

Mukarram Advice

Baitul Mukarram

10th Rabiul Awwal 1441

Issue 3

8th November 2019

Seerah – Life of our beloved Nabi

(Sallallahu ‘Alayhi wa Sallam)

Definition of Seerah

The word Seerah has a linguistic meaning which means a path.

Walking is called “Sair”, when you walk from one place to another it is called “Saara Fulaan” or a person is walking.

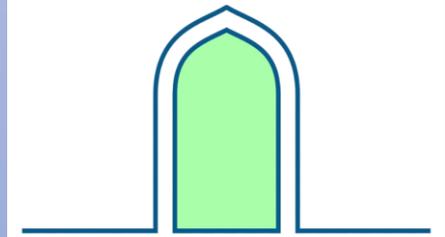
So, it is a path which a person takes during his lifetime.

The Hans-Wehr dictionary gives the translation of Seerah as:

- conduct,
- comportment,
- character,
- attitude,
- behaviour,
- way of life,
- position,
- reaction,
- way of acting
- and biography.

All of these are meanings of Seerah.

Seerah could be the biography of any person, not just Nabi Muhammad (Sallallahu ‘Alayhi wa Sallam), however we have used the word so much with Nabi Muhammad (Sallallahu ‘Alayhi wa Sallam), that when we say Seerah, we almost all the time are referring to the life of Nabi Muhammad (Sallallahu ‘Alayhi wa Sallam).



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What is the importance of studying Seerah?

1) An obligation

Allah has commanded us to know Nabi Muhammad (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam).

This is an obligation that Allah has put upon us. There are over 50 verses in the Qur'an that tells us to take Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) as an example.

e.g. "Indeed, in the Messenger of Allah you have a good example to follow, for him who hopes in Allah and the Last Day and remembers Allah much". Qur'an [33:21]

From the Seerah, we can gain religious knowledge, we can learn about manners and morals. Also, from the Seerah, we get to know how he was as a leader. How he was as a father and as a husband. No matter in which angle we look at, we will find an example in him to follow.

2) History of Islam

The life of Nabi Muhammad (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) is the history of Islam.

You are studying the concise history Islam by studying the life of Nabi Muhammad (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam).

Muhammad ibn Sa'd ibn Waqqaas (RadhiyAllahu 'anhu), son of Sa'd ibn Waqqaas (RadhiyAllahu 'anhu) would say,

"Our father would teach us the battles of Rasool Allah, he would teach us the seerah of Rasool Allah and he would tell us that these are the practices of your fathers, so study them".

Ali bin Hussain ibn Ali bin Abi Talib (RadhiyAllahu 'anhuma)- the grandson of Ali (RadhiyAllahu 'anhu) would say,

"We were taught the Seerah of Rasool Allah like we were taught Qur-aan".

That is how important Seerah was for them. They would study it like they studied Quran.

3) Love of Nabi Muhammad (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam)

Studying Seerah is the number one way to increase our love for Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam). There are no other ways as effective and as powerful to increase our love for Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) than by studying his life.

This is a sad fact that unfortunately we have neglected this study.

If we truly love Him, you will study Him. Because, a sign of loving someone is to want to know more about that person. Studying the Seerah is a sign of love and through studying the Seerah we increase our love. It is a circle – the more we study the more we love, the more we love, the more we study.

Rasoolullah (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) said: "None of you will attain true faith until you love me more than your parents, your children and the whole world".

4) Helps us understand the Qur'an

Understanding the Seerah also helps us understand the Qur'an. The Qur'an is a very profound book and it cannot be understood without context. Without context, we cannot appreciate the Qur'an.

5) To follow the Best Example

Ibn Hajar (Rahimahullah) says whoever seeks:

The pre-eminence of the hereafter,

The wisdom of this life,

Just a purpose in life,

and the embodiment of morality and character,

let him follow Muhammad (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) the Prophet of Allah.

So, Muhammad (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) is the embodiment of "Khuluq" - The perfect character. And by studying his Seerah, we will be more able to follow his way.

We claim that we love our Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam), we say he is our leader or master, our Rasool, our messenger, but a question we should be asking ourselves is...

How much love do we really have for Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam)?

How much of the life of our beloved Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) do we know?

How much of details do we know?

How much of the sacrifices He made, do we know?

As a Muslim and follower of Nabi Muhammad (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) we are required to love our Nabi and know who our Nabi is.

In a number of Hadith, we see that Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) says,

“A person cannot be a true believer until he loves Nabi Muhammad (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) more than his father, more than his children and more than himself.

These Ahadith demand that we get to know our Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) and inculcate the love of our Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam).

Very briefly few points regarding our Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam).

Name: We find in a Hadith, Allah's Messenger (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) said,

"I have five names:

- I am Muhammad
 - and Ahmad
 - I am Al-Mahi through whom Allah has remove unfaithfulness;
 - I am Al-Hashir who will be the first to be resurrected, and the people will be resurrected thereafter;
 - and I am also Al-'Aqib (i.e. There will be no prophet after me).
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Our Nabi Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam was born on Monday, 9th Rabi-ul-Awwal (20th April 571), at the time of subah sadiq (early dawn).

Some historians say that his date of birth could have been the 8th or the 12th Rabi-ul-Awwal.

Rasulullaah's Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam father's name was Abdullah.

His lineage from his father is as follows:

Muhammad Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam bin (the son of)

Abdullah	bin	Abdul Muttalib	bin	Haashim	bin
Abd-e-Manaaf	bin	Qusayy	bin	Kilaab	bin
Murrah	bin	Ka`b	bin	Lu-ayy	bin
Ghaalib	bin	Fahr	bin	Nadhr	bin
Kinaanah	bin	Khuzaimah	bin	Mudrikah	bin
Ilyas	bin	Mudar	bin	Nizaar	bin
Ma`add	bin	A`dnan.			

