

Loving the Messenger ppbu

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Allah may **He** be exalted sent Muhammad ppbu son of Abdullah as a mercy to the worlds, and as an argument against all slaves. He was sent in an era of darkness and through him **Allah** has guided many people to the clear path. The messenger ppbu kept on implementing **Allah's** commands and preaching to people despite those who tried to block him, and those who tried to persuade him to discontinue that. In the cause of **Allah** he was hurt badly in person, and in property and money; his family and friends were hurt. His people accused him of lying, they ridiculed him, they tried to change what he said, and they tried to assassinate him and tried to imprison him, and they forced him to flee his town, he was being chased and traced, they took all he owned. They fought him and went into war against him, they broke his tooth (the next to the canine tooth) and inflicted a big wound in his head and he used to say: {**O Allah, forgive my people for they do not know**}. He persevered hurt and persevered many types of difficulties in the cause of **Allah** and he kept on guiding people and showing them the path of **Allah**. Finally, he was victorious, and light covered the earth after darkness, vision had come to those who were blind and **Allah** has saved those who believed in him. **Allah** says: {**those who believe in him, and honor him, and support him, and follow the light which was sent down with him: they are the successful**} 7:157.

One of the rights of prophet Muhammad ppbu on to you who through him **Allah** has saved you from hell fire, and through him **Allah** has guided you from misguidance, his right on to you is to love him true love. The messenger ppbu said: **{any of you will not be a believer until I am more loved to him than his parent and his child and than all the people}**.

It is the duty of every believer in **Allah** and a believer in the day after is to truly love the messenger ppbu more than any other love. Loving the messenger ppbu is one of the greatest duties, and it is a branch of; and part of loving Allah. Every Muslim must believe in loving the messenger ppbu and be true and sincere in that love and must be careful of those things which can affect that love. **Allah** says: **{Say: If your fathers, and your sons, and your brothers, and your wives, and your clan, and the money that you have acquired, and business you fear will stagnate, and dwellings you desire are dearer to you than Allah and His messenger and striving in His way: then wait and see till Allah brings His command to pass. Allah does not guide those who insist on wrong doing}** 9:24.

Ebn Quayem said: “loving the messenger ppbu is due to **Allah’s** love of the messenger. And honoring him is due to **Allah** honoring him”. Omr Ebn-el-Us (عمر ابن العاص) said: “No one was more loved to me than the messenger of **Allah** ppbu, and no one is more respected in my view than he was. And I couldn’t ever have a good look at him out of respect for him. And if you ask me now to describe him I wouldn’t be able to because I never really had a good look at him”. Zaid ebnel Dothonnah (زيد ابن الدثنة) was captured and was about to be executed by the people of Mecca when they said

to him: “Would you not love now if Muhammad was here in your place so we could kill him instead, and would you not love to be with your family right now” He said: “by Allah, I wouldn’t love for Muhammad where he is right now to be hurt by a prickle and me sitting with my family”. Abu Sofian said “I never saw love in all people as the love Muhammad’s friends have for Muhammad”

This is some of many examples of love for Muhammad ppbu by his people and his followers. Imam Malik whenever he used to come out to talk to people he used to do a *wudu* (*the pre-prayer wash*), and put his best clothes, and put on the best fragrant he had, brushed his beard just in respect for talking about the messenger ppbu. The messenger ppbu said: **{those amongst my nation who love me most are people who will come after me who would trade off their family and their money just to see me}**.

There are signs which indicate the love for the messenger ppbu and the most clear of those signs are the following:

- 1) Following the messenger’s example ppbu in all his acts, words and morals and all his affairs. **Allah** say: **{and say if you loved Allah then follow me and Allah will love you}** 3:131. The messenger ppbu said: **{who kept my style (*sunnab*) alive then he loved me, and who loved me will be in paradise with me}**.
- 2) Frequently remembering him and talking of him. That is done by saying prayers upon him. **Allah** says: **{Allah and His angels say prayers upon the Prophet. O you who believe! Say prayers upon him and greet him with a worthy greetings}** 33:56. The messenger ppbu said: **{the skimpy and mean is this who when I am**

mentioned in his presence does not offer a prayer for me}.

- 3) Supporting and protecting him and his religion from all that may harm him. **Allah** says: {**We have sent you (O Muhammad) as a witness and a bearer of good tidings and one who gives warnings,(8) That you (people) may believe in Allah and His messenger, and may honor Him, and may revere Him, and may glorify Him at early dawn and at late evening**} 48:8-9.
- 4) Craving and loving and wishing to meet him and see him

Dear brothers and sisters, loving the messenger ppbu is a compulsory duty upon every believer. It is only through this that the faith in a slave's heart is complete. But, loving the messenger ppbu is not to be exaggerated either. In fact taking it beyond the acceptable levels can be against the laws of **Allah**, and it can be against the commands of **Allah** and the messenger himself. The messenger ppbu said: {**do not praise and eulogize me as the Christians did with Isa the son of Mariam, I am only a slave, so say (when referring to me): “the slave of Allah and His messenger”**} . Some people praised the messenger ppbu a little too much, so he said: {**say only part of what you said, for be ware, Satan will lead you on**} . Fear Allah from going over the limit as far as the prophet is concerned, and from bringing into the faith what is not part of it. Do not over praise the messenger ppbu with what **Allah** did not use or did not permit to be used which may lead to association or partnership with **Allah**.