




Life of Muhammad^{sa}

BY

**HADRAT MIRZA BASHIRUDDIN
MAHMUD AHMAD^{ra}**

LIFE OF THE PROPHET^{sa} AN OPEN BOOK



The life of no other Teacher or Prophet is as well-recorded and as accessible to study as is the life of the Holy Prophet^{sa}.

But a life as rich in recorded detail as the Prophet's^{sa} inspires reflection and, then, conviction.

... such a life is bound to endear itself to us completely and for ever.

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One of the Prophet's^{sa} holy consorts was the young 'A'isha^{ra}.

For about eight years she lived in wedlock with him.

When the Prophet^{sa} died she was about twenty-two years of age.

She was young and illiterate: Yet she knew that a teaching cannot be divorced from its teacher.

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Asked to describe the Prophet's^{sa} character, she answered at once that his character was the Qur'an.

What he did was what the Qur'an taught; what the Qur'an taught was nothing else than what he did.

It redounds to the glory of the Prophet^{sa} that an illiterate young woman was able to grasp a truth which escaped Hindu, Jewish and Christian scholars.

'A'isha^{ra} expressed a great and an important truth in a crisp little sentence: it is impossible for a true and honest teacher to teach one thing but practise another, or to practise one thing but teach another.

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The Prophet^{sa} was a true and honest Teacher.

This is what 'A'ishar^a evidently wanted to say.

He practised what he preached and preached what he practised.

To know him is to know the Qur'an and to know the Qur'an is to
know him.