

In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful

Today the Imam talked about the day celebrating the birth of the prophet which happens this month, the month of Rabeel-Alawal. He talked about the importance of this occasion and our obligation towards it. For it marks the event of the birth of the best of all mankind. The birth of the one individual who was sent by Allah as a mercy to all mankind. Allah says: {Here comes to you a messenger out of amongst you, He strongly feels for your hardship and distress, so caring for you, and with the believers he is lenient and merciful.} Surat Tawba- Aya 9-128.

He was born at a time when life was drowning in the darkness of lack of belief and ignorance. The Arabian Peninsula lived its lowest standard and worst era. Tribes used to raid one another. Idols and statues were worshiped, alcohol consumed, daughters buried alive, some of the Arabs used to walk naked round Kaaba. This prophet was born and Allah wanted to send him to all the people, bringing glad tidings, giving caution and a preaching for Allah, with Allah's will, and a glowing light source.

The messenger PPBU was born on the Monday in the month of Rabeel-Alawal. Opinions differed on the exact date, some said the 2nd, some said 8th, some said the 10th and others said the 12th of this month. The year he was born was called the year of the Elephant in reference to King Abraha's elephant. King Abraha came to destroy the Kaaba, but was turned back and destroyed by the Lord of the Kaaba.

One of our obligations towards this prophet is to love him. For loving him and loving what he brought is the real belief. The messenger PPBU was reported saying: [There are characters if found in an individual then he/she will find the sweetness of belief:

- 1) That Allah and his messenger are more loved to him than anything else.**
- 2) To love a person for non other than for Allah**
- 3) To hate to become an unbeliever just as one would hate to be thrown into fire]**

The messenger also said: [No one will be considered a believer until I am more loved by him than his child and his parent and than all people.]

What form does this love take? Surely, every Muslim claims he/she loves Allah and loves the messenger of Allah. What proof is there for this claim or love? And how is it that the correct and truthful claim can be identified?

The proof is easy and simple and very clear. The Koran put it in Aya 31 or surat Al-Emran: {Say if you did love me then follow me, Allah will love you, forgives your sins, for Allah is the most forgiving the most merciful}. The proof for love is: following and obeying. There for, believing in Muhammed PPBU requires loving him, and loving him requires following him.

Looking at the state of Muslim nation to see if it did fulfill what is required of her towards the messenger. Is the nation following the messenger guidance and instructions? What is the nation making of this day? How this day has been changed from a day of mercy to a day of disaster, from a day of peace to a day of noise and discomfort. From a day where the worshipped fire is about to be put out for ever to a day where fire is let in every street. Is it comprehensible, that this day of mercy is changed to a day of bun fires, bangers, fireworks and hospitals full of injuries. A day where people dance in the streets, traffic is effected, and the air fills up with burning stings, a day where millions of Euros are burnet. Would this make Allah and his messengers happy?

Any one doing that will claim to do it for love to the messenger. But, did really anyone love the messenger as his companions did?

Zaid-Ben_dathanah was killed by the unbelievers in Quraish. Before he was killed he was asked by Abu-Sufian: Would you not love now if instead of you, Mohammed was here with us to kill, and you were with your folks? Zaid said: By Allah, I would not love if Mohammed, where he is now, was hurt by a sting of a thorn and me with my folks. Abu-Sufian said "I never seen any one loved by his friends than Muhammed was"

Celebrating the birth of the prophet's birthday should not be in the way some people do celebrate it now. Instead it should be celebrated by thanks giving to Allah for sending this messenger, and by saying prayers upon him and following his guidance, fasting on weekly bases the day marking his birth. Aba Qotada asked the messenger one day: what would you say about fasting the day of Monday? The messenger said [That's that day I was born in, and that is the day the quran was brought down upon me]. Fasting every Monday is a great way to celebrating.

Brothers and sisters, sending the messenger of Allah was a tremendous event in history. His birth was a preparation for that event. The Muslim nation has the obligation to glorify him, respect him, love him and obey him and follows his guidance and sunnah.

Ask Allah for forgiveness he is the most forgiving the most gracious.