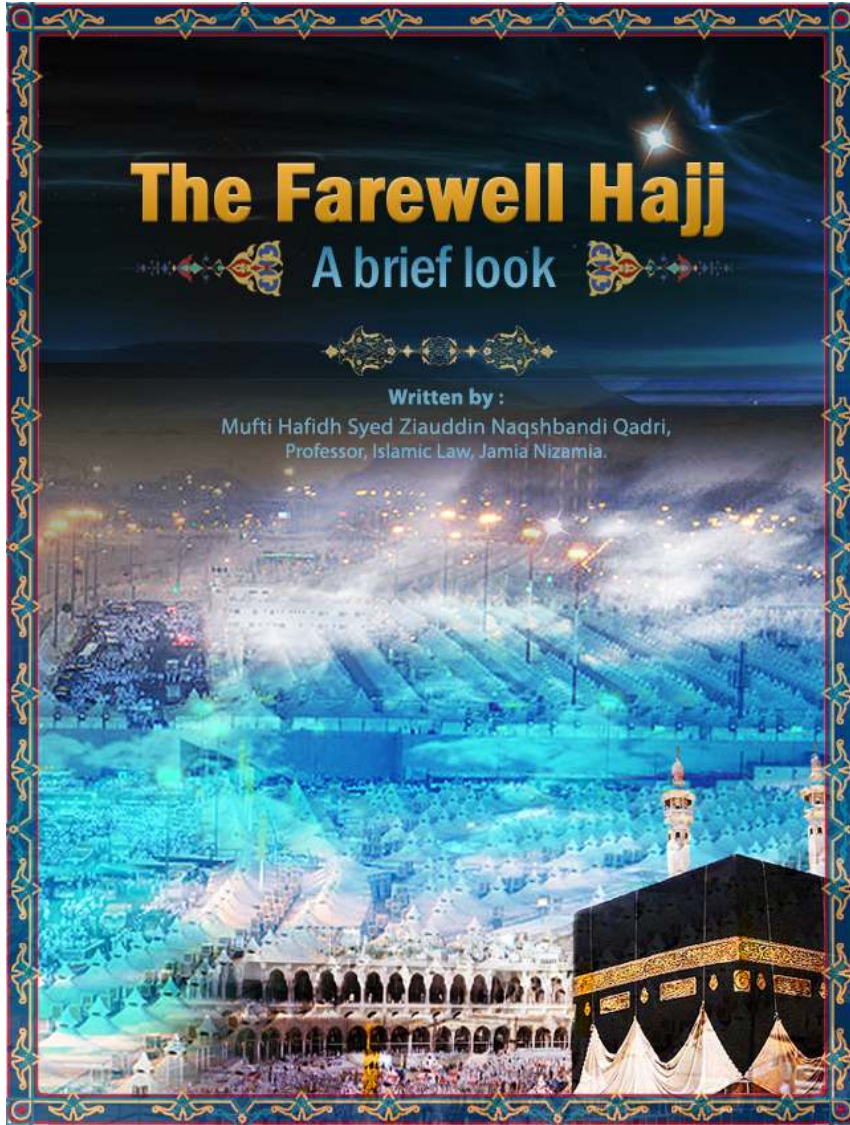


The Farewell Hajj

A brief look

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The last great event of the blessed life of the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam). Here the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) announced the birth of the mandate of universal human rights.

The most important event of 10th Hijri was Hujjatul Wada'a.

There are different names of Hujjatul Wada'a, Hujjatul Wada'a, Hujjatul Atmaam, Hujjatul Balagh, Hujjatul Islam, etc. It is commonly known as Hujjatul Wada'a (the Farewell Hajj) because the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) took farewell from the Ummah on this occasion.

Although, there were not many facilities and comforts in travel, Companions from all over the world came to undertake the Hajj. As per one narration, 124,000 and as per another 114,000 Companions were present on this occasion. Such a huge congregation did not gather before the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) after this. For many of those who came, from the earthly point of view, it was the farewell visit. That is why, it is called Hujjatul Wada'a.

