## PROPHET MUHAMMAD:

(Peace and blessings be upon him)

## THE MAN AND THE MESSAGE

Dr. Abroo Aman Andrabi

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New Delhi

## PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PEACE AND BLESSINGS BE UPON HIM): THE MAN AND THE MESSAGE

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"In the name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Dispenser of Grace"

### **PREFACE**

Documenting the life of the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) was not something that I chanced upon when I started the book *The Man and the Message*. It has been in my mind since I was a child of eleven years. Bringing the life of the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) to the world has, therefore, been something I have been dreaming of and contemplating for a long time. It was a tremendous task that needed a lot of research and a comprehensive study. After years of work, today I feel that my dream has been realized.

Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) was born fourteen hundred years ago in what was then known as Jahiliya Arabia. At the age of forty, he received revelation and started his mission of preaching a religion of monotheism; a way of Life based on the surrender, submission and obedience to the Commandments of Almighty Allah, in sincerity and peace.

Islamic Scholars, Muhadiseen and biographers of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) have investigated his life from every perspective and feature – right from his birth to death – and described and narrated every event and incident of his life. However, none of them

has declared that they have been able to do full justice to the 'man and his message'. Hundreds of books have been written on the life of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and this endeavor will continue till the Day of Judgment.

> "Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the Messenger of ALLAH, and the seal of the Prophets and ALLAH has full knowledge of all things."

- Al Quran, 33: 41

The personality of the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) is a vast ocean of wisdom, and no work, however elaborate, can encompass it. A single address could hardly do justice to this subject. However, this book is my humble effort towards focusing attention on some of the outstanding aspects of the Prophet's personality and his message to humanity – the Qur'an. The perfect example of good character and manners that the Qur'an expounds for mankind was prevalent in the persona of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) in its highest degree.

"And verily, you (O Muhammad (S) are on an exalted standard of character."

– Al Quran, 68: 4

His message was supported by many material signs for all to see. These have been narrated by the companions of Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) and are preserved in their reports in many books of Hadith for future generations to ponder over and emulate. During the research for this book, I came across many interesting incidents that go a long way in proving that we Muslims are not completely aware of the miraculous support that Allah gave to His last Messenger (peace and blessings be upon him). We merely consider the Qur'an as the miracle of our Prophet. It is the message of the Qur'an that is the true miracle of the Prophet. This book, Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him): The Man and the Message endeavours to bring to light this feature for all to envision for themselves.

I am grateful to all the authors and their publishers whose publications I have made use of in preparing this book.

Dr. Abroo Aman Andrabi

New Delhi

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# A BRIEF SELECTION OF USEFUL ARABIC TERMS

Allah - The Lord, The one true God

Ahl al Bayat - descendents of the Prophet Muhammad

Ahl al-Dhimma – Protected People

Ansār – Helpers

Bint - Daughter

Da'wah - call towards Islam

Ghibat - Backbiting

Hadith - Narration

Hajj – Pilgrimage (One of the ritual practices of the Muslims)

Hijrah - Prophet Muhammad's Migration to Madina

Hunafa – Those who turn away from the idol-worship

Ihram - Pilgim's Garb

Imam - Spiritual Leader

Isra – Prophet's Nocturnal Journey to Jerusalem

Jahilya – Age of ignorance before Islam

Jummah salah – Friday Congregational Prayer

Kabbah - The sacred House of Allah

Khutbah - Sermon

Qibla - Orientation of Prayer

Labbaik - Response to call

Madinah - Holy Mosque

Makkah - Holy Place

Masjid al aqsa – Farthest mosque in Jerusalem

Miraj – Miraculous journey (from Jerusalem to Heaven)

Muezzin – the caller to the prayer

Muhadiseen – Traditionist

Muhājirin - Immigrants

Muwakhat - Islamic Brotherhood

Radi Allahu 'anhu - May Allah be pleased with him

Salamun Alaikum – Peace be upon you

Siddiq - Truthful Person

Suffah – Boarding place at the end of the Mosque in Madinah for some companions of Prophet who left their homes and stayed with him to learn Islam.

Sunnah – Deeds of Muhammad (Peace & Blessings be upon him)

Surah – Chapter of the Quran

Ud - Certain kind of incense

Ummah – Community

# IMPORTANT DATES AND LOCATIONS IN THE LIFE OF MUHAMMAD

(Peace and blessings be upon him)

- Death of his father Abdullah; 569 c
- Possible date of Birth, April 20, 570; Makkah
- Legendary unsuccessful Ethiopian attack on Makkah, 570
- Death of Mother; 576
- Death of Grandfather, 578
- Took trading journeys to Syria; 583
- Meet and marriage with Khadijah; 595
- First reports of Qur'anic revelation; 610 in Makkah
- Appears as Prophet of Islam; 610 in Makkah
- Begins spreading message of Islam publicly; 613 in Makkah
- Begins to gather following; 614 in Mecca
- Emigration of Muslims to Ethiopia (Madina); 615
- Banu Hashim clan boycott begins; 616
- Madinan Civil War; 618 in Madina
- Banu Hashim clan boycott ends; 619
- Khadijah and Abu Talib died; 619
- Isra and Miraj; 620
- Emigrates to Madina (Hijra); 622
- Battle of Badr Muslims defeat Makkans; 624

- Expulsion of Banu\_Qaynuqa; 624
- Battle of Uhud Makkans battle Muslims; 625
- Expulsion of Banu Nadir; 625
- Attack on Dumat al-Jandal; 626 in Syria
- Battle of the Trench; 627
- Destruction of Banu Qurayza; 627
- Bani Kalb subjugation: Dumat al-Jandal; 627
- Treaty of Hudaybiyya; 628
- Gains access to Makkah Kabah; 628
- Conquest of the Khaybar oasis; 628
- First hajj pilgrimage; 629
- Attack on Byzantine empire fails: Battle of Mu'tah;
   629
- Attacks and bloodlessly captures Makkah; 630
- Battle of Hunayn; 630
- Siege of Taif; 630
- Conquest of Makkah; 630
- Rules most of the Arabian Peninsula; 631
- Attacks the Ghassanids: Tabuk; 632
- Farewell hajj pilgrimage; 632
- Death (June 8): Madina; 632