

Keywords:
Teach/Guide/Nurture
Heart/Soul
Ihsan/Compassion
Suit/Adjust



Islamic Religious Council of Singapore

Friday Sermon

5 September 2025 / 12 Rabiulawal 1447H

The Teacher of Souls: Prophetic Nurturing

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ الَّذِي هَدَانَا لِلْاِسْلَامِ وَالْاِيْمَانِ، وَارْسَلَ رَسُوْلَهُ بِاُھْدٰی
وَالْاِحْسَانِ. اَشْھَدُ اَنْ لَا اِلٰهَ اِلَّا اللّٰهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيْكَ لَہٗ، وَاَشْھَدُ اَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا
مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُہٗ وَرَسُوْلُہٗ. اَللّٰھُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلٰی سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلٰی اٰلِہٖ
وَاَصْحَابِہٖ. اَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَاِذَا عِبَادَ اللّٰهِ، اتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِہٖ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُوْنَ.

Dear blessed congregation,

Have taqwa or consciousness of Allah s.w.t. Fulfil all His commands and avoid all His prohibitions. In conjunction with the month of commemorating *Maulidurrasul*, let us prove our love for Rasulullah s.a.w. by embodying his **teachings** in our daily lives. May Allah s.w.t. be a witness to our love for him. Amin, ya Rabbal 'Alamin.

Dear esteemed congregation,

Is the following statement true – that besides being sent as a Prophet and a mercy to all creation, Rasulullah s.a.w. was also sent as a **teacher** and **nurturer** of **souls**?

Indeed, our beloved Rasulullah s.a.w. was sent as a **teacher** and **nurturer** of **souls**. His **guidance** led humanity from darkness to light, from misguidance to the recognition of the One Almighty God, that is Allah s.w.t.

This is described in the words of Allah in Surah Al-Jumu'ah, verse 2:

هُوَ الَّذِي بَعَثَ فِي الْأُمِّيِّينَ رَسُولًا مِّنْهُمْ يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِهِ
وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَإِنْ كَانُوا مِن قَبْلُ لَفِي
ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ ﴿٢﴾

Meaning: *"It is He who has sent among the unlettered a Messenger from themselves, reciting to them His verses, purifying them, and **teaching** them the Book and wisdom – although they were, before that, in clear error."*

Dear honorable congregation,

This verse clearly highlights the central role of Rasulullah s.a.w. as an educator; a **nurturer** who empowered his people. Moreover, when we reflect on the noble life of Rasulullah s.a.w., we find that he not merely conveyed the **teachings** of Islam. Through his noble character, Rasulullah s.a.w. successfully touched the **hearts** and left a profound impact on all who encountered him.

For instance, a companion named Anas ibn Malik r.a. was only around 10 years old when he met the Prophet Muhammad s.a.w. Sayyidina Anas r.a. then served the Prophet s.a.w. for another 10 years. At such a youthful age, he had the privilege of being close to the Prophet and receiving his direct **guidance**.

How did Sayyidina Anas describe Rasulullah s.a.w.? He said: “*I have never seen anyone more **compassionate** towards children than the Messenger of Allah s.a.w.*” (Narrated by Muslim).

My dear brothers,

What are some of the noble qualities of Rasulullah s.a.w. that made him such an effective **teacher** and **nurturer** of **souls**?

First: Educating with *ihسان* and compassion

Rasulullah s.a.w. understood that effective **nurturing** requires **hearts** that are open to receive. Hence, his approach was always filled with ***ihسان*** and **compassion**.

For example, a man once came to Rasulullah s.a.w. and asked for permission to commit adultery – something clearly forbidden in Islam. Yet how did Rasulullah s.a.w. respond to this? Did he raise his voice, scold him, or humiliate the man in public? Not in any way.

Instead, Rasulullah s.a.w. educated him with calmness and wisdom. He gave examples that the man could easily relate with. Then, Rasulullah s.a.w. placed his blessed hand on the man’s

chest and prayed sincerely for him. All of this unfolded in a calm and safe atmosphere, filled with empathy and mercy.

