

REMARKS

1. Due to the non-existence of appropriate and equivalent English words for many Arabic words, such words have been transliterated and an explanation has been given immediately after each word when it occurs for the first time and a glossary of such words has been compiled at the end of this book. Certain religious formulas and invocations are also transliterated.
2. The Arabic script is kept as it is for such expressions as تعالى (The Most High), صلى الله عليه وسلم (peace be upon him), and رضى الله عنه (Allâh be pleased with him) etc.
3. Some materials concerned with Arabic grammar and etymology have been excluded from the English text.
4. Most of the subnarrators are often omitted when possible and sometimes only the first narrator in each string is kept.
5. Imâm Bukhârî in his *Sahîh* has classified and arranged the *Ahâdith* according to the subject matter which they deal with. He gave to each chapter a title indicating a certain point and under that title he stated down all the *Ahâdith* that are relevant. This procedure has resulted in the occurrence of the same *Hadith* under various headings, because one *Hadith* might deal with a great number of aspects of Islâmic Jurisprudence. Imâm Bukhârî used each *Hadith* so that every point that can be inferred from it is referred to.

The chapters and the *Ahâdith* are numbered.

In this translation I have tried my best to convey the meanings of the *Ahâdith* of our Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم (peace be upon him) in such a way as to enable the average reader to understand them easily. At the same time I tried to translate the work accurately, taking into consideration the statement of the prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم (peace be upon him): “Whoever intentionally falsely ascribes anything to me, shall seek his place in the Hell.”

Suggestions and comments for the improvement of this translation shall be most welcomed.

Biography of Dr. Muhammad Muhsin Khan

Dr. Muhammad Muhsin s/o Muhi-ud-Din bin Ahmed Al-Essa Al-Khoashki Al-Jamandi Al-Afghani, was born in the year 1345 Al-Hijri, in Qasur, a city of the Punjab Province, in Pakistan.

His grandfathers emigrated from Afghanistan escaping from the wars and tribal strifes. Dr. Muhammad Muhsin belongs to the famous Afghanese tribe Al-Khoashki Al-Jamandi. The residence place of his tribe was the valley of Arghastan south east of the city of Kandhar (Afghanistan).

He had most of his education in that city, then he continued his education till he gained Degree in Medicine and Surgery from the University of Punjab, Lahore. Then he worked in the University Hospital in Lahore, after that he travelled to England and stayed there for about four years, where he got the Diploma of Chest Diseases from the University of Wales. Then he worked in the Ministry of Health, in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He came during the period of late King Abdul Aziz Âl-i-Saud. He stayed in the Ministry of Health for about 15 years, most of that period was in At-Taif, where he worked as the Director of El-Sadad Hospital for the Chest Diseases, then he moved to Al-Madina, where he worked as a Chief of the Department of Chest Diseases in the King's Hospital. Then lastly, he worked as the Director of the Islamic University Hospital, Al-Madina Al-Munawwara.

Allah (glory be to Him) helped him to translate the meanings of the *Ahadith* of the book *Sahih Al-Bukhari* and the book *Al-Lu-Lu-wal Marjân* and the meanings of the interpretation of the Noble Qur'ân into the English language.

In the Name of Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

A NOTE FROM THE PUBLISHER

Islâm is a heavenly system (or regime) for all the dwellers of the earth, and it is a mighty treasure if only mankind realizes its authenticity and truth. And in what a great need the whole world is today for ready understanding and thorough studying of its rules and regulations — i.e. the Noble Qur'ân and the pious *Sunna* (legal ways, etc.) of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم as these (the Qur'ân and *As-Sunna*) accede to the demand of the people to know their Creator (the All-Mighty Allâh, the Blessed, the Most High); organize and regulate the relations between them on the foundations of (Godly) Divine Justice and equality; and respond to the human nature equally to that, which makes sure for them their welfare (happiness) in this world and in the Hereafter (after their deaths).

