

THE RIGHTS OF RASOOLULLAH ﷺ ON HIS UMMAH ARE 7:

1. Adab wa Ihtiraam: Our attitude of the utmost respect and honor;
2. Ita'at: To obey him without question
3. Ittiba: To follow and emulate him in every way
4. Muhabbat: To love him above all things and everyone else
5. Ahl-ul-Bayt: To honor and respect him and his family
6. Nusrat: To help him in every way: To help his Deen and Message
7. To accept his judgment in all matters without any resistance

Allah ﷻ called the sending of His Messenger ﷺ His great favor on the Muslims.

لَقَدْ مَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذْ بَعَثَ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِّنْ أَنفُسِهِمْ يَتْلُو
عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِهِ وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَإِن كَانُوا مِن
قَبْلُ لَفِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

Aal-Imraan 3:164 *Indeed Allah conferred a great favor on the believers when He sent among them a Messenger (Muhammad) from among themselves, reciting unto them His Ayaat (Qur'an), and purifying them (internal & external), and instructing them (in) the Book (Qur'an) and Al-Hikmah [Sunnah], while before that they had been in manifest error*

هُوَ الَّذِي بَعَثَ فِي الْأُمِّيِّينَ رَسُولًا مِّنْهُمْ يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِهِ وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ
وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَإِن كَانُوا مِن قَبْلُ لَفِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

Al-Jumuah 62:2 *He (Allah) it is Who sent among the unlettered ones a Messenger (Muhammad ﷺ) from among themselves, reciting to them His Ayahs,*

purifying them (internal & external) and teaching them the Book (Qur'an) and Al-Hikmah (Sunnah). And verily, they had been before in manifest error;

وَأَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ فِيكُمْ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ لَوْ يُطِيعُكُمْ فِي كَثِيرٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْرِ لَعَنِتُّمْ
وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ حَبَّبَ إِلَيْكُمُ الْإِيمَانَ وَزَيَّنَهُ فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ وَكَرَّهَ إِلَيْكُمُ الْكُفْرَ
وَالْفُسُوقَ وَالْعِصْيَانَ أُولَئِكَ هُمُ الرَّاشِدُونَ

Al-Hujuraat 49:7 *And know that, among you there is the Messenger of Allah. If he were to obey you (i.e. follow your opinions and desires) in much of the matter, you would surely be in trouble, but Allah has endeared the Faith to you and has beautified it in your hearts, and has made disbelief, wickedness and disobedience (to Allah and His Messenger) hateful to you. These! They are the rightly guided ones*

As I have mentioned earlier, Allah ﷻ created an entire generation who loved Rasoolullah ﷺ and followed him in excellence and preserved everything he said and did as an example to follow for themselves and those who came after them. It is important to reflect on the fact that both the Qur'an and its explanation (Ahadith) came from Rasoolullah ﷺ. Both are narrated by him. Both were heard by the Sahaba in his voice. Both are necessary for us to practice and live by Islam. That is why Allah ﷻ created an entire generation who performed this great service for all time and who are witness before Allah ﷻ to their own truthfulness and dedication. After them came others who were equally dedicated, loved Allah ﷻ and Rasoolullah ﷺ and were concerned with preserving Islam, in word, meaning and spirit and so dedicated their entire lives to collecting, validating and codifying the teachings of Rasoolullah ﷺ. The key principle is, all this was done by people who were interested in practicing Islam.

Not those who want to change it to suit their own whims and fancies. There lies the reason for this corruption of mind and spirit which finds nothing contradictory in making the false claim that only the words were preserved and not their meaning, explanation or instructions about how the orders are to be carried out.

Humanity in general and Muslims in particular, owe a debt of gratitude to all of them, which we can't possibly discharge. I ask Allah ﷻ to reward them in keeping with His Majesty and Grace. I advise you and myself not to waste time in argument but to follow these generations with sincerity and dedication so that one day we can be gathered with them.

