

Discover The True Faith of Islam

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To obey and to follow the last of all *Prophets, Muhammad^{PBUH}* is made obligatory for all men and women by *Allah^{SWT}* as it is evident from the following verses of the *Holy Qur'an*:

"Say: Obey Allah and the Messenger, But if they turn away, lo ! Allah loveth not the disbelievers (in His guidance)." (Aal-Imraan, 3:32)

"Whoever heeds (the call of) Allah and His Apostle, him will He admit into gardens through which running waters flow; whereas him who turns away will He chastise with grievous chastisement." (Al-Fath, 48:17)

"It is such as obey Allah and His Messenger, And fear Allah and do Right, that will triumph." (An-Noor, 24:52)

The *Holy Qur'an* has made it clear that obedience to the *Messenger^{PBUH}* is in-fact and in effect obedience to *Allah SWT*.

"He who obeys the Messenger, obeys Allah; But whosoever turns away, We have not sent thee to watch over their (evil deeds)." (An-Nisa, 4:80)

"And whoso disobeyeth Allah and His Messenger^{PBUH} and transgresseth His limits, He will make him enter Fire, where such will dwell forever; his will be a shameful doom." (An-Nisa, 4:14)

The above verses of *Holy Qur'an* make it quite clear that whatever the *Prophet^{PBUH}* said is to be believed and whatever he asked the *UMMAH* to do must be done.

The *Prophet of Allah^{SWT}*, used to receive two kinds of revelations (*Wahi*) from *Allah*. One was called *Wahi-e-Matlu* (revelation to be recited) and the other was called *Wahi-e-Ghair Matlu* (direct revelation without any medium).

Wahi-e-Matlu was the kind which was revealed to the *Prophet^{PBUH}* through the angel *Jibreel^{AS}*. This was dictated by the *Prophet^{PBUH}* as it was revealed, preserving every word of it. This became the *Holy Qur'an*, the last of all *Holy Books* sent by *Allah^{SWT}*. On the other hand *Wahi-e-Ghair Matlu* is the kind of revelation which was also recorded or by-hearted by the companions of the *Prophet^{PBUH}*, which was in the *Prophet's^{PBUH}* own words, unlike the first one. This was by and large the explanation of the first kind of revelation, they are called *Ahadiths*. So whatever, tradition (*Hadith*) is related to the *Prophet^{PBUH}* correctly is to be accepted and followed by the *Muslims*. This is because the *Holy Qur'an* asks *Muslims*:

"Whoso obeyeth Allah and the Messenger, they are with those unto whom Allah hath shown favor, of the Prophets and the saints and martyrs and the righteous. The best of company are they!" (An-Nisa, 4:69)

The *Prophet^{PBUH}* made it clear in several traditions (*Ahadiths*) that there was no *Prophet* going to come after him.

LA NABI-YA BA-DY (Al-Hadith) this is supported by the *Holy Qur'anic* verse:

“Muhammad is not the father of any of man among you, but he is the Messenger of Allah and The Seal of the Prophets; and Allah is Aware of all things.” (Al-Ahzab, 33:40)

In the light of the above verse whoever claims to be a *Prophet of God* after *Prophet Muhammad^{PBUH}* is an imposter. On the other hand, the *Prophet^{PBUH}* himself prophesied that a *Caliph of God* will appear amongst his *UMMAH*, whose name would be his own name and his father's name too would be *Prophet's Father's* name. He will belong to the progeny of the Prophet's daughter *Fatima^{RZ}* and he would walk on the foot prints of the *Prophet^{PBUH}* and will not falter. The *Prophet^{PBUH}* called this *Caliph of God* *AL-MAHDI* (The Guided One).

A very large number of traditions (*Al-Hadith*) describing *Imam MAHDI^{AS}* and his attributes have been reported by the early scholars of the traditions. All the *Muslims* from the companions of the *Prophet^{PBUH}* up to the present day *Muslims* have believed in this doctrine. However, there is a lot of confusion about the signs to identify *Imam MAHDI^{AS}*. Moreover, the doctrine has been exploited by so many imposters for political gain. This has further complicated the issue.

The confusion and complication have led some people to reject the very doctrine. They say that there is no *MAHDI* to come. The solution lies in accepting only such traditions which are sound and reliable. Especially the traditions which have been categorized as *Mutawatir* (un-broken series, having numerous chains of narrators). These traditions are narrated through four or more channels of narrators in every generation. The sign of *Imam MAHDI^{AS}* to belong to the progeny of *Fatima^{RZ}* has been accepted as *Mutawatir* by its meaning.

Ordained by *Allah*, the most High, *HAZRAT SYED MUHAMMAD^{AS}* (847-910 Hijri) claimed himself to be the *Promised MAHDI*. He belonged to the line of *Fatima^{RZ}* both from his father's and mother's side. He presented his perfect following of the *Holy Qur'an* and *Prophet MUHAMMAD^{PBUH}* as his two evidences to prove his claim. He asked people to compare his words and deeds with the *Holy Qur'an* and his perfect following of the *Prophet^{PBUH}*. He said that he might be accepted only if there is conformity otherwise he should be imprisoned and killed.

People belonging to different races and countries accepted him only on account of his perfect following of the *Holy Qur'an* and the *Messenger^{PBUH}* of *Allah^{SWT}*. He asserted that his religion was *Holy Qur'an* and following of the *Prophet Muhammad^{PBUH}*.

Moral excellence is in fact the most important identification of *Imam MAHDI^{AS}* because there are several traditions of the *Prophet^{PBUH}* which say that the coming *Khalifatullah* (Caliph of God) will have similarity with the *Prophet^{PBUH}* in moral excellence especially because he will walk on the foot-prints of the *Prophet^{PBUH}* without a flaw. This is proved from a number of historic evidences for instance he was called by people as *Syed-ul-Awliya* (Chief of the Saints). Even a bitter enemy of him could not find a defect in his following of the *Holy Qur'an* and the words and deeds of the *Prophet^{PBUH}*. He presented these two attributes as his evidences of being true *MAHDI*. He wrote letters to Kings and others in position of power to verify the truth of his claim in the light of his following of the *Holy Qur'an* and the *Prophet^{PBUH}*. He asked them to arrest him or kill him if he was found wrong.

Imam MAHDI^{AS} said: “*Mazhab-e-Ma Kitab Ullah Wa Ittiba-e-Muhammad Rasool Ullah*”

“*Our religion is the Book of God And to follow Muhammad, the Messenger^{SAS} of God.*”

Followers of *Hazrat Syed Muhammad*, the Promised Mahdi^{AS}, who are known as *MAHDAVIS*, are found in India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Central Asia, Middle-East, Europe, United States and Australia living peacefully along with people of different cultures and faiths.

We shall Insha'Allah (God willing) continue to give more details of the words and deeds, the message and teachings of the promised MAHDI^{AS} in our subsequent submissions.