And how many disasters, calamities and wars, the mankind of the whole world is suffering because of their differences in their faith, and organizations, which have broken them into the worst type of breaking, so there remains no way out for any security or any safety or any peace except with Islâm, i.e., by putting in practice the Laws of their Creator, Allâh, (i.e. the Qur'ân and *As-Sunna*).

Invitation to Islâm is incumbent upon all those who have known it, and have enjoyed its taste and have been guided through its guidance. In fact, it is a great responsibility and a trust (of Allâh) over (the shoulders of) all those who know Islâm, to preach it to mankind and invite them to it in a language which they speak and understand.

This above mentioned responsibility was realized by Dr. Muhammad Muhsin, a physician, specialist in chest diseases, who worked for a period of time in England, and then he moved from there and settled in Al-Madîna Al-Munawwara, after he witnessed an amazing matter of great fear and splendour during a dream at night. He saw the Messenger of Allâh, Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم in that dream and the seeing of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم in a dream means the truth. He saw him صلى الله عليه وسلم in a great gathering and Muhammad Muhsin went ahead to kiss his صلى الله عليه وسلم knees, but the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم did not allow him to kiss them. He صلى الله عليه وسلم was sweating profusely and Muhammad Muhsin started drinking his صلى الله عليه وسلم sweat till he felt satisfied (as if a thirsty man drinks water till his thirst is quenched). Then the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم asked him for a piece of paper and wrote on it that he صلى الله عليه وسلم wants him. Then the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم stamped it (that piece of written paper) with his stamp (Muhammad, the Messenger of Allâh)... till the end of the dream.

So when Muhammad Muhsin got up (from his dream), he was shaken by the amazement, fear and splendour of that dream!!! He asked the religious learned scholars about the interpretation of that dream. Some of them informed him that he will narrate the *Ahadith* (statements, etc.) of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم . So he looked for the project that can serve Islâm, i.e. by inviting and preaching those amongst human beings who can speak and understand English, he found that there is the book *Sahih (Al-Imâm) Al-Bukhârî* and that is the most authentic and true among the books of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم , which needs to be translated into the English language. So he went ahead for it, to translate its meanings. He started this colossal work with the Help of Allâh, putting his each and every effort. The project took nearly twelve years and the book (nine volumes, Arabic-English) was completed and printed with the Help of Allâh. All the praises and thanks be to Allâh (the only God and Lord of all), with Whose blessings are completed the righteous deeds. Peace, Blessings and Graces of Allâh be upon our Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم , his family and his Companions.

Lastly I thank all the brothers who participated in the accomplishment of this colossal work particularly brother Saeeduddin and brother Mohammad Munawar who checked and rechecked again and again the manuscript with great perseverance. May Allah the All-Mighty bestow on them a great reward in this world and in the Hereafter.

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THE MIRACLES OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD ﷺ

At this point I would like to bring to the notice of the reader that the Prophet ﷺ was granted many miracles by Allâh (the Lord of the heavens and the earth) and some of them are as follows:

1. The Noble Qur'ân is the living miracle bestowed by Allâh upon Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and this, Allâh's Book, was revealed to him through the *Ruh-ul-Qudus* (Gabriel). Today 1400 years have passed and nobody has been able to change a single letter or produce its imitation, as it is said in the Qur'ân (see *Sûrah Hijr*, V.15:9) and the statement of the Prophet ﷺ: "Before me, every Prophet was given a miracle and they practised it during their lifetime: e.g., 'Îsâ (Jesus) used to cure the sick and make the dead alive, etc., Mûsâ (Moses) was given the stick etc., and I have been given the permanent miracle of the Qur'ân till the Hour is established, so I hope that my followers will be more in number than all the other Messengers' as my miracle will last till the Day of Resurrection, and it is a Glorious Book; when anyone reads it, even if he is a pagan, etc., he is convinced that it is produced by none but by the Creator of the heavens and the earth."
2. The splitting of the moon: Narrated Anas رضى الله عنه that the Makkans requested Allâh's Messenger ﷺ to show them a miracle, so he showed them the splitting of the moon. (See *Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, *Hadîth* No. 3637).
3. The crying of the stem of the date-palm tree in the Prophet's Mosque: Narrated Ibn 'Umar رضى الله عنه that the Prophet ﷺ used to deliver his *Khutba* (religious talk) while leaning against a trunk of a date-palm tree. When he had the pulpit made and used it instead, the trunk started crying and the Prophet ﷺ went to it, rubbing his hand over it (to stop its crying). (See *Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, *Hadîth* No. 3583).
4. The flowing of the water from among the fingers of Allâh's Messenger ﷺ (See *Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*, *Hadîth* No. 3579).

