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Book Review

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BOOK REVIEW: MUHAMMAD (ﷺ): THE EMANCIPATOR OF HUMANITY

Muhammad Zahid Zaheer Iqbal ¹

Farooq, Yasir. *Muhammad (ﷺ): The Emancipator of Humanity*.
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The Biography of Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), as a vital and enduring discourse of Muslim historiography, has been the focus of studies and research. Muslim and non-Muslim historians paid a lot of attention on His biography in different languages of the world. Book containing on many volumes have been produced on the biography of Holy Prophet (PBUH), as well as in short, traditional and fictional style. And also on partial aspects of the biography of Holy Prophet (PBUH) (for example, Ghazawāt, Virtues, Miracle Night Journey, Letters, Traits, migration, etc.) and separate books have also been published in the form of collections of research dissertations, articles and sermons on the Prophet's biography.

There is a large number of books written on the Prophet's biography in English language. The present book written in English language by the young Muslim scholar *Yasir Farooq* on the Prophet's biography. This book, consisting of six chapters, is a brief overview of His life (Meccan and Madnian era), His attributes i.e. honesty, trustworthiness, generosity, contentment, nobility, hospitality, preaching, beauty of smiles, patience, and Various aspects of character (as a caring husband, a protective brother, a pious relative, a helpful and supportive companion, a caring neighbor, an honest businessman, a skilled teacher, a traveler, a physician, an expert Psychologist, an excellent politician, a judicious ruler, a legislator, a righteous judge, a military leader, a humble conqueror). Apart from this, His finality in Prophethood is also discussed, ending with his beautiful orders and advices. The Author encompasses the importance of this book as he states; *"I would like to state that although thousands of books have been written on the life of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ), most of them are about his struggle for Islam and the hardships He (ﷺ) had endured. These books contain the instances of Ghazawāt and Sarayā and*

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the constant strife with the disbelievers. I felt a dire need for an English book of his biography, which encompasses almost a complete code of life, according to his teachings and his practical values to promote Islam, to save society from moral degeneration. Furthermore, the key aspects of his life have also been discussed so that the particulars of his personality are readily available to Muslims. The practical values and kinships of his personality have been highlighted in this biography, so that believers may access his personal life and model of dealing in depth. This is the best way to acknowledge and understand his relationships and real life. As, he said that a good person always could be judged through his social behavior and description of noble ethical values proves his gentleness, kindness, and religious practices."

This book comprises six chapters. First chapter is about the early life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) including childhood, business tours, and marriage. In the same chapter writer presents the comprehensive information about the events faced by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) for preaching of Islam, moreover, effects of first revelation on Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), reactions of polytheists for calling toward oneness of Allah almighty.

Important contents of the chapter are dealing with situation in which he was living without any political affiliation of power, in Makkah He (PBUH) with his few faithful companions was struggling with patience and peacefully to uphold the message of His Allah. In Makkans period he experienced migration (Hijrat e Habshah) and learn useful lessons for future planning, most important events of Makkans period like death of beloved uncle and wife which make the year a year of grief, miraculous of Night journey from earth to heaven to meet His creator and His (PBUH) behavior to avoid conflicts are specially important discussions of the this chapter, last part of the chapter deals with the Prophet's (PBUH) life in Madinah where he experienced Islam and lay the foundations of Islamic state. All rules regulations regarding collective affairs of society presented easy way that can be understand for any policy maker of consultants. Unique and important quality of this book is this that its first chapter is totally about the life and events of Prophet (PBUH) , remaining major portion of the book is about practical approaches and comprehensive study for adopting and implementation.

Second chapter of the book is the Nobility of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) , writer presets the clear images of His role as civilized person, peace lover, straight forward person, a Generous man, an ascetic and content person. Using different references writer

proves Him (PBUH) a sign of trustworthiness, a gentleman who order his followers to be gentle even with his enemies. In short this chapter writer demonstrate the social aspects of Prophet's (PBUH) life. Third chapter deals with his kinship in which His role as father, husband, brother, relative and supporter is demonstrated in comprehensive style.

Fourth chapter is about the expertise of Prophet Muhammad(PBUH) in which writer proves Him a caring neighbor who always cares about his neighbors, a model for Businessmen, different given examples proves Him an expert teacher who emphasize on the importance of education and make it compulsory for all, comprehensive study of this chapters reveals that writer focus to explore the different aspects of the life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), the writer presents a guideline in the light of for passengers, traders, judges, psychologists and teachers etc.

Fifth and Sixth chapter presents the influencing leadership and everlasting features of the Prophet Hood of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Marvelous leadership of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in a responsible state is clear guidance for the leaders of Muslim Ummah, prominent quality of the state justice and equality is demonstrated with suitable references. Writer explore the techniques and policies to constitute a rule, organize military system and international laws for universality, this chapter provides sufficient evidence to consider Him as an expert politician who promote peace and justice in a very short period, in His life time in Madinah His role as a Harmonious ruler, law maker, a commander in Chief and a Humble conqueror are presented in comprehensive mode.

It is a comprehensive short book on Seerah of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) written in a different style. Well equipped with required authentic references, presentation mode is easy and understand able for common men and scholars. Equally useful for policymakers, law makers, religious scholars, youth and professionals. In my views *Sīrah* literature in international languages like English is a dire need of time. Glossary and bibliography are also given at the end of the book. From the bibliography, it is assessed that the book is written as per the methodology of hadith scholars by consulting Ahadith. The language of the book is simple and easy to understand. Common English readers can comprehend it easily.