

HONORING AHL-UL-BAYT OF RASOOLULLAH ﷺ

Who are the Ahl-ul-Bayt of Rasoolullah ﷺ? The family of Rasoolullah ﷺ are all his wives, all his children, Banu Hashim, Banu 'Abd al-Muttalib and their freed slaves. This is the view of all scholars of Islam from the earliest times, starting with the Sahaba.

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Allah ﷻ addressed the wives of Rasoolullah ﷺ and mentioned them as people who are special and unlike the rest of the Ummah. He didn't address any one of them. He didn't omit any of them. He addressed them all and honored them all. That is our Aqeeda. We honor all those who Allah ﷻ honored and Rasoolullah ﷺ loved.

يَا نِسَاءَ النَّبِيِّ لَسْتُنَّ كَأَحَدٍ مِّنَ النِّسَاءِ إِنِ اتَّقَيْتُنَّ فَلَا تَخْضَعْنَ
بِالْقَوْلِ فَيَطْمَعَ الَّذِي فِي قَلْبِهِ مَرَضٌ وَقُلْنَ قَوْلًا مَّعْرُوفًا

Al-Ahzaab 33:32 *O wives of the Prophet! You are not like any other women. If you keep your duty (to Allah), then be not soft in speech, lest he in whose heart is a disease (of hypocrisy, or evil desire.) should be moved with desire but speak in an honorable manner.*

وَقَرْنَ فِي بُيُوتِكُنَّ وَلَا تَبَرَّجْنَ تَبَرُّجَ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ الْأُولَى وَأَقِمْنَ الصَّلَاةَ
وَأَتِينَ الزَّكَاةَ وَأَطِعْنَ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ لِيُذْهِبَ عَنْكُمُ الرِّجْسَ
أَهْلَ الْبَيْتِ وَيُطَهِّرَكُمْ تَطْهِيرًا

Al-Ahzaab 33:33 *And stay in your houses, and do not display yourselves like that of the times of ignorance, and perform As-Salât (Iqamâtas Salât), and give Zakât and obey Allah and His Messenger. Allah wishes only to remove Ar-Rijs (evil deeds and sins) from you, O members of the family (of Rasoolullah ﷺ), and to purify you with a thorough purification*

وَأذْكُرْنَ مَا يُتْلَىٰ فِي بُيُوتِكُنَّ مِنْ آيَاتِ اللَّهِ وَالْحِكْمَةِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ
لَطِيفًا خَبِيرًا

Al-Ahzaab 33:34 *And remember (O you the members of Rasoolullah ﷺ's family, the Graces of your Rabb), that which is recited in your houses of the Ayahs of Allah and Al-Hikmah (Sunnah). Verily, Allah is Ever Most Courteous, Well-Acquainted with all things*

Ibn Jarir narrated that Safiyyah bint Shaybah said, "Aishah (RA) said, "Rasoolullah ﷺ went out one morning wearing a striped cloak of black camel hair. Al-Hasan ؓ came and He wrapped him in the cloak with Him. Then Al-Husayn ؓ came and He wrapped him in the cloak with Him. Then Fatimah (RA) came and He wrapped her in the cloak with Him. Then Ali bin Abi-Talib ؓ came and He wrapped him in the cloak with Him, then He said: *Allah ﷻ wishes only to remove Ar-Rijs (evil deeds and sins) from you, O members of the family of the Prophet and to purify you with a thorough purification. (33:28)* Recorded by Muslim: 2081; At-Tabari 20:261

What must be remembered when reading this Hadith or when someone quotes this Hadith to establish a special status for some of the family of Rasoolullah ﷺ over others, is that at the time of this incident, Fatima (RA) was the only daughter who lived with him. His other daughters and sons of Rasoolullah ﷺ had already passed away. What Rasoolullah ﷺ did was an act of love for those of his family who were with him. Not an act of selecting some from them and leaving out others.

In the Qur'an, the only people from the family of Rasoolullah ﷺ directly addressed are the Mothers of the Believers; the Blessed wives of Rasoolullah ﷺ. We honor all the Ahl-ul-Bayt but in the order that Allah ﷻ honored them. We don't honor some of them and revile others. We don't honor some of them more than others. The wives of Rasoolullah ﷺ are our mothers as Allah ﷻ gave them that status.

So, we honor them first. Then others, in the Ahl-ul-Bayt. Allah ﷻ honored the wives of Rasoolullah ﷺ equally and called them 'Ummahatul Mu'mineen' (Mothers of the Believers). He said:

النَّبِيُّ أَوْلَىٰ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ مِنْ أَنفُسِهِمْ وَأَزْوَاجُهُ أُمَّهَاتُهُمْ

Ahzab 33: 6. *The Prophet is closer to the believers than their ownelves, and his wives are their (believers') mothers (as regards respect and marriage).*

Therefore, we do the same. We honor all the wives of Rasoolullah ﷺ as our mothers.

