

HAZRAT MUSLEH MAŪD—FAMILY OF DAWŪD

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Allāh Ta'ala pronounced the Promised Messiah^{as} as the reflection of all the Prophets and gave him their names. One of such names is "Dawūd" and by calling him with this name Allāh Ta'ala said:

”يا داؤد عامل بالناس رفقًا و احسانًا

"O Dawūd, behave towards people gently and benevolently" (Anjam-e-Atham RK Vol-11, P-60).

Huzūr^{as} further says about it:

”اسی طرح خدا نے براہین احمدیہ حصص سابقہ میں میرا نام داؤد بھی رکھا“

"Likewise God, in previous parts of Brāhīn-e-Ahmadīyya, named me Dawūd." (Brāhīn-e-Ahmadīyya Part-5, P-89 RK Vol-21, P-116)

In one of his poems Huzoor^{as} says

اک شجر ہوں جس کو داؤدی صفت کے پھل لگے ہیں ہوا داؤد اور جاہوت ہے میرا شکار

"I am a tree bearing fruits of the qualities of Dawūd. I became Dawūd and Goliath is my prey." (Brāhīn-e-Ahmadīyya Vol-5, P-103 RK Vol-21 P-133)

HAZRAT SULEMĀN^{AS}

The story of Hazrat Dawūd^{as} is not complete without mentioning his son, Hazrat Sulemān^{as}, a man of a strong determination and high resolve, inheritor of his great kingdom and a great Prophet like him. Mentioning his high qualities Allāh says:

38:21 وَشَدَدْنَا مُلْكُهُ وَأَتَيْنَاهُ الْحِكْمَةَ وَفَصَّلَ الْخِطَابِ

"And We strengthened his kingdom, and gave him wisdom and decisive judgment."

These qualities are also mentioned in the Bible:

"God gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight, and a breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore. Solomon's wisdom was greater than the wisdom of all the people of the East, and greater than all the wisdom of Egypt. He was wiser than anyone else, including Ethan the Ezrahite—wiser than Heman, Kalkol and Darda, the sons of Mahol. And his fame spread to all the surrounding nations. He spoke three thousand proverbs and his songs numbered a thousand and five. He spoke about plant life, from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of walls. He also spoke about animals and birds, reptiles and fish. From all nations people came to listen to Solomon's wisdom, sent by all the kings of the world, who had heard of his wisdom." 1 Kings 4:29-34 New International Version (NIV)

Hazrat Sulemān^{as} is quoted in Qur'an, praying:

38:36 قَالَ رَبِّ اغْفِرْ لِي وَهَبْ لِي مُلْكًا لَا يَنْبَغِي لِأَحَدٍ مِّنْ بَعْدِي إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ
"He said, 'O my Lord, grant me forgiveness and bestow on me a kingdom that will not suit anyone after me; surely Thou art the Great Bestower.'" (Sad 38:36)

In both of these verses Allāh Ta'ala mentioned that Hazrat Sulemān^{as} was given sublime wisdom and knowledge along with great and strong empire and kingdom which no one else was given.

ALLEGATION OF DISBELIEF AND DEVIATION FROM HIS FATHER'S PATH

Allāh stated that Hazrat Sulemān^{as} was alleged to commit disbelief and deviation from his father's path. Refuting this allegation Allāh says:

...2:103 وَمَا كَفَرَ سُلَيْمَانُ وَلَكِنَّ الشَّيَاطِينَ كَفَرُوا...

"And Solomon did not disbelieve; but it was the rebellious ones who disbelieved," (2:103).

This allegation is verified from the Bible which alleges Hazrat Sulemān^{as} to, God forbid, deviate from his father's path.

"As Solomon grew old, his wives turned his heart after other gods, and his heart was not fully devoted to the Lord his God, as the heart of David his father had been. 5 He followed Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians, and Molek the detestable god of the Ammonites. 6 So Solomon did evil in the eyes of the Lord; he did not follow the Lord completely, as David his father had done." (1 Kings 11:4-6 New International Version)

FAMILY OF DAWŪD

As mentioned earlier that Allāh named the Promised Messiah^{as} as Dawūd. It is therefore, a necessary outcome of this title that he should be given a Sulemān. In this regard HKM-II^{ra} wrote that after one month of the demise of the Promised Messiah^{as} he received revelation from God

" O Family of Dawūd act gratefully" (Tafseer-e-Kabeer Vol-2, P-66,67).

