

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

كَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا فِيكُمْ رَسُولًا مِنْكُمْ يَتْلُوا عَلَيْكُمْ آيَاتِنَا وَيُزَكِّيكُمْ
وَيُعَلِّمُكُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَيُعَلِّمُكُم مَّا لَمْ تَكُونُوا تَعْلَمُونَ.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

تَرَكْتُ فِيكُمْ أَمْرَيْنِ لَنْ تَضِلُّوا مَا تَمَسَّكْتُمْ بِهِمَا كِتَابَ اللَّهِ وَسُنَّةَ نَبِيِّهِ.

DEVOTION TO THE BOOK OF ALLAH AND THE SUNNAH OF THE PROPHET

Honorable Muslims!

In the verse I have recited, our Lord Almighty (swt) states, **“Just as We have sent among you a messenger from yourselves reciting to you Our verses and purifying you and teaching you the Book and wisdom and teaching you that which you did not know.”**¹

In the hadith I have read, our beloved Prophet (saw) says, **“I have left two matters with you. As long as you hold on to them, you will not go the wrong way. They are the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Prophet.”**²

Dear Believers!

The Almighty Allah (swt) has created human in the finest fashion. He (swt) assigned guiding messengers and descended divine books to show His (swt) right path. Our Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (saw), who was sent as mercy to the worlds, is the final ring of the chain of prophethood. The divine revelation that started with the Prophet Adam (as) was crowned by the Holy Qur’an revealed to the Prophet (saw).

Dear Muslims!

The Prophet Muhammad (saw) is the only standard for our lives and the finest example. Our faith requires that we believe in and follow him (saw). Practicing the sunnah of the Messenger of Allah (saw) in our lives is a sign of our love for Allah (swt). It is an opportunity to attain His (swt) approval and mercy. As a matter of fact, it is stated in the Holy Qur’an, **“Say, [O Muhammad], “If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.”**³

Dear Believers!

The second source of the perspicuous religion of Islam, after the Holy Qur’an, is the Sunnah. “Sunnah” refers to our Prophet’s (saw) exemplary life, behaviors, and words. The Messenger of Allah (saw), with his words and behaviors, explained the

truths set out in the Holy Qur’an. His (saw) Sunnah facilitated the comprehension of the Qur’an, and his example reflected it. The Qur’an commands us to have faith, and the Sunnah shows us the way to perfect our faith. The Qur’an orders us to perform worships, prayers, fasting, pilgrimage, and zakat, and the Sunnah teaches us how to perform them. The Qur’an enjoins us to have good morals, and the Sunnah provides a precious model of ethics worth adhering to.

Honorable Muslims!

A believer who takes the Qur’an and the Sunnah as their guide does not allow their faith to be tainted by polytheism and stays faithful to their covenant with Allah (swt). They perform their worship in a timely manner and sincerely. They add barakah to their lives through good deeds and good morals.

A believer in heartfelt allegiance to Allah (swt) and His Messenger (saw) takes the side of truth and justice, and opposes injustice and tyranny. A believer never hurts any heart; people are safe from his/her hands and tongue. A believer is friendly. A believer is good-tempered and facilitative. A believer is aware that a pleasant word or two and a genuine smile serve as sadaqah. A believer is careful and diligent in their job. A believer remembers the barakah of halal earning, and does not allow it to get contaminated by haram.

Dear Believers!

We are in need of the guidance the Qur’an and the Sunnah today, more than ever. Then, let us tightly embrace the Qur’an, which is our guide to true path, and take our beloved Prophet’s Sunnah as our guide. Let us not let the Qur’an and the Sunnah be surpassed by any other understanding. Let us bear in mind that our prescription for salvation is the Qur’an and the Sunnah. Let us strive to rebuild the Islamic civilization by drawing inspiration from the Qur’an and the Sunnah.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

The struggle of our soldiers in defending our homeland and nation is continuing unabated, at the expense of their lives. May Allah the Almighty (swt) help our glorious military, who are the hope of the oppressed, persecuted, and lonely. May Allah the Almighty (swt) grant us eternal unity and solidarity. May Allah the Almighty’s (swt) mercy be upon our heroic martyrs, who have sacrificed their lives in the cause of our sacred values. May Allah the Almighty (swt) provide a speedy recovery to our veterans.

¹ Baqarah, 2/151.

² Muwatta’, Qadar, 3.

³ Al-i ‘Imran, 3/31.