On the 9th of Dhul Hijjah, the following verse of the Holy Quran was revealed about the completion and perfection of Islam:

Today I have perfected your Din (Religion) for you, and have completed My Blessing upon you, and have chosen for you Islam (as) Din (a complete code of life). Surah Maida (5:3)

This is called as Hujjatul Balagh because in the sermon of this Hajj, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) demanded those who were present to testify that He had completed the propagation (Tableegh) of Prophethood. He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) made them witness and said: The one who is present should convey to the one who is absent. (Seerat Halbiya, Vol. 3, Pg. No. 282/283)

It is called as Hujjatul Islam because the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) described the essence of the Islamic teachings on this occasion.

The call for Hajj and its reasons

On orders from the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam), the announcement for Hajj was made that the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) is going for Hajj this year. With this announcement, the Companions also resolved to go for Hajj along with the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam). There were various reasons to make this special announcement:

One of the reasons was that the majority of the Companions should see the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) performing the different rites and articles of Hajj and learn the correct method of performing Hajj. For this reason, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) ordered all the mothers of the believers (the blessed wives of the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) travel along with Him.

Another reason was that the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) wanted to give some advice to the Ummah while wishing them farewell.

In the months of the Hajj, Muslims started arriving in large numbers to Madina, so that they could have the privilege of performing Hajj along with the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) and to benefit from His blessed company.

At the end of Dhul Qa'ada, on a Thursday, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) bathed and wore a *Tahband* and a chador. He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam)

then offered Salaat Ul Zuhr in Masjid Nabawi and started for Makkah from Madina. Six miles from Madina, at Dhul Hulaifa, the Meeqat for the people of Madina, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) wore Ihraam, offered 2 Raka'at of Salaat, recited the Talbiya with the intention of Hajj Qiran, then mounted Qaswa, the she-camel and recited Talbiya in a loud voice.

He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) offered the Salaat Ul Fajr of 4th Dhul Hijjah at Dhi Tuwa, then took a bath and entered Makkah and entered the Masjid Haraam at the time of Salaat Ul Chaasht. When the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) came before Hajjr Aswad, He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) placed His blessed hands on it and kissed and performed the circumambulation (Tawaf) of the Ka'aba after it. In the first 3 rounds, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) performed Raml and in the remaining 4 rounds performed the Tawaf without Raml. Sometimes, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) kissed the Hajjr Aswad with His blessed lips, sometimes the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) performed Istelaam, i.e. kissed it with a gesture of His blessed hands, sometimes with a gesture of His blessed stick. After the Tawaf, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) performed 2 Raka'at of Salaat. Then again performed Istelaam of Hajjr Aswad and started for Safa. He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) performed the Sae'e of Safa and Marwah. As this Hajj was Hajj Qiran and the animals for slaughter were along with Him, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) did not open His Ihram after Umrah.

On the 8th of Dhul Hijjah, on Thursday, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) went to Mina and from the Zuhr of Thursday to the Fajr of Friday, He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) offered 5 Salaat there itself. On the 9th of Dhul Hijjah, Friday, after sunrise, the Holy Prophet

(Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) came to Arafaat from Mina. A tent was set up for the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) near Masjid Nimra. He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) rested in this tent. At the time of *Dhawaal* (high noon), the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) went to the center of the valley on His camel, Qaswa. Here, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) gave a historical sermon. Then with 1 Adhaan and 2 Iqamah, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) led Salaat Ul Zuhr and Salaat Ul Asr at the time of Zuhr. After the Salaat, He waited in the valley of "Jabl Rahmat," supplicating and performing Dhikr (remembrance) of Allah Most High. After dusk, He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) started for Muzdalifa. There, with 1 Adhaan and 1 Iqamah, He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) led Salaat Ul Maghrib and Salaat Ul Isha at the time of Salaat Ul Isha. After resting for some time, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) remained busy in Dua (supplication) and Dhikr until Fajr. After Fajr, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) waited, gathered the stones for Rami (stoning the pillars symbolic of Satan) and started for Mina a little before dawn. Then, He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) performed Rami of Jamra 'Uqba. In Mina also, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) gave a lengthy address and sacrificed the animal. At the time of the slaughtering, the camels would themselves run up to the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) that the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) should slaughter them first. (Mishkaat Ul Masabeeh, Vol. 1, Pg. No. 232). There were 100 camels with the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam). He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) slaughtered 63 of them Himself and ordered Hadhrat Ali (May Allah be well pleased with him) to slaughter the rest.

