Da'wah Wal Irshad Series 42

ITA
Islãmic Tarbiyah Academy

وَأَنَا خَاتَمُ النَّبِيِّينَ لَا نَبِيَّ بَعْدِي

MUHAMMAD
(Sallallahu Alayhi Wasallam)
The SEAL of Prophets

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بِسۡمِ ٱللَّهِ ٱلرَّحۡمَٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ

مَا كَانَ مُحَمَّدٌ أَبَا أَحَدٍ مِنْ رِجَالِكُمْ وَلَٰكِنْ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَخَاتَمَ النَّبِيِّينَ ۗ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا

(سورة الأحزاب)

Muhammad is not the father of any of your men but he is the Messenger of Allah and the last of the Prophets. And Allah is Ever All-Aware of everything. (Surah Ahzãb Verse 40).

Belief in the finality of Prophethood (i.e. that Prophet Muhammad(ﷺ) is the last of the Prophets and that no prophet will be sent after him) is a foundational belief of Islãm. This is such a crucial belief that the denial of the finality of Prophethood is in fact the denial of the Qur'ãn. The denial of the finality of Prophethood is the denial of the consensus of the companions. The denial of the finality of Prophethood is the denial of the consensus of the scholars, the jurists, and the pious predecessors of the entire Muslim Ummah. Not believing in the finality of Prophethood is tantamount to declaring every single Muslim's belief, from the blessed time of the Holy Prophet to the present day, as a lie.

In Islãm the concept of Prophethood holds great significance. Among the various titles attributed to the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ)"Khatmun Nabiyeen" stands out as a term that emphasises his exceptional status among all the Prophets. The term "Khãtamun Nabiyeen" is mentioned in the above verse 40 of Surah Ahzãb '*but he is the Messenger of Allah and the last of the Prophets.*'

The word "Khãtamun" is derived from the Arabic root "khatm" which means "seal" or "end." Thus, "Khãtamun Nabiyeen" refers to the "Seal of the Prophets" or the "Final Prophet."

Imãm Rãghib states in his famous Mufradãtul Qur'ãn, "He is Khãtamun Nabuwah because Prophethood came to an end with his arrival."
In the light of the books of Tafseer and the sayings of the scholars of

Tafseer, the definitive meaning of خَاتَمَ النَّبِيّٖنَ is the Last of the Prophets'. Imãm Abu Abdullah Muhammad Bin Ahmad Qurtubi writes in Al-Jãmi'-li-Ahkãmil Qur'ãn: 'The words خَاتَمَ النَّبِيّٖنَ are completely general (i.e. understood in their apparent meaning) according to all the classical and modern scholars of the Ummah. These words, as a definitive textual stipulation, necessitate that there is no prophet after the Prophetﷺ. Refuting those who take other meanings and interpretations of the words خَاتَمَ النَّبِيّٖنَwhich are contrary to the finality of Prophethood, Imãm Qurtubi writes, 'According to me, this is heresy and a vicious act to disturb the belief of Muslims about the finality of Prophethood. So beware and be wary, and Allah alone is the One who guides through His mercy. *(*Tafseer Qurtubi*)*

Ahãdeeth on Khatmun Nabuwwah

◆ Imãm Ahmad recorded a narration from Ubay bin Ka'b (R.A.), from his father that the Prophet ﷺsaid:

مَثَلِي فِي النَّبِيِّينَ كَمَثَلِ رَجُلٍ بَنَى دَارًا فَأَحْسَنَهَا وَأَكْمَلَهَا، وَتَرَكَ فِيهَا مَوْضِعَ لَبِنَةٍ لَمْ يَضَعْهَا، فَجَعَلَ النَّاسُ يَطُوفُونَ بِالْبُنْيَانِ وَيَعْجَبُونَ مِنْهُ وَيَقُولُونَ: لَوْ تَمَّ مَوْضِعُ هَذِهِ اللَّبِنَةِ، فَأَنَا فِي النَّبِيِّينَ مَوْضِعُ تِلْكَ اللَّبِنَةِ

"My parable among the Prophets is that of a man who built a house and did a good and complete job, apart from the space of one brick which he did not put in its place. The people started to walk around the building, admiring it and saying, "If only that brick were put in its place." Among the Prophets, I am like that brick". (Musnad Ahamd/Tirmizi).

◆ Imãm Ahmad recorded that Anas bin Mãlik (R.A.) , said that the Messenger of Allah ﷺsaid:

إِنَّ الرِّسَالَةَ وَالنُّبُوَّةَ قَدِ انْقَطَعَتْ فَلَا رَسُولَ بَعْدِي وَلَا نَبِيَّ وَلَكِنِ الْمُبَشِّرَاتُ رُؤْيَا الرَّجُلِ الْمُسْلِمِ، وَهِيَ جُزْءٌ مِنْ أَجْزَاءِ النُّبُوَّةِ

"Messengership and Prophethood have come to an end, and there will

be no more Messengers or Prophets. This worried the people, then he said: But there will be Al-Mubashshirāt. They said, 'O Messenger of Allah, what are Al-Mubashshirāt?' He said, The dreams of a Muslim man, and they are one of the parts of prophet hood". (Musnad Ahmad/ Tirmizhi).