Second: Understanding and adapting to those under his guidance

Rasulullah s.a.w. always ensured that his words were **suited** to his audience. Although he was a Prophet and leader of the community, carrying immense responsibilities and holding a high position, Rasulullah s.a.w. never failed to **adjust** his approach when speaking, even when speaking with a child.

For example, Rasulullah s.a.w. knew a young boy named Abu Umair who had a pet bird. Whenever he met him, the Prophet s.a.w. would ask about his beloved pet. Even though Rasulullah s.a.w. had many more important matters to manage, he never regarded his interaction with a child – or anyone else – as insignificant.

Dear congregation loved by Allah,

Through the Prophet's **nurturing**, he succeeded in shaping the character of the Sahabah – a generation consisting of a large number of youth. With **compassion** and a **suited** approach, Rasulullah s.a.w. was not only a **teacher** who conveyed, but a **nurturer** who touched the **hearts** and laid down the foundations for the enduring legacy of the ummah.

May Allah s.w.t. keep us steadfast on *Hadyun Nabiyy* – the path set forth by Rasulullah s.a.w. – so that we may be given the opportunity to meet our beloved one day. And may Allah s.w.t. reward every **teacher**, educator, and **nurturer** who has ever touched our **hearts** and contributed their service, with the best of rewards and blessings. Amin, ya Rabbal ‘Alamin.

أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ
الرَّحِيمُ.

Second Sermon

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ حَمْدًا كَثِيرًا كَمَا أَمَرَ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ تَعَالَى فِيمَا أَمَرَ، وَانْتَهُوا عَمَّا نَهَاكُمْ عَنْهُ وَزَجَر.

My dear brothers,

In the early hours of this coming Monday, 8th September, we will witness a lunar eclipse, which will be visible from 12:27 a.m. until 3:56 a.m. As Muslims, we regard the eclipse as a sign of Allah's greatness. We are encouraged to perform the voluntary eclipse prayer individually or in congregation, at home or at the mosque, and increase our supplications when it occurs, in accordance with the words of Rasulullah s.a.w. in the hadith reported by Muslim: *"If you see it (the eclipse), then pray and supplicate."*

Therefore, do not miss this opportunity to follow the Sunnah of Rasulullah s.a.w. Perform the voluntary eclipse prayer if possible, or at the very least, increase our supplications and acts of worship. May Allah s.w.t. accept and bless every one of our deeds. Amin, ya Rabbal 'Alamin.

أَلَا صَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى النَّبِيِّ الْمُصْطَفَى، فَقَدْ أَمَرَنَا اللَّهُ بِذَلِكَ حَيْثُ قَالَ فِي كِتَابِهِ الْعَزِيزِ: إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا

صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ
وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ.

وَارْضَ اللَّهُمَّ عَنِ الْخُلَفَاءِ الرَّاشِدِينَ الْمُهَدِّينَ سَادَاتِنَا أَبِي بَكْرٍ وَعُمَرَ وَعُثْمَانَ
وَعَلِيٍّ، وَعَنْ بَقِيَّةِ الصَّحَابَةِ وَالْقُرَآئَةِ وَالتَّابِعِينَ، وَتَابِعِي التَّابِعِينَ، وَعَنْ مَعَهُم
وَفِيهِمْ بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ
وَالْأَمْوَاتِ. اللَّهُمَّ ادْفَعْ عَنَّا الْبَلَاءَ وَالْوَبَاءَ وَالزَّلَازِلَ وَالْمَحَنَ، مَا ظَهَرَ
مِنْهَا وَمَا بَطَنَ، عَنِ بَلَدِنَا خَاصَّةً، وَسَائِرِ الْبُلْدَانِ عَامَّةً، يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ.
رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً، وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً، وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.

عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى، وَيَنْهَى عَنِ
الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ، يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ، فَادْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ
يَذْكُرْكُمْ، وَاشْكُرُوهُ عَلَى نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ، وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِكُمْ، وَلَذِكْرُ
اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ، وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ.