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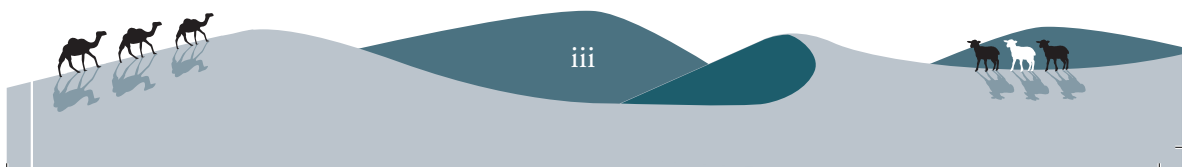
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## PREFACE

In the Name of Allāh Most Gracious, Most Merciful

All praise is due to Allāh Who made the Prophets and Messengers the soul of this life. I bear witness that Allāh is One without any partner, and that Muḥammad ﷺ is the foremost among His Messengers. May the peace and blessings of Allāh be on him, members of his household and all his companions.

Certainly, human beings' need for guidance is more intense than their need for anything else. They need role models in managing affairs of life at various levels—individual, family, and society, whether at war or at peace. They need exemplars for their spiritual and physical needs, in distinguishing decency from vices, in determining the right conduct in times of low and high spirits, and during life's twists and turns. Most importantly, they need guides whom would lead them to worship their Creator and please Him as He has prescribed. They need men who would bear the responsibility of conveying Allāh's divine message and establishing His law on earth. From the infinite mercy of Allāh upon mankind is that He chose the best among them to undertake these roles upon His majestic guidance. They are the souls of this world and we call them Prophets or Messengers of Allāh, the Almighty. The world would be in total darkness if the sun of divine messages did not shine on it. Humanity sans divinity would be like a body without soul—lost and unguided.

These are some of the roles and responsibilities of the Prophets. They are the ones whom Allāh ﷻ sent as light and the source of guidance for mankind. They are also the proof that Allāh ﷻ has established against the disobedience of His slaves. He chose them from the purest breed and made them into models. The stories of



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their lives are guides and sources of strength for the hearts of the believers. Their calls are filled with admonitions and lessons from which the believers learn the methodology of inviting to the way of Allāh and reforming the society.

In Islam, the belief of prophets is a part of the articles of faith (*īmān*). Therefore, Muslims make no distinction between the Prophets ﷺ. Denying any one of them is the same as denying them all. We believe in all of them and bear witness that they have delivered their messages dutifully as Allāh Himself attests to in His Book—the Qur’an. We are thus Muslims, the nation that is witnessed over all other nations of mankind.

This book is a simplified exposition of the history and lives of the Prophets and Messengers of Allāh based on authentic and reliable sources. Its presentation suites all ages, groups and classes by the grace of Allāh. It is intended that this book will help increase our love for our Creator, help us recognize His ultimate favours upon us, and increase our faith in His Prophets and Messengers who are role models for us and for generations to come until the Day of Judgment, *‘in shā’ Allāh*. Indeed, they are the best of creations, their stories are the best of stories and they are the divinely guided teachers whose guidance is to be followed. Allāh said:

﴿أُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ هَدَى اللَّهُ فَبِهِدَّتْهُمْ أَلْتَدَةُ قُلْ لَا أَسْأَلُكُمْ عَلَيْهِ  
أَجْرًا إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا ذِكْرٌ لِلْعَالَمِينَ﴾

*“Those are the ones whom Allāh has guided, so from their guidance take an example. Say, “I ask of you for this message no payment. It is not but a reminder for the worlds.”*

(Sūrah al-’An‘ām, 6:90)

There are Prophets and Messengers whose names and stories are mentioned in the Noble Qur’an whereas some are mentioned in the Sunnah of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ. In relating their stories, we have relied entirely on the Qur’an, *Aḥādīth* and reliable commentaries of the Pious Predecessors (*al-Salaf al-Ṣāliḥ*). However, there are other

