

PREFACE

In the Name of Allaah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Over my many years involvement in Islamic activities I have always felt that there was a dire need for a simple book, suitable for children, on the life of our noble Prophet Muhammad (*Sallallaahu 'alaihi wa Sallam*). Accordingly I approached a few persons who I felt were qualified to do this task but there was no positive response. As a result the thought had occurred to me from time to time that I should attempt such a work.

It was not until four years ago that I took a decision to undertake writing this booklet and, through the Grace of Almighty Allaah, I then started work on the draft, completing about one half of the manuscript. It was another two years before the rest of the booklet was written. And it was only at the beginning of this year (1991 C.E.) that I was able to review the draft and make arrangements for the booklet to be published.

I have used as my main references two books by well-known scholars. These books are:

- (1) "The Last Prophet" by Dr. Majid Ali Khan (Associate Professor at the Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, India) and second prize winner in the World Competition on "Research Works on SIRA of the Holy Prophet" instituted by Rabita. Dr. Khan's work has been published under the title "Muhammad The Final Messenger",
- (2) "Islam Beliefs and Teachings" by Ghulam Sarwar, Director of the Muslim Education Trust of London, England.

I have been fortunate to have the manuscript read by a few friends who made valuable suggestions which were

incorporated in the final version. I mention no names for fear of embarrassing them. Their reward is with Almighty Allaah. However, I invite readers who discover any shortcomings in the booklet or who may have suggestions for its improvement to communicate with me at the address below.

I hope *Inshaa Allaah* to be able to prepare a Questionnaire based on this booklet so that the readers' grasp and retention of its contents may be tested.

Should any organisations/persons find that this booklet is worthy of reproduction I have no objection to their doing so, provided it is distributed free of charge. However, I would expect to be informed well in advance in order:-

- (a) that any changes which I wish to make are incorporated in the text, and
- (b) to prevent a duplication of efforts with the consequential waste of scarce financial resources.

Finally, I pray that Allaah *Subhaanuhu wa Ta'ala* will accept this service, that at least a few persons will benefit from it, and that Almighty Allaah will grant me the strength, wisdom and determination to complete those other works which are in draft form or are in the planning stage.

Khudaa Haafiz.

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Contents

Preface.....	(i)
Childhood	1
Youth	5
Marriage to Bibi Khadijah	7
Rebuilding the Holy Ka'aba	9
Picture of the Holy Black Stone.....	10
Prophethood	11
The Early Years of Prophethood	14
The First Emigrants	18
The Year of Sorrow	19
The Isra' and Mi'raaj	21
The Covenants of Al-A'qabah	22
The Hijrah or Migration	24
The Early Years in Madinah	28
Some of the Battles	32
Picture of the Holy Prophet's Masjid.....	37
The Truce of Hudaibiyah	38
The Farewell Address	40
The Demise	42