

by Imam Zafrullah Domun

This is the last Friday of the month of Safar which will end most probably on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016, that is on Wednesday next. So, the third month of the Islamic Calendar 1438 will start on Thursday next that is on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. On the 12<sup>th</sup> day of this month, in many Islamic countries around the world, many Muslims will be celebrating the *Miladun Nabi* (Birthday of the Holy prophet) or as we know it here in Mauritius *Yaumun Nabi* (the day of the Prophet). So many Muslims believe that the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw) was born in the year 570 CE and they take the date to be 12<sup>th</sup> Rabi *ul awwal*. But there is no historical evidence that this is so. From the Holy Quran, we do not know anything about the day or date or year of birth of the Holy Prophet (saw) and none of the six authentic books of Hadith speak about his year or date of birth. However, there is a statement reported in Muslim by the Holy Prophet(saw) which says that he was born on a Monday.

Concerning the date there is no precision at all in the early sources about the history of Islam. So up till now we do not know exactly on which precise date and year the Holy Prophet (saw) was born. There are several dates on which he was supposed to have been born and the year is around 570CE. Anyhow for us, later day Muslims his day of birth is of no importance at all. What is important is his life, his teachings as are embodied in the Holy Quran. Hence for us Ahmadi Muslims we do not celebrate the birthday of the Holy Prophet (saw) at all. To us the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw) is a model in everyday of our life, at every moment of our life and not at all any particular day in the year. We Ahmadi Muslims strive to imitate him and follow in his footsteps as we have been told in the Holy Quran “*Qul in kountoum tohibbounAllaha fattabe’ouni youhbib komoullaha wa yaghfir lakoum zonoubakoum wallaho ghafourour Rahim* “. The translation of this verse is as follows “Say if you love Allah follow me and Allah will love you and forgive you your sins and Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.” To us, it is this verse which defines our relationship with the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw) and not speeches and empty talks where the true teachings of the Holy prophet (saw) are absent. In another verse of the Holy Quran which reminds us of the importance of the Holy Prophet (saw) in our life we read:

“Say, if your fathers, and your sons, and your brethren, and your wives, and your kinsfolk, and the wealth you have acquired, and the trade whose dullness you fear,

and the dwellings which you love are dearer to you than Allah and His Messenger and striving in His cause, then wait until Allah comes with His judgment; and Allah guides not the disobedient people.” (9:24).

These verses and many similar ones define our relationship with the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw). In our daily life, we strive or we should strive to manifest in ourselves the noble qualities of the Holy Prophet and we should do our best to follow him if we want to do justice to our being Muslim.

These days there are calls in Pakistan and even in England by bigoted Mullahs who are saying that Ahmadi Muslims are not Muslims and they should be banned. In Pakistan, some are calling for Ahmadis to be killed. In England, they are calling upon the Government not to invite them for their counsel on Muslim matters. They continue with their lies of more than 120 years saying that Ahmadis are accepting a prophet after the Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw). These people say they are the preservers of “*khatme Nabuwwat*(the concept of the seal of Prophethood).”

Today we will start reading some extracts about what Hazrat Ahmad (as) has said about the Holy Prophet (saw). In the past also we might have read these extracts. But it is important for all of us to be reminded of these extracts often. The Promised Messiah said:

“That light of high degree that was bestowed on perfect man was not in angels, was not in stars, was not in the moon, was not in the sun, was not in the oceans and the rivers, was not in rubies, emeralds, sapphires, or pearls; in short, it was not in any earthly or heavenly object. It was only in perfect man whose highest and loftiest and most perfect example was our lord and master, the Chief of the Prophets, the Chief of all living ones, Muhammad, the chosen one [peace and blessings of Allah be on him]. That light was bestowed on this man and, according to their ranks, upon all those who bore the same colour to some degree.... This dignity was found in its highest and most perfect form in our lord and master and our guide, the immaculate Prophet, the righteous one, testified to by the righteous, Muhammad, the chosen one [peace and blessings of Allah be on him]. [A’ina-e-Kamalat-e-Islam, Ruhani Khaza’in, Vol. 5, pp. 160-162]

Speaking about his exalted status he said:

“I always wonder how high was the status of this Arabian Prophet, whose name was Muhammad, (thousands of blessings and peace be upon him). One cannot reach the limit of his high status and it is not given to man to estimate correctly his

spiritual effectiveness. It is a pity that his rank has not been recognized, as it should have been. He was the champion who restored to the world the Unity of God which had disappeared from the world; he loved God in the extreme and his soul melted out of sympathy for mankind. Therefore, God, Who knew the secret of his heart, exalted him above all the Prophets and all the first ones and the last ones and bestowed upon him in his lifetime all that he desired.