While stating this revelation Huzoor^{ra} said that though Allāh did not call him Sulemān but "Family of Dawūd", he knew that he is given some qualities of Hazrat Sulemān^{as} and in this there was a prophecy that he is going to be a khalifa of the Promised Messiah^{as}.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih-I^{ra} also described the resemblance of HKM-II^{ra} with a saint whose name was Sulemān and who was made khalifa at the age of 22 and remained khalifa for 78 years. (Hayat-e-Nūr Ch-5, P-398)

SIMILARITIES BETWEEN HAZRAT SULEMĀN^{AS} AND HAZRAT MUSLEH MAUOOD^{RA}

Now we see the similarities between Hazrat Sulemān^{as} and Hazrat Musleh Mauood^{ra}. The first similarity is of divinely granted wisdom and knowledge. We know that Hazrat Musleh Mauood^{ra}

hardly attended school. On top of that his bad health never allowed him to concentrate on education. Thus, all of his amazing knowledge and wisdom was nothing but a divine gift. Tafseer-e-Kabeer and all of his books in Anwar-ul-Uloom and his speeches are testimony to this fact.

Second similarity between these two great men is that like Hazrat Sulemān, HKM-II^{ra} inherited a spiritual kingdom from his father and reinforced it with a firm infrastructure. The kingdom given to Hazrat Sulemān^{as} was not given to anyone. Likewise, the glorious Khilafat, spanning over 52 years, in which he erected the strong infrastructure of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama`at on the foundation laid by the Promised Messiah^{as}, is not given to anyone.

In the history of the Prophets we know two pairs of father and son who established and developed a city. Hazrat Ibrahim^{as} & Hazrat Ismail^{as} founded and developed Makka; whereas Hazrat Dawūd^{as} and Hazrat Sulemān^{as} make Jerusalem one of the most important cities of the world. Walking on their footsteps, HKM-II^{ra} founded and developed Rabwah, making it a spring of Islamic knowledge and wisdom gushed out of it and reached the corners of the earth.

It is not out of the context to mention here that his opponents, i.e., Lahori group, tried to establish a so-called "Pure Ahmadiyya Habitat" in Lahore on the fertile land on banks of Lahore Canal but failed as mentioned in one of their own books. On the other hand, HKM-II^{ra} founded Rabwah on a barren infertile rugged terrain of that area.

Another similarity between these two great men is that like Hazrat Sulemān^{as} Hazrat Musleh Mauood^{ra} is alleged to have deviated from the path of his father. There are many venomous writings by Lahori group against him to this effect.

A very interesting point in this regard is that the allegations leveled by Lahori group against HKM-II^{ra} are the same which non-Ahmadi opponents leveled against the Promised Messiah^{as}. Besides alleging HKM-II^{ra} to forsake true Ahmadiyyat, they also allege him to make non-Ahmadi Muslims severe opponents of Ahmadiyyat by declaring them kafir. Likewise non-Ahmadi opponents allege the Promised Messiah^{as} to have provoked non-Muslims to use profane language against Islam, by harshly criticizing their beliefs and insulting their sacred personalities.

Like Hazrat Sulemān^{as}, who wrote a letter to Queen Sheba, mentioned in Qur'an as Bilqees, HKM-II^{ra} wrote letters to many rulers of his time including lady ruler of Bhopal, Sultan Jahan Begum.

In the end I present a quote from a book of HKM-II^{ra}, (*Allāh key Rastey main takaleef- Anwarul Uloom Vol-13, P-12*), wherein Huzoor^{ra} by quoting the prophecy of Hazrat Sulemān^{as}, about the Holy Prophet Muhammad^{saw},

"His mouth is sweetness itself; he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, this is my friend, daughters of Jerusalem." (Song of Songs 5:16),

advises the members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama`at to walk on the foot-steps of Hazrat Sulemān^{as} as he not only expresses his deep love for the Holy Prophet Muhammad^{saw} but also urges others to fall in his love. Huzoor^{ra} says that we Ahmadi Muslims should also go out, not to present philosophical ideas before people but to make people fall in deep love of the Holy Prophet (saw). May Allāh enable all of us to fulfill this and all other desires of HKM-II^{ra}