The Sahaba always tried to be as close to Rasoolullah ﷺ as they could, in every way. Abu Bakr Siddique ؓ was the father in law of Rasoolullah ﷺ as was Omar ibn Al Khattab ؓ. Othman ibn Affan ؓ and Ali bin Abi Talib ؓ were both his sons in law. Othman ibn Affan ؓ was his son in law twice. Rasoolullah ﷺ had three sons and four daughters. His children in chronological order: Qasim ibn Muhammad, (598 – 600 or 601 CE), Zainab bint Muhammad, (599 – 630 CE), Ruqayyah bint Muhammad, (601 – 624 CE), Umm Kulthum bint Muhammad, (603 – 630 CE), Abd-Allah ibn Muhammad, also known as Tahir and Tayyab, (d. 615 CE), Fatimah bint Muhammad, (ca. 604 – 632 CE), Ibrahim ibn Muhammad, (630 – 631 CE).

In respect of the Sahaba in general and the family of Rasoolullah ﷺ in particular, we consider all of them the first and foremost in status among the Muslims, because we have our Deen thanks to them. We consider them all to be Thiqa (completely reliable) in all that they conveyed. We don't doubt them, we don't cast aspersions on them and we definitely don't abuse them. We consider anyone who abuses the Khulafa Rashida, the Sahaba or the family of Rasoolullah ﷺ to have exited Islam.

Especially with respect to Ayesha Siddiqa (RA), anyone who abuses her has gone against the Word of Allah ﷻ where He pronounced her to be free from all blame and truthful in her claim of chastity and prescribed severe punishment of 80 lashes and permanently being branded as a liar for anyone who cast aspersions on her.

Consequently, anyone who abuses Ayesha Siddiqa (RA) has contradicted the Qur'an and so has exited Islam. May Allah ﷻ be pleased with all the Sahaba.

NUSRAT: TO HELP HIM IN EVERY WAY: TO HELP HIS DEEN AND MESSAGE

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِن تَنْصُرُوا اللَّهَ يَنْصُرْكُمْ وَيُثَبِّتْ أَقْدَامَكُمْ

Muhammad 47:7 *O you who believe! If you help (in the cause of) Allah, He will help you, and make your foothold firm.*

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُونُوا أَنْصَارَ اللَّهِ كَمَا قَالَ عِيسَى ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ
لِلْحَوَارِيِّينَ مَنْ أَنْصَارِي إِلَى اللَّهِ قَالَ الْحَوَارِيُّونَ نَحْنُ أَنْصَارُ اللَّهِ
فَأَمَّنَتْ طَائِفَةٌ مِّنْ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ وَكَفَرَتْ طَائِفَةٌ فَأَيَّدْنَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا
عَلَىٰ عَدُوِّهِمْ فَأَصْبَحُوا ظَاهِرِينَ

As-Saff 61:14 *O you who believe! Be you helpers (in the Cause) of Allah as said 'Iesa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary), to Al-Hawârîûn (the disciples): "Who are my helpers (in the Cause) of Allah?" Al-Hawârîeen (the disciples) said: "We are Allah's helpers" (i.e. we will strive in His Cause!). Then a group of the Children of Israel believed and a group disbelieved. So, We gave power to those who believed against their enemies, and they became the uppermost.*

هَآأَنُتُمْ هَؤُلَاءِ تُدْعُونَ لِتُنْفِقُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَمِنْكُمْ مَّن يَبْخُلُ وَمَن
يَبْخُلُ فَإِنَّمَا يَبْخُلُ عَن نَّفْسِهِ وَاللَّهُ الْغَنِيُّ وَأَنْتُمُ الْفُقَرَاءُ وَإِن تَتَوَلَّوْا
يَسْتَبْدِلْ قَوْمًا غَيْرَكُمْ ثُمَّ لَا يَكُونُوا أَمْثَالَكُمْ

Muhammad 47:38 Behold! You are those who are called to spend in the Cause of Allah, yet among you are some who are stingy. And whoever is stingy, it is only at the expense of his own self. But Allah is Ghani (Free of all wants), and you (mankind) are Faqeer (beggars). And if you turn away (from Islam and the obedience of Allah), He will exchange you for some other people, and they will not be like you.

The issue of helping Rasoolullah ﷺ is one of the most important ways, if not the most important way, in which we are connected to Rasoolullah ﷺ. It is a connection which we need. It is a connection which is critical to our own salvation, so it is something which is essential for us to think about and make every effort to be counted among those who helped the Messenger ﷺ of Allah ﷻ. Allah ﷻ, in His usual Majestic and Imperious way said:

إِلَّا تَنْصُرُوهُ فَقَدْ نَصَرَهُ اللَّهُ إِذْ أَخْرَجَهُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا ثَانِي اثْنَيْنِ إِذْ هُمَا
فِي الْغَارِ إِذْ يَقُولُ لِصَاحِبِهِ لَا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَنَا فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ سَكِينَتَهُ
عَلَيْهِ وَأَيَّدَهُ بِجُنُودٍ لَمْ تَرَوْهَا وَجَعَلَ كَلِمَةَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا السُّفْلَى وَكَلِمَةُ
اللَّهِ هِيَ الْعُلْيَا وَاللَّهُ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ

Tawba 40. If you help him (Muhammad ﷺ) not (it does not matter), for Allah did indeed help him when the disbelievers drove him out, the second of two, when they (Muhammad ﷺ and Abu Bakr) were in the cave, and he (ﷺ) said to his companion (Abu Bakr): "Be not sad (or afraid), surely Allah is with us." Then Allah sent down His Sakinah (calmness, tranquility, peace, etc.) upon him, and strengthened him with forces (angels) which you saw not, and made the word of those who disbelieved the lowermost, while it was the Word of Allah that became the uppermost, and Allah is All-Mighty, All-Wise.