He is the fountainhead of every grace and a person who claims any superiority without acknowledging his grace is not a man but is the pawn of Satan, because the Holy Prophet has been bestowed the key to every exaltation and he has been given the treasury of every understanding. He who does not receive through him is deprived forever. I am nothing and possess nothing. I would be most ungrateful if I were not to confess that I have learnt of the true Unity of God through this Prophet. The recognition of the Living God we have achieved through this perfect Prophet and through his light. The honour of converse with God, through which we behold His countenance, has been bestowed upon me through this great Prophet. The ray of this sun of guidance falls like sunshine upon me and I continue to be illumined only so long as I am adjusted towards it. [Haqiqat-ul-Wahi, Ruhani Khaza'in, Vol. 22, pp. 118-119]

“O all ye who dwell upon the earth, and O all human souls that are in the east or in the west, I announce to you emphatically that the true reality in the earth is Islam alone, and the True God is the God Who is described in the Qur'an, and the Prophet who has everlasting spiritual life and who is seated on the throne of glory and holiness, is Muhammad, the chosen one [peace and blessings of Allah be on him]. The proof of his spiritual life and holy majesty is that by following him and loving him we become recipients of the Holy Spirit and are favored with the bounty of converse with God and witness heavenly signs. [Tiryaaq-ul-Qulub, Ruhani Khaza'in, Vol. 15, p. 141]

“The man who in his being and his attributes and his actions and through his spiritual and holy faculties set an example of perfection, in knowledge and action and in sincerity and steadfastness, and was called the perfect man was Muhammad [peace and blessings of Allah be on him].... The man who was most perfect as man and as Prophet, and came with full blessings, and who through a spiritual revival and resurrection manifested the first Judgement in the world and revived the dead world, that blessed Prophet, the Seal of the Prophets, the leader of the righteous ones, the pride of the Prophets, was Muhammad, the chosen one [peace and blessings of Allah be on him]. Our Lord, send down on that beloved Prophet that mercy and blessing that Thou hast not sent down on anyone since the

beginning of the world. Had that grand Prophet not appeared in the world then we would have no proof of the truth of lesser Prophets like Jonah, Job, Jesus son of Mary, Malachi, John, Zechariah, etc. Though they were favorites and honoured and were beloved ones of Almighty God, they are under obligation to this Prophet that they were accepted in the world as true Prophets.

*O Allah, send down Thy blessings on him and on his people and on his companions, all of them. Our last word is that all praise belongs to Allah, Lord of the worlds.*” [Itmam-ul-Hujjah, Ruhani Khaza’in, Vol. 8, p. 308]

He says further:

“When we estimate justly, then out of the whole series of Prophets, we find one of high courage and alive and greatly dear to God, the Chief of the Prophets, the pride and the crown of the Messengers, whose name is Muhammad Mustafa and Ahmad Mujtaba [peace and blessings of Allah be on him]. By walking under his shadow for ten days one obtains that light which before him could not be obtained in a thousand years.... We have found every light by following the immaculate Prophet and whoever follows him will also find it and he will become so accepted of God that nothing will be impossible for him. The Living God, who is hidden from people, will be his God and all false gods will be trodden under his feet. He will be blessed everywhere and Divine Power will be with him. Peace be on him who follows the guidance. [Siraj-e-Munir, Ruhani Khaza’in, Vol. 12, pp. 82-83]

“Now under heaven there is only one Prophet (saw) and only one Book. The Prophet is Muhammad, the chosen one [peace and blessings of Allah be on him] who is higher and more exalted than all Prophets and is the most perfect of Messengers and is the Khatam-ul-Anbiya’, and the best of men by following whom we find God Almighty and all the veils of darkness are lifted and the signs of true salvation are witnessed in this very life. The Book is the Holy Qur’an, which comprises true and perfect guidance and effectiveness, through which knowledge and understanding of the Divine are obtained and the heart is purified of human weaknesses; and being delivered from ignorance, heedlessness and doubts, a person arrives at the stage of complete certainty. [Brahin-e-Ahmadiyya, Ruhani Khaza’in, Vol. 1, pp. 557-558, sub-footnote 3]

At another place, he says:

“There have been millions of pure-natured people in the world and there will be more in future, but we have found the best of all of them and the highest man of God, whose name is Muhammad [peace and blessings of Allah be on him].”

So, any right-thinking person who understands Islam will never say that a man who understands the Holy Prophet's grandeur so much is not a Muslim. Anyone who reads these writings will be easily convinced that here is a true lover of the Holy Prophet speaking and not a liar or a non-Muslim. Next week incha Allah I will speak about his spiritual experiences of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (saw). As followers of Hazrat Ahmad (as), may Allah open our heart so that our understanding of the Holy Prophet (saw) may go on expanding day in and day out *incha* Allah.