Narrated Jâbir bin 'Abdullâh رضى الله عنه : I was with the Prophet ﷺ and the time for the 'Asr prayer became due. We had no water with us except a little which was put in a vessel and was brought to the Prophet ﷺ. He put his hand into it and spread out his fingers and then said, "Come along! Hurry up! All

those who want to perform ablution. The blessing is from Allâh.” I saw the water gushing out from his fingers. So the people performed the ablution and drank, and I tried to drink more of that water (beyond my thirst and capacity), for I knew that it was a blessing. The subnarrator said: I asked Jâbir, “How many persons were you then?” He replied, “We were one thousand four hundred men.” (Salim said: Jâbir said — 1500). (*Sahîh Al-Bukhârî, Hadîth No. 5639*).

5. The Prophet’s meals used to glorify Allâh while he ate, and this glorification was heard by the Companions of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم . (See *Sahîh Al-Bukhârî, Hadîth No. 3579*).
6. Stones used to greet the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم whenever he passed by through the lanes of Makkah.
7. The throwing out of a dead body of a Christian by the earth: Narrated Anas: There was a Christian who embraced Islâm and read *Sûrat Al-Baqarah* and *Âl-‘Imrân* and he used to write the revelation for the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم . Later on he reverted to Christianity and used to say, “Muhammad knows nothing but what I have written for him.” Then Allâh caused him to die and the people buried him but in the morning they found that the earth had thrown out his body. They said, “This is the deed of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم and his companions. They have opened the grave of our companion and took his body out because he ran away from them,” so they again dug the grave deeper for him, but in the morning they again found that the earth had thrown the body out. They said, “This is a deed of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم and his companions.” So they dug a third grave for him as deep as they could, but in the morning they found that the earth had thrown the body out. Then they believed what had befallen him, was not done by mankind, and they had to leave the body on the ground. (See *Sahîh Al-Bukhârî, Hadîth No. 3617*).
8. The screening (shading) by the trees, for the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم to answer the call of nature.
9. The rising of water in the well at Hudaibîya after it had dried. (See *Sahîh Al-Bukhârî, Hadîth No. 3577*).
10. The increase in the amount of dates in the garden of Jâbir bin ‘Abdullâh after the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم went round the heaps of

dates and invoked Allâh for His Blessings. (See *Sahîh Al-Bukhârî, Hadîth* No. 3580).