Distribution of His sacred hair

After slaughtering, when performing Halaq (shaving of head), the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam), who has the authority of distributing the bounty of Allah Most High in both the worlds, gestured towards the right side of His blessed head. The barber had the honor of shaving the right side of His head. The Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) granted His blessed hair to the Companions who were present at that time. Then He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) ordered that the other side should be shaved. He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) then asked for Hadhrat Abu Talha (May Allah be well pleased with him) and granted him the blessed hair of that side. (Sahih Muslim, Vol. 1, Pg. No. 421). Then the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) ordered Hadhrat Abu Talha (May Allah be well pleased with him) to distribute His hair among the Companions. (Sahih Muslim, Vol. 1, Pg. No. 421)

It is only the benevolence of the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) that He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) Himself granted His blessed hair and even ordered that they be distributed.

After this, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) went to Makkah for Tawaf Ziyarah. He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) offered Salaat Ul Zuhr in Makkah, then went to Mina and stayed in Mina until the 13th. The Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) performed Rami of all the 3 Jamraat every day. Then on the 13th, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) came to Makkah to perform Tawaf Wada'a and started for Madina.

Sermon of the Farewell Haj

All praise is for Allah Most High. We Praise Him. We seek His pardon and His help and we turn to Him. We take refuge with Allah Most High from the evils of our

selves (Nafs) and the severe consequences of our actions. There is none to lead astray whom Allah Most High guides and there is none to guide whom Allah Most High misguides. I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship except Allah Most High. He is One without any partners. I bear witness that Hadhrat Muhammad (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) is His servant and His Messenger.

I exhort you, servants of Allah Most High, to be conscious of Allah Most High and I urge you to obey Him.

O people listen to me! I deliver a message to you for I do not know whether I shall ever get an opportunity to meet you after this in this place.

O people, indeed your lives, your properties and your honor are sacred and inviolable to you until you meet your Lord (i.e. forever), like the sanctity, which you have, for this day, this month and this city. Have I conveyed the message? O Lord be the witness!

Thus, he who has any trust to discharge should restore it to the person who deposited it with him.

Lo! All interest-based transactions of the days of ignorance (the period before Islam) are declared null and void, but your principal amount belongs to you. Neither oppresses others nor be oppressed. Allah Most High has forbidden you to take any interest (usury) and all obligations in this regard are henceforth waived. To begin with, I cancel all interest due to my uncle Abbas Bin Abdul Muttalib.

Lo! There will be no revenge-killings for the bloodshed of the days of ignorance (before Islam). First, I forgive

those who murdered my cousin A'amir Bin Rab'eea Bin Harith Bin Abdul Muttalib.

Lo! All customs and designations of Pre-Islamic days stand abolished except that of the maintenance of Holy Ka'aba and the duty of supplying water to the pilgrims of the House of Allah Most High.

Deliberate murder will be punished with execution. A quasi-deliberate murder (like with a club, stick or stone) invokes a blood-money of a hundred camels. Any one demanding more than that will be considered to be from among the ignorant (Pre-Islamic period).

O people, Allah Most High has granted the (appropriate) rights to every one deserving, therefore no other testament (which goes against the laws of inheritance) will be considered valid for any heir.

The husband of the mother will be considered the child's father. Adultery when proved is punishable with stoning. Their judging will be done by Allah Most High.

Anybody claiming false ancestry or any slave naming someone apart from his (or her) own true master as master is cursed by Allah Most High.

Debts are to be cleared. Anything borrowed is to be returned. Gifts should be returned in kind and the guarantor must pay on behalf of the guaranteed.

O people, Muslims are one brotherhood. Nothing of a brother is lawful for a Muslim except what he himself (or she herself) allows.

A woman does not have the right to give away or transfer to any other person her husband's property without the latter's permission.

O people! The practice of adding a month in calendar year is an excess in "Kufr" (disbelief). The unbelievers are being deceived through it. They make it 'Halaal' (lawful) in a year and 'Haraam' (unlawful) the next year so as to compensate the number, in violation of the command of Allah Most High. In this way, they declare the things prohibited by Allah Most High as lawful and vice versa, declare lawful things as unlawful. The world has taken a full circle and become the way it was at the time of creation of the heavens and the earth by Allah Most High. Indeed the number of months, as given in the book of Allah Most High since the creation of the heavens and the earth by Him is twelve. Of them, four months are sacred. Three of these are consecutive Dhul-Qa'adah, Dhul Hijjah and Muharram, and Rajab, which comes between Jamadi Al Thani and Sha'aban. O Lord! Have I conveyed the message? Be my witness.

Beware! Do not go astray after me and start killing one another.

O people! One Muslim is another Muslim's brother and as such, all Muslims are brothers among themselves. Take care of your slaves! Take care of your slaves. Give them what you yourselves eat and clothe them in what you wear.

O people, your women have certain rights on you and likewise you have rights over your women. Your right is that the women should not allow near them whom you do not like. They should not cheat in any manner, should be chaste and shun indecency. If they fail, Allah Most High allows you to mildly admonish them

(physically) and when they come round, then take care of them nicely.

Treat your women nicely as they are bound to you and are incapable of managing many of their affairs themselves. Hence be conscious of Allah Most High about them, as you have accepted them in the name of Allah Most High and in His name, have they been made lawful to you.

O people! Satan is disappointed from being ever worshipped in this land of yours. But he is satisfied to be obeyed in those things, which you think are small. So be cautious of him in your religion.

Listen to me! Worship your Sustainer (Rabb). Offer your five daily Salaat. Keep your fasts in the month of Ramadan. Give the Zakaat of your wealth wholeheartedly. Perform the pilgrimage to the House of your Lord and obey those who command you (your rulers) and you will enter the Jannah of your Lord and Sustainer.

Be aware, only the one who commits a crime is responsible for it. Neither will a son be held accountable for the crime of his father nor will a father be held accountable for the crime of his son.

Verily, I have left among you a thing, if you hold fast to it, you will never go astray after me- the Book of Allah Most High (The Holy Quran) and the Sunnah of His Prophet.

O people, verily your Lord and Sustainer is one and your ancestor is one. All of you descend from Prophet Adam (May peace be upon him) and Adam (May peace be upon him) was made from clay. The most distinguished

among you with Allah is the one who is the most pious. An Arab does not have any superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab over an Arab; neither a white man over a black man nor a black man over a white man except the superiority gained through piety. Did I convey the message of truth? O Allah! Be a witness.

Then the people said: Yes! He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) said: All those who listen to me should pass on my words to others and they to others in turn, as oftentimes, the one to whom the message is passed safe-keeps it more than those who listened to it directly.

Sahih Muslim, Vol.1, Page: 397

Jame' Tirmidhi, Vol. 2, Page: 219

Kanz Ul Ummal, Vol. 3, Page: 22-24

Seerat Ibn Hisham, Vol. 1, Page: 76-77

Declaration of Islamic International Law

The Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) has revoked all those customs and practices of the days of ignorance (Pre-Islamic days) which were based on aggression, barbarity, terrorism and all such inhuman practices and has declared them as untrustworthy.

He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) freed humanity from the unjust systems of the days of ignorance and granted humanity the Islamic system, whose very basis is justice and peace, whose very objective is providing justice to the wronged, to attend to the pleas of the weak and the downtrodden and give the rights due to the people. In this eternal draft, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) declared and granted those basic rights to human beings, which let alone being given, had not even entered the thoughts of men. The great sermon of the Last Hajj was the starting point for the Law of Human

Rights. He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) not only declared human rights, but also declared their implementation. In Madina and the whole Muslim state, this law was implemented.

After the II World War, when the wise and the elite realized the state of humankind, then for the first time, the idea of deciding human rights and according them was raised. Then based on this Islamic system of human rights, the declaration of international human rights was made. The Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) had declared human rights more than 1300 years before the II World War.

Even after the acceptance of the declaration of human rights, superpowers still had many weak nations under their thumb and use the same declaration to serve their own needs and make life difficult for those nations. In this way, the law which, as claimed by the intellectuals, was to accord human rights to others has itself become an instrument supporting barbarity and terrorism.

If the universal rights given in the Sermon of the Last Hajj are given legal status in the world, implemented and its violations are prosecuted, then aggression, oppression, etc, will vanish from this world and there will be such peace that it will be felt in each and every aspect of human life.

