

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ، أَحْمَدُهُ سُبْحَانَهُ حَمْدًا طَيِّبًا مَبَارَكًا فِيهِ كَمَا يَحِبُّ
وَيَرْضَى، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا
مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ
وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ، وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

All praise is due to Allah the Lord of the worlds, I praise His glorious status and majesty as is befitting to Him. I bear witness there is no deity except Allah, He is alone having no partners. And I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, his family, his companions, and all those who live like them till the Day of Resurrection.

To Honour-Defend Our Beloved Prophet ﷺ, Let Us Exemplify His Character:

Merciful to children, women, transgressors, sinners & non-Muslims

- **Mockery is tantamount to ignorance (2:67)**
- **Engage positively (16:125)**
- **Ignore the ignorant (7:199) (25:63)**
- **Remember Allah has protected the Prophet and raised his rank (15:95) (94:4)**
- **Respect the Sanctity of Faith (6:108)**

- Muslims believe in the **'Freedom of Speech'** but this not a duty/right to offend.
- Pope Francis has said there are limits to the freedom of expression - and that anyone who swears at his mother deserves a punch.
- Absolute freedom of speech does not exist – but double standards do
- Edward Snowden, Julian Assange, Iraq Enquiry, CIA report **'Freedom of Speech'?**
- A French court injunction **banned a Jesus based clothing advert** mimicking Da Vinci's Last Supper. The display was ruled **"a gratuitous and aggressive act of intrusion on people's innermost beliefs"**, by the French judge.
- **It is an offense to insult the national flag or anthem**, with a maximum penalty of € 9,000 or six months imprisonment.
- It is illegal in France to deny that the killing of Armenians by Turkish troops was a deliberate genocide.
- To deny the holocaust or depict Jews in a derogatory manner is Anti-Semitic, punishable by the law.

React – Engage Critically

The Prophet ﷺ never took revenge from those who hurt and satirized him with the worst poetry, words and insults; he pardoned and forgave them and those who attempted to kill him.

“You are all free to go”

Pardoned: Wahshi Ibn Harb who killed the Prophet’s uncle Hamzah and Hind bint ‘Utbah who chewed Hamzah’s liver, Habar Ibn al-Aswad attacked Zainab bint Jahsh who was pregnant and caused a miscarriage. al- Huwairth ibn Naqiz attacked Fatima and Um Kalthum and caused them to fall off their camels.

وَلَمَنْ صَبَرَ وَغَفَرَ إِنَّ ذَلِكَ لَمِنْ عَزْمِ الْأُمُورِ

And indeed whoever patiently endured and forgave – then indeed these are acts of great courage. (42:43)

وَلَا تَسْتَوِي الْحَسَنَةُ وَلَا السَّيِّئَةُ ادْفَعْ بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ فَإِذَا الَّذِي بَيْنَكَ وَبَيْنَهُ عَدَاوَةٌ كَأَنَّهُ وَلِيٌّ حَمِيمٌ

And the good deed and the evil deed will never be equal; O listener! Repel the evil deed with a good one, thereupon the one between whom and you was enmity, will become like a close friend. (41:34)

Rebuilding After Charlie

Years of building lost in one day?

- The Prophet ‘Uzayr ﷺ was sent to a destroyed Jerusalem. It was razed to the ground. There were no people, no trees, and no buildings. There was absolutely nothing there.

أَوْ كَالَّذِي مَرَّ عَلَىٰ قَرْيَةٍ وَهِيَ خَاوِيَةٌ عَلَىٰ عُرُوشِهَا قَالَ أَنَّىٰ يُحْيِي هَٰذِهِ اللَّهُ بَعْدَ مَوْتِهَا

“How will Allah bring this to life after its death?” (2:259)

- ‘Uzayr ﷺ was alone, he only had a bit of food and a donkey to ride. But as he stood there, he picked up whatever broken pieces he could find, and began rebuilding the foundations. He then he retreated to a mountain so he could rest for the night.
- But Allah ﷻ caused him to die for a hundred years. People had come after him and built upon the foundation that he started. People had moved back. Jerusalem was alive again. When ‘Uzayr ﷺ saw this;

فَلَمَّا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُ قَالَ أَعْلَمُ أَنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

“And when it became clear to him, he said, ‘I know that Allah is over all things competent!’” (2:259)

No matter how much other people destroy, we need to be like ‘Uzayr ﷺ. We might wonder how this will ever be fixed. It does not matter, we have a mission from Allah to rebuild the destruction in the world with love, peace and harmony. This was the mission of the Prophet to rebuild humanity.