

All thanks and praise is due to Allah, we seek His help and forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allah from the evil within ourselves and the consequences of our evil actions. Whoever Allah guides will never be led astray, and whoever Allah leads astray will never find guidance. I bear witness there is no God but Allah, alone without any partners, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and His Messenger.

The greatest favor that Allah has bestowed upon us is that He sent the Last Messenger and He is the best of Prophets. And He made us the best of nations sent forth for mankind.

Allah all Mighty said in Ale Imran 164:

Certainly did Allah confer [great] favor upon the believers when He sent among them a Messenger from themselves, reciting to them His verses and purifying them and teaching them the Book and wisdom, although they had been before in manifest error.

Allah especially chose the prophet Mohammed SAW and sent him with miracles and signs. Upon the signs and miracles is the isra wal miraj.

The importance of this miracle is that Allah has mentioned it in two surahs the first surah al isra was named after this miracle. Allah all mighty says in surah isra:

Exalted is He who took His Servant by night from al-Masjid al-Haram to al-Masjid al- Aqsa, whose surroundings We have blessed, to show him of Our signs. Indeed, He is the Hearing, the Seeing.

And the second surah it was mentioned is in surah an najm:

By the star when it descends,
Your companion [Muhammad] has not strayed, nor has he erred,
Nor does he speak from [his own] inclination.
It is not but a revelation revealed,
Taught to him by one intense in strength -
One of soundness. And he rose to [his] true form
While he was in the higher [part of the] horizon.
Then he approached and descended
And was at a distance of two bow lengths or nearer.
And he revealed to His Servant what he revealed.
The heart did not lie [about] what it saw.
So will you dispute with him over what he saw?
And he certainly saw him in another descent
At the Lote Tree of the Utmost Boundary -
Near it is the Garden of Refuge -
When there covered the Lote Tree that which covered [it].
The sight [of the Prophet] did not swerve, nor did it transgress [its limit].
He certainly saw of the greatest signs of his Lord.

One of the greatest signs Allah granted our beloved Prophet Muhammad saw and this Ummah, was al Isra wal Mi'raj, This was a journey where Allah had taken the Prophet from makkah to al quds and then up to the heavens and showed him things that our eyes have never seen, he was shown great wonders and signs from the world of the unseen. And subhan Allah this was granted to the Prophet after a period of immense hardship and distress as He saw had just lost his uncle and His beloved wife Khadija may Allah be pleased with her. and itis after the Prophet saw's dawah was rejected in at Tai'f when the people mocked, attacked and chased him out of town. this came after it felt like all doors were closed on him and the small number of muslims suffered along with him with hunger and thirst and because of the sanctions and boycott that were upon them by the pagans, but at this point Allah didn't forsake him but opened up the doors of the heavens for him in honor and sent ease with this great blessing and miracle al isra

wal miraj and shortly after that they were blessed with the hijra to madina where they found safety and grew in number and strength. So oh slaves of Allah remember After every hardship there is ease so do not despair of the mercy of your Lord and keep patient upon Islam, for the ending is always for the pious.

There are many great events within the Isra and miraj that the muslim can take lesson from. From those lessons is that it highlights the greatness of the salah and its position in islam and the salah is the only obligatory act of worship that has been prescribed in the heavens directly from Allah to the prophet Mohammed SAW.

The event of Al isra wal miraj is mentioned in detail from a narration in sahih al Bukhari.

The Prophet (ﷺ) described that he was by the ka'ba as a visitor came to him, cut his abdomen open and his heart was taken out and placed into a gold tray where it was washed and was filled with iman(with Belief) and then returned to its original place.

Then a white animal which was smaller than a mule and bigger than a donkey was brought to him which was called Buraq. The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "The animal's step (was so wide that it) reached the farthest point within the reach of the animal's sight.

The Prophet s.a.w said I was carried on it, and Jibril set out with me till we reached the nearest heaven. When he asked for the gate to be opened, it was asked (by the gatekeepers) , 'Who is it?' Jibril answered, 'Jibril.' It was asked, 'Who is accompanying you?' Jibril replied, 'Muhammad.' It was asked, 'Has Muhammad been called?' Jibril replied in the affirmative. Then it was said, 'He is welcomed. What an excellent visit his is!' The gate was opened.

And when I went over the first heaven, I saw Adam there. Jibril said (to me). 'This is your father, Adam; pay him your greetings.' So I greeted him and he returned the greeting to me and said, 'You are welcomed, O pious son and pious Prophet.' Then Jibril ascended with me till we reached the second heaven. Jibril asked for

the gate to be opened. It was asked, 'Who is it?' Jibril answered, 'Jibril.' It was asked, 'Who is accompanying you?' Jibril replied, 'Muhammad.' It was asked, 'Has he been called?' Jibril answered in the affirmative. Then it was said, 'He is welcomed. What an excellent visit his is!' The gate was opened...

And the same conversations happened between Jibril and the Gatekeepers of each heaven where as He s.a.w was taken further up into each heaven He met different Prophets of Allah such as Yahya, `Isa, Yusuf, Idris and Harun

The Prophet s.a.w further says...When I went (over the sixth heaven), there I saw Musa. Jibril said (to me),' This is Musa; pay him your greeting. So I greeted him and he returned the greetings to me and said, 'You are welcomed, O pious brother and pious Prophet.' When I left him (i.e. Musa) he wept. Someone asked him, 'What makes you weep?' Musa said, 'I weep because after me there has been sent (as a Prophet) a young man whose followers will enter Paradise in greater numbers than my followers.' ...