This makes it abundantly clear that when Allah ﷻ mentions helping His Deen or helping His Messenger ﷺ, it is not because they need it but because we need it. It is a means for our salvation. It is our salvation which is in question, not the Deen of Allah ﷻ.

Allah ﷻ said about His Deen:

يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يُطْفِئُوا نُورَ اللَّهِ بِأَفْوَاهِهِمْ وَيَأْبَى اللَّهُ إِلَّا أَنْ يُتِمَّ نُورَهُ وَلَوْ
كَرَهُ الْكَافِرُونَ

Tawba 9: 32. They (the disbelievers, the Jews and the Christians) want to extinguish Allah's Light (with which Muhammad ﷺ has been sent - Islam) with their mouths, but Allah will not allow except that His Light should be perfected even though the Kafirun (disbelievers) hate (it).

And He said:

هُوَ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَى الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ
وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ

Tawba 9: 33. It is He Who has sent His Messenger (Muhammad ﷺ) with guidance and the religion of truth (Islam), to make it superior over all religions even though the Mushrikun (polytheists, pagans, idolaters, disbelievers in the Oneness of Allah) hate (it).

هُوَ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَى الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ
وَكَفَىٰ بِاللَّهِ شَهِيدًا

Fath 48: 28. He it is Who has sent His Messenger (Muhammad ﷺ) with guidance and the religion of truth (Islam), that He may make it (Islam) superior over all religions. And All-Sufficient is Allah as a Witness.

Allah ﷻ sent His Messenger ﷺ as the Last and Final Nabi and Rasool after whom there is no other. Allah ﷻ declared clearly:

مَا كَانَ مُحَمَّدٌ أَبَا أَحَدٍ مِّن رِّجَالِكُمْ وَلَكِن رَّسُولَ اللَّهِ وَخَاتَمَ النَّبِيِّينَ
وَكَانَ اللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا

Ahzab 33: 40. Muhammad ﷺ is not the father of any man among you, but he is the Messenger of Allah and the last (end) of the Prophets. And Allah is Ever All-Aware of everything.

Anyone after Muhammad ﷺ's coming who claims to be a Nabi or Rasool, anyone who claims to receive Revelation (Wahi), or to have any knowledge that Rasoolullah ﷺ didn't have or any communication with Allah ﷻ has exited Islam. Anyone who follows such a person has also exited Islam and neither is a Muslim.

And as an honor for his Nabi's Ummah, He gave them the job of conveying the message of Islam to the rest of the world. This is the meaning of helping the Deen of Allah ﷻ.

قُلْ هَذِهِ سَبِيلِي أَدْعُو إِلَى اللَّهِ عَلَىٰ بَصِيرَةٍ أَنَا وَمَنِ اتَّبَعَنِي
وَسُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ

Yusuf 12: 108. Say (O Muhammad ﷺ): "This is my way; I invite unto Allah (to Islam) with sure knowledge, I, and whoever follows me (also must invite others to Allah). And Glorified and Exalted be Allah (above all that they associate as partners with Him). And I am not of the Mushrikun (polytheists)."

This Ayah declares most clearly our connection to Rasoolullah ﷺ. It is not a connection by birth, gender, blood, race, tribe, family or nationality. It is a connection of faith and work. Those who wish to be connected to Rasoolullah ﷺ must do his work. He was

ordered to state, 'This is my way. I invite towards Allahﷻ. I, and those who follow me.'

Like it was for the Nabi, this job is not a choice left to our discretion. It is incumbent and compulsory on the one who accepts Allahﷻ as his Rabb and Muhammadﷺ as His Messengerﷺ and enters Islam. In honor of that, he is granted this job of the Nabi as his life goal. The reward of that is the company of the Nabi on the Day of Judgment and Jannatul Firdous.

Rasoolullahﷺ said, "Whoever calls to guidance will have a reward similar to that of those who follow it, without the reward of either of them being lessened at all." (Saheeh Muslim: 2674)

Rasoolullahﷺ warned us; "I swear by the One Who has my life in His hands, it is incumbent upon you, that you enjoin what is virtuous and that you should forbid what is evil, otherwise Allah will send His punishment on you. Then you will pray to Him but your prayer will not be accepted." (Tirmidhi)

Allahum-man-sur man-nasara dina Muhammadin sal-lalla-hu alai-hi wa sallama waj-al na-min-hum. Allahum-makhzul man khazala dina Muhammadin sal-lalla-hu alai-hi wa sallam wa la taj-'alna min hum.

O Allah! help those who help the religion of Muhammad (the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him!) and count us among them. O Allah! disappoint those who try to disgrace the religion of Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and do not make us of those.