Pillars of Muhammad rasool ullah

Spreading the Message of Isl

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Based on the works of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan (حفظه الله) Compiled by Abu Abdirrahmaan Nasser ibn Najam (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) Checked by Aboo Talhah Daawood Burbank

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

QUESTION: Muslims say that the testimony that 'Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)' has pillars to it. What does this mean?

ANSWER:

Muslims believe that Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) was the 'Abd (meaning servant or slave) of Allaah and His final Rasool (Messenger) to mankind.¹

Therefore the first pillar refers to his being an 'abd..

And the second pillar refers to his being a rasool.

The first pillar necessitates that he was a human being like the rest of mankind; those things which befall us also befell him, such as tiredness, hunger, happiness, birth and death, etc.

The Qur'aan mentions that Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) was told to say:

I am only a man like you.

[Soorah al Kahf (the 18th chapter) ayah 110]

And indeed Allaah addresses him as being a slave:

All praises and thanks are for Allaah, who sent down the Book to His Slave. [Soorah al Kahf (the 18th chapter) ayah 1]

The second pillar necessitates that he was the final messenger, who was given the message of Islam to convey to all of mankind, a bringer of glad tidings to those who accepted his message and a warner to those who refused.

These two pillars taken together counteract the two extremes which people go to with regards to this man.

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¹ Refer to 'Ageedah ut Tawheed p52 to 53 of Shaykh Saalih al Fawzaan for more information

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The first extreme is found amongst many Muslims nowadays who exaggerate his status - to the extent that they take him from being someone who worshipped Allaah to the level where they worship him as well as Allaah.

So we can find Muslims in many different lands actually calling upon Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) to answer requirements which only Allaah can give. This counts as 'shirk', associating partners with Allaah, and is the very opposite of what Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) actually called to!

The other extreme is where people are negligent of what Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) came with, and may reject it completely. This is the case with many people around the world today – in many cases, out of ignorance about what Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) actually said and did.