The Prophet s.a.w continues his journey upto the seventh heaven Where he meets Ibrahim A.s. Who was sitting by al baytul ma'mur

And Al-Baytil-Ma'mur is a building that is identical to the Ka'abah in Makkah. It is situated in the heavens exactly over the earthly Ka'abah. Each day, a continuous batch of 70,000 different angels enter it to worship Allah, a practice that will last until Qiyyamah. There, Muhammad SAW met and exchanged greetings with his father-in-prophethood and the friend of Allah, Ibrahim AS, who was the Prophet who built the Ka'abah on earth. And the Prophet s.a.w further says

... and a container full of wine and another full of milk and a third full of honey were brought to me. I took the milk. Jibril remarked, 'This is the Islamic religion which you and your followers are following.'

Then the prayers were enjoined on me: They were fifty prayers a day. When I returned, I passed by Musa who asked (me), 'What have you been ordered to do?' I replied, 'I have been ordered to offer fifty prayers a day.' Musa said, 'Your followers cannot bear fifty prayers a day, and by Allah, I have tested people before you, and I have tried my level best with Bani Israel (in vain). Go back to your Lord and ask for reduction to lessen your followers' burden.'

So I went back, and Allah reduced ten prayers for me. Then again I came to Musa, but he repeated the same as he had said before. Then again I went back to Allah and He reduced ten more prayers. When I came back to Musa he said the same, I went back to Allah and He ordered me to observe ten prayers a day.

When I came back to Musa, he repeated the same advice, so I went back to Allah and was ordered to observe five prayers a day. When I came back to Musa, he said, 'What have you been ordered?' I replied, 'I have been ordered to observe five prayers a day.' He said, 'Your followers cannot bear five prayers a day, and no doubt, I have got an experience of the people before you, and I have tried my level best with Bani Israel, so go back to your Lord and ask for reduction to lessen your follower's burden.' I said, 'I have requested so much of my Lord that I feel ashamed, but I am satisfied now and surrender to Allah's Order.' When I left, I heard a voice saying, 'I have passed My Order and have lessened the burden of My Worshipers.'

Oh muslims fear Allah and stay firm and patient upon your deen, protect your salah and do not delay.

The second part of the Khutbah the khateeb talked about perseverance and commitment upon islam.

And a story that is mentioned from the prophet Mohammed SAW about true perseverance that we can take lesson from is the story of the hairdresser of the daughter of pharaoh:

It was narrated that Ibn 'Abbaas (may Allaah be pleased with him) said: The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "On the night on which I was taken on the Night Journey (Isra'), a beautiful fragrance came to me. I said: O Jibreel, what is this beautiful fragrance? He said: This is the fragrance of the hairdresser of Pharaoh's daughter and her children. I said: What is their story? He said: Whilst she was combing the hair of Pharaoh's daughter one day, the iron comb fell from her hand and she said, 'Bismillaah (in the name of Allaah).' The daughter of Pharaoh said: 'My father?' She said: 'No. My Lord and the Lord of your father is Allaah.' She said: 'I will tell him about that.' She said: 'Yes.' So she told him and he summoned her and said: 'O So and so, do you have a Lord other than me?' She said: 'Yes, my Lord and your Lord is Allaah.' He ordered that a baqarah (lit. "cow") made of copper be heated up, then he ordered that

she and her children be thrown into it. She said: 'I have a request to make of you.' He said: 'What is your request?' She said: 'I would like my bones and my children's bones to be gathered together in one cloth and buried.' He said: 'This will be done for you.' He ordered that her children be thrown into it in front of her, one by one, until they came to the last one who was an infant boy who was still being breastfed. It was as if she wavered because of him, but he said: 'O mother, go ahead, for the punishment of this world is easier to bear than the punishment of the hereafter.' So she went ahead." Ibn 'Abbaas (may Allaah be pleased with him) said: Four infants spoke: 'Eesa ibn Maryam (peace be upon him), the companion of Jurayj, the witness of Yoosuf and the son of the hairdresser of Pharaoh's daughter.

Narrated by Imam Ahmad

So fear Allah as He should be feared and The best words are the words of Allah, and the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad. Beware of newly-invented matters, for every newly-invented matter is an innovation (Bid'ah) and every innovation is a going-stray. And every going astray is in the hellfire, and upon you is the jama'a for whoever leaves the jama'a is in the fire.

Allah sends His Salat on the Prophet and also His angels too (ask Allah to bless and forgive him). O you who believe! Send your Salat on him, and greet him with the Islamic way of greeting.

May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon the messenger of Allah, and may Allah be pleased with the rightly guided khulafah, Abubakir, Umar, Uthman and Ali and all the companions, and those who followed them in righteousness until the day of Judgment.

Oh slaves of Allah, Indeed, Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving to relatives and forbids immorality and bad conduct and oppression. He admonishes you that perhaps you will be reminded.

And fulfill the covenant of Allah when you have taken it, [O believers], and do not break oaths after their confirmation while you have made Allah, over you, a witness. Indeed, Allah knows what you do.