11. Speaking of the wolf: It has been written that a wolf also spoke to one of the Companions of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم near Al-Madîna, as narrated in *Musnad* of Ahmad, Vol.3, *Musnad Abi Saeed Al-Khudri*. Narrated Abi Saeed Al-Khudri رضى الله عنه : (While a shepherd was amongst his sheep) suddenly a wolf attacked a sheep and took it away. The shepherd chased the wolf and took back the sheep. The wolf sat on its tail and addressed the shepherd saying: “Be afraid of Allah, you have taken the provision from me which Allah gave me.” The shepherd said: “What an amazing thing! A wolf sitting on its tail speaks to me in the language of a human being.” The wolf said: “Shall I tell you something more amazing than this? There is Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم (the Messenger of Allâh) in Yathrib (Al-Madina) informing the people about the news of the past.” Then the shepherd proceeded (towards Al-Madîna) driving his sheep till he entered Al-Madîna (city), cornered his sheep to one side and came to Allâh’s Messenger (Muhammad) صلى الله عليه وسلم and informed the whole story. Allâh’s Messenger ordered for the proclamation of a congregational prayer (صلاة جماعه), then he صلى الله عليه وسلم came out and asked the shepherd to inform the people (about his story) and he informed them. Then Allâh’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said: “He (the shepherd) has spoken the truth. By Him (Allâh) in Whose Hands my soul is, the Day of Resurrection will not be established till beasts of prey (سباع) speak to the human beings, and the stick lash and the shoe-laces of a person speak to him and his thigh informs him about his family as to what happened to them after him. [*Musnad* of Ahmad, Vol.3, *Musnad Abi Saeed Al-Khudri*].
- 12. The *Mi‘râj*: The Ascent of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم to the heavens. (See *Sahîh Al-Bukhârî, Hadîth* No. 349 and *Hadîth* No.3887).

In the Name of Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

INTRODUCTION

Imam Bukhari and his Book *Sahih Al-Bukhari*

It has been unanimously agreed that Imâm Bukhârî's work is the most authentic of all the other works in *Hadîth* literature put together. The authenticity of Al-Bukhârî's work is such that the religious learned scholars of Islâm said concerning him: "The most authentic book after the Book of Allâh (i.e. Al-Qur'ân) is *Sahîh Al-Bukhârî*."

Imâm Bukhârî was born on 13th Shawwâl in the year 194 A.H. in Bukhârâ in the territory of Khurâsân (West Turkistân). His real name is Muhammad bin Ismâil bin Al-Mughîrah Al-Bukhârî.

His father died when he was still a young child and he was looked after by his mother. At the age of ten he started acquiring the knowledge of *Hadîth*. He travelled to Makkah when he was sixteen years old accompanied by his mother and elder brother. It seemed as though Imâm Bukhârî loved Makkah and its learned religious scholars for he remained in Makkah after bidding farewell to his mother and brother. He spent two years in Makkah and then went to Al-Madîna. After spending a total of six years in Al-Hijâz which comprises Makkah and Al-Madîna, he left for Basrah, Kûfa and Baghdâd and visited many other places including Egypt and Syria. He came to Baghdad on many occasions. He met many religious learned scholars including Imâm Ahmad bin Hanbal.

Owing to his honesty and kindness and the fact that he was trustworthy he used to keep away from the princes and rulers for fear that he may incline to say things to please them.

Many a story has been told about Imâm Bukhârî regarding his struggles in collecting *Hadîth* literature. He travelled to many different places gathering the precious gems that fell from the lips of the noble Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم. It is said that Imâm Bukhârî collected over 300,000 *Ahadîth* and he himself memorized 200,000 of which some were unreliable. He was born at a time

when *Hadîth* was being forged either to please rulers or kings or to corrupt the religion of Islâm.

It is said that Imâm Bukhârî (before compiling *Sahih Al-Bukhârî*) saw in a dream, standing in front of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم having a fan in his hand and driving away the flies from the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم . Imâm Bukhârî asked some of those who interpret dreams, and they interpreted his dream that he will drive away the falsehood asserted against the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم .

So it was a great task for him to sift the forged *Ahadîth* from the authentic ones. He laboured day and night and although he had memorised such a large number he only chose approximately 7,275 with repetition and about 2,230 without repetition of which there is no doubt about their authenticity.

Before he recorded each *Hadîth*, he would make ablution and offer a two *Rak'at* prayer and supplicate his Lord (Allâh). Many religious scholars of Islâm tried to find fault in the great remarkable collection — *Sahih Al-Bukhârî*, but without success. It is for this reason, they unanimously agreed that the most authentic book after the Book of Allâh is *Sahih Al-Bukhârî*.

Imâm Bukhârî died on first Shawwâl in the year 256 A.H., and was buried in Khartank, a village near Samarkand. May Allâh have mercy on his soul.

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