ADAB WA IHTIRAAM: OUR ATTITUDE OF THE UTMOST RESPECT AND HONOR

My brothers and sisters, we take our Deen and principles of life from Rasoolullah ﷺ and the Sahaba. Not from whatever culture or nationality we belong to. This is the togetherness and cohesion of the Ummah of Muhammad ﷺ which makes us one with those who Allah ﷻ called, As-Sabiqoon-al-Awwaloon and promised Jannah to them and to those who follow them in excellence until the Day of Judgement is established. Allah ﷻ said:

وَالسَّابِقُونَ الْأَوَّلُونَ مِنَ الْمُهَاجِرِينَ وَالْأَنْصَارِ وَالَّذِينَ اتَّبَعُوهُمْ
بِإِحْسَانٍ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوا عَنْهُ وَأَعَدَّ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي تَحْتِهَا
الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا أَبَدًا ذَلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ

Tawba 9: 100. *And the first to embrace Islam of the Muhajirun and the Ansar **and also** those who followed them exactly (in Faith). Allah is well-pleased with them as they are well-pleased with Him. He has prepared for them Gardens under which rivers flow (Paradise), to dwell therein forever. That is the supreme success.*

It is the Mercy of my Rabb, that he left the door open for whoever wants to join the Sabiqoon al-Awwaloon, the Best of the Best, of the Sahaba of Rasoolullah ﷺ. The question we need to ask ourselves is if we want to be among them when we are raised from our graves on the Day of Judgement. That choice needs to be made here, today. On that Day there is no choosing; only payment for the choices we make now.

Adab is the first step in knowledge as well as in reaching Allah ﷻ. He ﷻ told us how to address the Messenger ﷺ and how to behave with him and what would happen if we didn't.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَقْدِمُوا بَيْنَ يَدَيِ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ
اللَّهَ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَرْفَعُوا أَصْوَاتَكُمْ فَوْقَ صَوْتِ النَّبِيِّ وَلَا
تَجْهَرُوا لَهُ بِالْقَوْلِ كَجَهْرِ بَعْضِكُمْ لِبَعْضٍ أَن تَحْبَطَ أَعْمَالُكُمْ وَأَنتُمْ
لَا تَشْعُرُونَ

Al-Hujuraat 49:1 O you who believe! Do not put (yourselves) forward before Allah and His Messenger (SAW), and fear Allah. Verily! Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing.

Al-Hujuraat 49:2 O you who believe! Raise not your voices above the voice of the Prophet (SAW), nor speak aloud to him in talk as you speak aloud to one another, lest your deeds may be rendered fruitless while you perceive not.

Allah ﷻ told us how to behave with his household and in his house

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَدْخُلُوا بُيُوتَ النَّبِيِّ إِلَّا أَنْ يُؤْذَنَ لَكُمْ إِلَى
طَعَامٍ غَيْرٍ نَاطِرِينَ إِنَّا هُوَ وَلَكِنْ إِذَا دُعِيتُمْ فَادْخُلُوا فَإِذَا طَعِمْتُمْ
فانتشروا وَلَا مُسْتَأْنِسِينَ لِحَدِيثٍ إِنَّ ذَلِكُمْ كَانَ يُؤْذِي النَّبِيَّ
فَيَسْتَحْيِي مِنْكُمْ وَاللَّهُ لَا يَسْتَحْيِي مِنَ الْحَقِّ وَإِذَا سَأَلْتُمُوهُنَّ مَتَاعًا
فَسَأَلُوهُنَّ مِنْ وَرَاءِ حِجَابٍ ذَلِكُمْ أَطْهَرُ لِقُلُوبِكُمْ وَقُلُوبِهِنَّ وَمَا
كَانَ لَكُمْ أَنْ تُؤْذُوا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَلَا أَنْ تَنْكِحُوا أَزْوَاجَهُ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ
أَبَدًا إِنَّ ذَلِكُمْ كَانَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ عَظِيمًا

