways in dealing with people unless he is an infallible Prophet who receives divine revelation.

Every specialist and expert in his field can benefit from the *sīrah* of the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ, from a preacher, politician, military leader, to a psychologist, all would learn great lessons from him ﷺ. Why not? Allāh ﷻ says,

﴿لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ لِّمَن كَانَ يَرْجُوا اللَّهَ وَالْيَوْمَ الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ

كَثِيرًا ﴿٣١﴾

﴿There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allāh an excellent example for whoever has hope is in Allāh and the Last Day and remembers Allāh often.﴾ [33:21] Allāh's Messenger ﷺ is the best person ever to conduct a dialogue. He teaches the goals of dialogue, its

benefits, styles, manners, and arts, and he ﷺ practiced and implemented all that in the best way all his life with all people, Muslims, disbelievers, men, women, old and young. The Prophet ﷺ used dialogue to communicate and establish merciful connection with others.

Communication has a significant importance in the life of the Messenger x. Every Messenger has a mission of inviting people to the truth, and he cannot perform his mission unless he communicates with people and converses with them. Allāh ﷻ says,

﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الرَّسُولُ بَلِّغْ مَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْكَ مِنْ رَبِّكَ وَإِنْ لَمْ تَفْعَلْ فَمَا بَلَّغْتَ رِسَالَتَهُ﴾

﴿O Messenger, announce that which has been revealed to you from your Lord, and if you do not, then you have not conveyed His message. And Allāh will protect you from the people. Indeed, Allāh does not guide the disbelieving people.﴾ [5:67]

A Messenger cannot be an introvert or anti-social person who does not talk to people or converse with them, let alone being harsh or repulsive. Allāh ﷻ says,

﴿فَبِمَا رَحْمَةٍ مِنَ اللَّهِ لِنْتَ لَهُمْ وَلَوْ كُنْتَ فَظًّا غَلِيظَ الْقَلْبِ لَانفَضُّوا مِنْ حَوْلِكَ﴾

﴿So, by mercy from Allāh, [O Muhammad], you were lenient with them. And if you had been rude [in speech] and harsh in heart, they would have disbanded from about you.﴾ [3:159] So, the duty of conveying the Message to people perfectly and the responsibility of reconciling between their hearts are very much connected to using the dialogue when communicating with them.

A dialogue is a tool for people to have mercy among themselves. The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ was merciful and tender, and his mercy was the common denominator in all his dialogues. He ﷺ had