Right to life and wealth

Every human being has the right to lead his/her life and nobody else has the right to even endanger life in any way. In the same way, protection of wealth is also necessary to live, so that one may transfer money at will and fulfil one's needs. For this it is necessary to give the right of wealth. It is not allowed for anybody to touch

other's wealth without that person's express consent. These rights are in the light of these words of the Holy Prophet:

O People, indeed your lives, your properties and your honor are sacred and inviolable to you

The wisdom in Islam's economic system

All the sections of the society can progress only when wealth and money are not concentrated in the hands of a few people and/or a particular section of the society, but freely circulate through all sections of the society. It should not be that the wealthy keep on increasing their wealth and the poor people perish in their poverty. With this objective, Islam interest (Usury) has prohibited in Islam and is considered a grave sin. Zakaat is obligatory (*Fardh*) on wealthy and they are encouraged to give other charity also. For some sins, omissions and mistakes, expiation (*Kaffara*) is Wajib (compulsory) and even in war booty, the fifth part has been reserved, so that wealth circulates freely through all sections of the society.

In this connection, these words of the Holy Prophet are the guide for us:

Lo! All interest-based transactions of the days of ignorance (before Islam) are declared null and void, but your principal amount belongs to you.

Right to equality

A society in which there are divisions based on family, tribe, caste, nationality, race, etc. easily falls prey to clashing and discord and decays very soon. The best society is the one in which there is no concept of high

and low based on such things and everybody's rights are equal. Here these words of the Holy Prophet are our guide:

An Arab does not have any superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab over an Arab; neither a white man over a black man nor a black man over a white man

With these guiding words, dividing men into classes is prohibited, arrogance has been checked and universal equality has been declared.

Rights of women

In the days of ignorance, women were meted out inhuman treatment. Boys were preferred over girls. Even in inheritance, only boys would have a share and girls would be deprived of it. In their menses, women were treated like animals. Even eating along with a woman in her periods was prohibited. Men would divorce a woman as many times as he wanted to and again take her back. In every aspect of life, women were oppressed.

The Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) declared all those rights of women which were their due and gave them such a high place to women that no other religion or philosophy of life had even approached it.

The following is the concise command of the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) about women:

*O people, your women have certain rights on you.....
Hence be conscious of Allah Most High about them.*

End of terrorism and declaration of peaceful coexistence

In the days of ignorance in lieu of the murder of 1 person, several people were killed and this course of vengeance would continue for several centuries. Fighting for a trivial, unimportant reason and taking each others' lives was not uncommon at all. Thus, the wars would go on. When a war would start, there would be no end in sight and they would continue for years and years. One war was carried for 120 years. The end result of these long drawn wars was that there was no peace in the society at all. Terror and barbarity were prevalent and there would always be an atmosphere of fear and anxiety.

The Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) ended this inhumane, terrorist custom; He said:

Lo! There will be no revenge-killings for the bloodshed of the days of ignorance

The Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) declared human life as sacred; He said:

O People, indeed your lives, your properties and your honor are sacred and inviolable to you

With these words, He (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) ended terrorism and gave the universal message of peaceful coexistence.

Rights of slaves

From the ancient times, slaves were denied basic human rights. Their status was not more than something kept in the house or a product out of a factory. They would be made to work day and night and they would be allowed

to rest where animals were kept. There would be a yoke of metal around their necks.

In European law, the master of the slaves had the right to whip the slave and in some cases, could kill the slave as well. The slave did not have the right of even using a name of choice. It was a crime to educate the slave.

In this atmosphere, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) urged people to treat their slaves humanely and ordered them to grant the slaves their rights, even to the point of instructing people about their food and dress. In the Sermon of the Last Hajj, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) said:

Take care of your slaves! Take care of your slaves. Give them what you yourselves eat and clothe them in what you wear.

Along with giving them the right of education and the right of life, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) also gave them the right that if the slave had political ability and acumen, the slave could even become the ruler and obedience to the slave would be Wajib (Compulsory) on all people. In this connection, the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wa sallam) said:

O People! Listen and obey to the command of your leader, even though an Abyssinian slave is your leader, who has a snub nose as long as he enforces the Book of Allah Most High in your affairs.