◆ Abu Dawud At-Tayalisi (R) recorded that Jabir bin 'Abdullah (R.A), said that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

مَثَلِي وَمَثَلُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ كَمَثَلِ رَجُلٍ بَنَى دَارًا فَأَكْمَلَهَا وَأَحْسَنَهَا إِلَّا مَوْضِعَ لَبِنَةٍ، فَكَانَ مَنْ دَخَلَهَا فَنَظَرَ إِلَيْهَا قَالَ: مَا أَحْسَنَهَا إِلَّا مَوْضِعَ هَذِهِ اللَّبِنَةِ، فَأَنَا مَوْضِعُ اللَّبِنَةِ خُتِمَ بِي الْأَنْبِيَاءُ عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ

"The parable of me and the Prophets is that of a man who built a house and did a complete and good job, except for the space of one brick. Whoever entered it would look at that space and say, how good it is, apart from the space of that brick. My position is like that of that brick, and the Prophets – blessings and peace be upon them – end with me". (Bukhāri/Muslim/Tirmizi).

◆ Imām Ahmad recorded that Abu Sa'eed Al-Khudri (R.A.), said that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

مَثَلِي وَمَثَلُ النَّبِيينَ كَمَثَلِ رَجُلٍ بَنَى دَارًا فَأَتَمَّهَا إِلَّا لَبِنَةً وَاحِدَةً، فَجِئْتُ أَنَا فَأَتْمَمْتُ تِلْكَ اللَّبِنَةَ

"The parable of me and the Prophets is that of a man who built a house and completed it apart from the space of one brick. I have come and completed that brick". (Muslim).

◆ Imām Ahmad recorded that Abu Hurayrah (R.A.), said that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

إِنَّ مَثَلِي وَمَثَلَ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ مِنْ قَبْلِي كَمَثَلِ رَجُلٍ ابْتَنَى بُيُوتًا فَأَكْمَلَهَا وَأَحْسَنَهَا وَأَجْمَلَهَا إِلَّا مَوْضِعَ لَبِنَةٍ مِنْ

زَاوِيَةٍ مِنْ زَوَايَاهَا، فَجَعَلَ النَّاسُ يَطُوفُونَ وَيُعْجِبُهُمُ الْبُنْيَانُ وَيَقُولُونَ: أَلَّا وَضَعَتَ هٰهُنَا لَبِنَةً فَيَتِمُّ بُنْيَانُكَ

"The parable of myself and the Prophets who came before me is that of a man who built houses and made them complete and beautiful apart from the space of a brick in one of the corners. The people started to walk around, admiring the construction and saying, If only you put a brick here, your construction will be complete.

The Messenger of Allah ﷺsaid: فَكُنْتُ أَنَا اللَّبِنَةَ

And I am that brick". (Bukhãri/Muslim).

◆ Imãm Ahmad recorded that Abu Hurayrah (R.A.), said that the Messenger of Allah ﷺsaid:

فُضِّلْتُ عَلَى الْأَنْبِيَاءِ بِسِتٍّ : أُعْطِيتُ جَوَامِعَ الْكَلِمِ، وَنُصِرْتُ بِالرُّعْبِ وَأُحِلَّتْ لِيَ الْغَنَائِمُ، وَجُعِلَتْ لِيَ الْأَرْضُ مَسْجِدًا وَطَهُورًا، وَأُرْسِلْتُ إِلَى الْخَلْقِ كَافَّةً، وَخُتِمَ بِي النَّبِيُّونَ

"I have been given preference over the other Prophets in six ways: I have been given the ability to speak concisely; I have been aided by fear (cast into the hearts of my enemies); the spoils of war have been made permissible for me; the entire earth has been made a Masjid and a means of purification for me; I have been sent to all of mankind; and the Prophets end with me". (Tirmizi/Ibn Mãjah).

◆ Imãm Ahmad recorded that Abu Sa'eed Al-Khudri (R.A.), said that the Messenger of Allah ﷺsaid:

مَثَلِي وَمَثَلُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ مِنْ قَبْلِي كَمَثَلِ رَجُلٍ بَنَى دَارًا فَأَتَمَّهَا إِلَّا مَوْضِعَ لَبِنَةٍ وَاحِدَةٍ، فَجِئْتُ أَنَا فَأَتْمَمْتُ تِلْكَ اللَّبِنَةَ

"The parable of myself and the Prophets who came before me is that of a man who built a house and completed it apart from the space of one brick. I have come and completed that brick". (Muslim).