Our Nabi's Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam respected mother's name was Aaminah.

His lineage from his mother is as follows:

Muhammad Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam bin
Aaminah bint (daughter of) Wahb bin A`bd-e Manaf bin
Zuhrah bin Kilaab.

Both the families meet at Kilaab and thereafter the lineage is the same.

Nabi's Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam paternal grandmother's name was Faatima and his maternal grandmother's name was Barraah.

Nabi's Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam family and tribe were named the Banu Haashim and Quraish respectively.

Nabi Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam did not have any brothers or sisters.

At the age of 25, He (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) gets married to Khadija Radiyallahu Anha who was 40 years old.

Nikah was performed by Aboo Taalib the uncle of Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam), and the Mahr (dowry) was 87.40 grams of gold.

At the age of 35 the incident of the rebuilding of the Kaabah took place. We see in this incident how the people of the time honoured and respected Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam).

The children of Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam):

He had two sons, 1- Qasim 2- Abdullah

And four daughters 1- Zainab 2- Umme-kulthum 3- Ruqayya 4- Fatimah

At the age of 40, Allah makes Him a Nabi in the cave of heera.

First wahi was the first 5 Ayaat of surah Iqra.

Me'raj, this is when He (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) goes to meet Allah Ta'ala in heavens. This takes place in the 10th year of Nubuwwah. And this is where we were bestowed the 5 time Salaah.

The Marriage of Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam), After Khadija Radiyallahu Anha passes away, in the 10th year of Nubuwwah, He (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam)

gets married to Aisha Radiyallahu Anha. And also, Sawdah- binte- Zam'a Radiyallahu Anha.

Pledge of Aqabah, in the 11th year of Nubuwwah, 6 people came to Makkah from Medina to make Hajj. And at a place called Aqaba they become Muslims at the hand of Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam).

Then in the following years 72 people came to Makkah from Medina to make Hajj. They also become Muslims.

Thereupon they requested and invited Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) to migrate to Madinah.

Hijrah to Madinah, the people of Makkah decided to assassinate and kill the Nabi of Allah.

Allah Ta'ala ordered Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) to leave Makkah and go to Madinah. He (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam). leaves for Madinah with Abu Bakr Radiyallahu Anhu. He (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) lives in Madinah for the rest of His life, that is 10 years.

The farewell hajj:

The 10th year after Hijrat. 114 000 Sahabah got ready to go with Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) for Hajj.

On the 25th of Dhul Qadah, Nabi (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) leaves Madinah.

It is in this Hajj, in which He (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) gave an inspiring and an important Khutbah, known as the farewell Khutbah.

The Farewell Khutbah:

After praising and thanking Allah, Muhammad (Sallallahu 'Alayhi wa Sallam) said:

“O People lend me an attentive ear, for I know not whether after this year, I shall ever be amongst you again. Therefore, listen to what I am saying to you very carefully and TAKE THESE WORDS TO THOSE WHO COULD NOT BE PRESENT HERE TODAY.

O People, just as you regard this month, this day, this city as sacred, so regard the life and property of every Muslim as a sacred trust.

Return the goods entrusted to you to their rightful owners.

Hurt no one so that no one may hurt you.

Remember that you will indeed meet your Lord, and that He will indeed reckon your deeds.

Allah has forbidden you to take usury (interest); therefore, all interest obligations shall henceforth be waived. Your capital, however, is yours to keep. You will neither inflict nor suffer any inequity. Allah has judged that there shall be no interest and that all the interest due to Abbas ibn Abdul Muttalib (Prophet's uncle) shall henceforth be waived...

Beware of Satan, for the safety of your religion. He has lost all hope that he will ever be able to lead you astray in big things, so beware of following him in small things.

O People, it is true that you have certain rights with regard to your women, but they also have rights over you. Remember that you have taken them as your wives only under Allah's trust and with His permission. If they abide by your right, then to them belongs the right to be fed and clothed in kindness. Do treat your women well and be kind to them for they are your partners and committed helpers. And it is your right that they do not make friends with any one of whom you do not approve, as well as never to be unchaste.

O People listen to me in earnest, worship Allah, perform your five daily prayers (salah), fast during the month of Ramadan, and give your wealth in zakat (almsgiving). Perform Hajj if you can afford it.

All mankind is from Adam and Hawwa, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also, a white has no superiority over black nor does a black have any superiority over a white except by piety and good action.

Learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim and that the Muslims constitute one brotherhood.

Nothing shall be legitimate to a Muslim which belongs to a fellow Muslim unless it was given freely and willingly. Do not, therefore, do injustice to yourselves.

Remember, one day you will appear before Allah and answer for your deeds. So beware, do not stray from the path of righteousness after I am gone.

O People, no prophet or apostle will come after me and no new faith will be born. Reason well, therefore, O People, and understand words which I convey to you. I leave behind me two things, the QURAN and my example, the SUNNAH and if you follow these you will never go astray.

All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly.

Be my witness, O Allah, that I have conveyed your message to your people”.

The sickness and demise of Rasoolullah (Sallallahu ‘Alayhi wa Sallam).

In the month of Muharram 11 years after Hijrat, He (Sallallahu ‘Alayhi wa Sallam) gets a very severe headache, this headache brings about a fever.

Then on Monday 12th Rabiul Awwal, Rasoolullah (Sallallahu ‘Alayhi wa Sallam). passes away.

This is just a brief outline.

There are much now details that we must make every effort to read and learn.

There are many books available on the Seerah of Nabi (Sallallahu ‘Alayhi wa Sallam).

May Allah Ta’ala grant us all the ability to read and learn the life of our beloved Nabi. Ameen.