Al-Ahzaab 33:53 *O you who believe! Enter not the Prophet's houses, except when leave is given to you for a meal, (and then) not (so early as) to wait for its preparation. But when you are invited, enter, and when you have taken your meal, disperse, without sitting for a talk. Verily, such (behavior) annoys the Prophet, but he is shy of (asking) you (to go), but Allah is not shy of (telling you) the truth. And when you ask (his wives) for anything you want, ask them from behind a screen, that is purer for your hearts and for their hearts. And it is not (right) for you that you should annoy Allah's Messenger, nor that you should ever marry his wives after him (his death). Verily! With Allah that shall be an enormity.*

Allah ﷻ made it a condition of Imaan that one should not make fun of Rasoolullah ﷺ or of his Sunnah. Joking is not only not appropriate in the case of Allah ﷻ and His Messenger ﷺ but they are highly dangerous, as they can render you out of Islam.

وَإِذَا رَأَوْكَ إِذَا يَتَّخِذُونَكَ إِلَّا هُزُؤًا أَهْذَا الَّذِي بَعَثَ اللَّهُ رَسُولًا

Al-Furqaan 25:41 And when they see you (O Muhammad SAW), they treat you only as a mockery (saying): "Is this the one whom Allah has sent as a Messenger?"

وَلَئِن سَأَلْتَهُمْ لَيَقُولُنَّ إِنَّمَا كُنَّا نَخُوضُ وَنَلْعَبُ قُلْ أَبِاللَّهِ وَآيَاتِهِ
وَرَسُولِهِ كُنتُمْ تَسْتَهْزِؤُونَ

At-Taubah 9:65 If you ask them (about this), they declare: "We were only talking idly and joking." Say: "Was it at Allah, and His Ayât (proofs, evidences, Ayahs, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) and His Messenger (SAW) that you were mocking?"

لَا تَعْتَذِرُوا قَدْ كَفَرْتُمْ بَعْدَ إِيمَانِكُمْ إِنَّ نَعْفَ عَنْ طَائِفَةٍ مِّنْكُمْ
نُعَذِّبُ طَائِفَةً بِأَنَّهُمْ كَانُوا مُجْرِمِينَ

At-Taubah 9:66 Make no excuse; you have disbelieved after you had believed. If We pardon some of you, We will punish others amongst you because they were Mujrimûn (disbelievers, polytheists, sinners, criminals).

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يُؤْذُونَ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ لَعَنَهُمُ اللَّهُ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَأَعَدَّ لَهُمْ
عَذَابًا مُّهِينًا

Al-Ahzaab 33:57 Verily, those who annoy Allah and His Messenger, Allah has cursed them in this world, and in the Hereafter, and has prepared for them a humiliating torment.

Allahﷻ told us to leave the company of those who do such things:

وَقَدْ نَزَّلَ عَلَيْكُمْ فِي الْكِتَابِ أَنْ إِذَا سَمِعْتُمْ آيَاتِ اللَّهِ يُكْفَرُ بِهَا
وَيُسْتَهْزَأُ بِهَا فَلَا تَقْعُدُوا مَعَهُمْ حَتَّى يَخُوضُوا فِي حَدِيثٍ غَيْرِهِ إِنَّكُمْ
إِذَا مَثَلْتُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ جَامِعُ الْمُنَافِقِينَ وَالْكَافِرِينَ فِي جَهَنَّمَ جَمِيعًا

An-Nisa 4:140 And it has already been revealed to you in the Book (this Qur'an) that when you hear the Ayahs of Allah being denied and mocked at, then sit not with them, until they engage in a talk other than that; (but if you stayed with them) certainly in that case you would be like them. Surely, Allah will collect the hypocrites and disbelievers all together in Hell,

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَتَّخِذُوا الَّذِينَ اتَّخَذُوا دِينَكُمْ هُزُوءًا وَلَعِبًا مِّنَ
الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ وَالْكَفَّارَ أَوْلِيَاءَ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ كُنتُمْ
مُؤْمِنِينَ

Al-Maaidah 5:57 O you who believe! Take not for Awlia (protectors and helpers) those who take your religion for a mockery and fun from among those who received the Scripture (Jews and Christians) before you, nor from among the disbelievers; and fear Allah if you indeed are true believers.