

Q. The Prophet (PBUH) was not only a preacher, but a practical example of Islam. Discuss.

INTRODUCTION:

Islam is a deen that is a complete code of life. It guides human in every walk of life. It is our beloved Prophet (PBUH) who taught Islam through Quran and Sunnah. Though, Quran contains every information, but a man cannot interpret it without the teaching of Prophet (PBUH). The Prophet (PBUH) wasn't only a preacher, but a practical example of Islam. Once someone asked Hazrat Aisha (R.A) about the character of Prophet (PBUH), she replied;

"The Character of Prophet (PBUH) was Quran."

Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) is a perfect role model, a man of excellent character, and an ideal family man. He didn't just teach about forgiveness

he taught it by action. He has always prioritized social justice. Moreover, he led by example in honesty and fairness. He treated slaves, women, and children with respect. A preacher just preaches, but a perfect role model teaches through his practical life.

PROPHET (PBUH) IS A PERFECT AND PRACTICAL EXAMPLE OF ISLAM:

i. A PERFECT ROLE MODEL:

Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a perfect role model for every human being in every walk of life. He has taught through his actions that how to live, how to behave, how to eat etc. In Quran, Allah said;

“Indeed, in the Messenger of Allah, you have great example.”

From a common man to a

leader, everyone can learn a lot by the life of Holy Prophet (PBUH).

ii. A MAN OF NOBLE CHARACTER:

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) was a man of noble character. Every teachings of Islam like mercy, forgiveness, patience etc were reflected in his character. Even, in Quran Allah has said;

“And Indeed, you (O Muhammad) are of great moral character.”

iii. AN IDEAL FAMILY MAN:

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) ^{is} ~~was~~ an ideal family man. He used to do household chores. Apart from this, he used to mend his own clothes. He has always showed affection to his wives and maintained harmony. There is a Hadith;

“The best of you are those who are best to their wives.”

iv. SOCIAL JUSTICE AND LEADERSHIP

The Holy Prophet was not a just a preacher, he was a great leader too. He has always prioritized social justice. He built the state of Madinah - considered as an ideal state. In state of Madinah, minorities were protected, poor were being helped, and there was justice for all. Allah Orders in Quran;

"But, if you judge, judge b/w them justly. Allah loves the just."

v. FORGIVENESS AND MERCY: TAUGHT THROUGH ACTIONS

The Holy Prophet (SAW) was a man of great patience and tolerance. He had been mocked and got treated too harshly, but he tolerated all that. He could take revenge from all those, but he preferred ~~venge~~ forgiveness over vengeance. He forgave everyone

at Conquest of Makkah. Earlier, when he was stoned in Taif, On Jibrael's suggestion, he said;

"Perhaps, their children will worship Allah."

vi. LED BY EXAMPLE IN SIMPLICITY AND HUMILITY

The Holy Prophet (SAW) has the highest status among all the humans on this earth, yet he preferred to live a simple life. He has never been arrogant. He treated everyone with love and kindness. He used to sit on floor. Once he said;

"I eat as a servant eats, and I sit as a servant sits." ~ (Al-Hadith)

vii. TREATED SLAVES, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN WITH RESPECT:

The Holy Prophet (SAW) used to treat everyone with respect. He had always shown kindness towards slaves and loved children. He used

Kiss Hassan & Hussain (RA). He used to stand up for Fatima (RA).

=> DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A PREACHER AND PERFECT ROLE MODEL:

There's a huge difference between preaching and becoming a perfect role model. Preaching something is easy, but teaching something through your actions is not everyone's cup of tea. The Holy Prophet (SAW) has taught Islam through his actions - not just by his language. It is the reason that his preaching was successful.

CONCLUSION:

The character of Holy Prophet (PBUH) is ideal for a man of any era till the Day of Resurrection. One must learn from his actions too. His life

provides a guide to live successfully in both the worlds. Micheal Hart, who wrote, "The 100: A Ranking of the Most (important)* influential Persons in the History," has ranked Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) First. He wrote;

"He (Muhammad SAW) was the only man in history who was supremely successful on both the religious and secular level."