◆ Jubayr bin Mut'im (R.A.), said that he heard the Messenger of Allah ﷺsay:

إِنَّ لِي أَسْمَاءَ أَنَا مُحَمَّدٌ، وَأَنَا أَحْمَدُ، وَأَنَا الْمَاحِي الَّذِي يَمْحُو اللهُ تَعَالَى بِيَ الْكُفْرَ، وَأَنَا الْحَاشِرُ الَّذِي يُحْشَرُ النَّاسُ عَلَى قَدَمَيَّ وَأَنَا الْعَاقِبُ الَّذِي لَيْسَ بَعْدَهُ نَبِيٌّ

"I have several names: I am Muhammad, and I am Ahmad; I am Al-Mãhi (the eradicator) through whom Allah will erase disbelief; I am Al-Hãshir (the gatherer) at whose feet mankind will gather; and I am Al-'Ãqib (the final one) after whom there will be no Prophet". (Bukhãri/ Muslim).

◆ Saad bin Abi Waqas (R.A.) relates that Messenger of Allah ﷺsaid to Ali (R.A.), **أَلاَ تَرْضَى أَنْ تَكُونَ مِنِّي بِمَنْزِلَةِ هَارُونَ مِنْ مُوسَى إِلاَّ أَنَّهُ لَيْسَ نَبِيٌّ بَعْدِي**

"Does it not please you, that you have the same relation with me as Hãroon (A.S.) had with Musã (A.S.), (but the difference is that) there will be no Prophet after me" (Bukhãri/Muslim).

◆ Abu Hurayrah (R.A.) relates that Messenger of Allah ﷺsaid;

كَانَتْ بَنُو إِسْرَائِيلَ تَسُوسُهُمُ الأَنْبِيَاءُ كُلَّمَا هَلَكَ نَبِيٌّ خَلَفَهُ نَبِيٌّ وَإِنَّهُ لاَ نَبِيَّ بَعْدِي وَسَتَكُونُ خُلَفَاءُ فَتَكْثُر

"Prophets themselves led Bani Israel. After the death of a Prophet, another Prophet took his place. But there shall be no prophet after me. However, there shall be Khalifs and they shall be many". (Bukhãri/ Muslim).

◆ Thaubãn (*R.A.*) relates that Messenger of Allah ﷺsaid,

وَإِنَّهُ سَيَكُونُ فِي أُمَّتِي كَذَّابُونَ ثَلَاثُونَ كُلُّهُمْ يَزْعُمُ أَنَّهُ نَبِيُّ اللَّهِ وَأَنَا خَاتَمُ النَّبِيين لَا نَبِيَّ بَعْدِي

"There shall appear 30 liars in my Ummah. Each one of them will say that he is a prophet. The fact is that I am the last of all the Prophets. There shall be no Prophet of any kind after me.'" (Abu Dãwood/ Tirmizi).

- Uqba bin Ãmir *(R.A.)* relates that Allah's Messenger ﷺ said,
لَوْ كَانَ بَعْدِي نَبِيٌّ لَكَانَ عُمَرَ بْنَ الْخَطَّابِ

"If there could ever be a Prophet after me, Umar bin Khatãb would have been such". (Tirmizi).

- On the day of resurrection people will run to all Prophets asking for help and intercession, the hadith states: **يَا مُحَمَّدُ أَنْتَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ وَخَاتَمُ الأَنْبِيَاءِ**

They will come to me and say, 'O Muhammad ! You are Allah's Apostle and The last of all Prophets and Allah forgave your early and late sins. Intercede for us with your Lord. Don't you see in what state we are? (Bukhãri).

- Narrated by Isma'il: I asked Abi Aufa (R.A.),
رَأَيْتَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ ابْنَ النَّبِيِّ ﷺ قَالَ مَاتَ صَغِيرًا، وَلَوْ قُضِيَ أَنْ يَكُونَ بَعْدَ مُحَمَّدٍ ﷺ نَبِيٌّ عَاشَ ابْنُهُ، وَلَكِنْ لاَ نَبِيَّ بَعْدَهُ

"Did you see Ibrahim, the son of the Prophet?" He said, "Yes, but he died in his early childhood. Had there been a Prophet after Muhammad then his son would have lived, "But there is no prophet after him". (Bukhãri)

Allah Ta'ãla has told us in His Book, and His Messenger ﷺ has told us in the Mutawãtir Sunnah, that there will be no Prophet after him, so that it may be known that everyone who claims this status after him is a liar and fabricator who is misguided and is misguiding others. Even if he twists meanings, comes up with false claims and uses tricks and vagaries, all of this is false and is misguidance as will be clear to those who have understanding.

The unanimous Belief of Muslim world is that Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is the Last and Final Messenger/Prophet of Allah. In other words Prophethood has ended with Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and those who do not believe in it are ventured out of the bounds of Islãm.

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