

Hadith

Hadith are the Sayings and teachings of the beloved Prophet Muhammad (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). The Hadith of the Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) include his words, actions and lessons that he told the Sahaba (his Companions). The Sahaba (may Allah be pleased with them) narrated these Hadith, as they lived by and observed the way of life of the Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Hadith have been preserved and passed down through generations, so Muslims in different generations could follow the teachings of the Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). The Hadith of the Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is where we can look to follow the Sunnah, which are traditions and practices of the Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). Through reciting and following Hadith, Muslims can gain a closer connection to Allah (The Glorified and The Exalted) and his Messenger (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

The Companions of the Prophet (may Allah be pleased with them) narrated the Hadith. Among the men, the greatest number of Hadith were narrated by Hazrat Abu Hurayra (may Allah be pleased with him), while Sayyidatina Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her) narrated the greatest number from among the women.

Imams of Hadith compiled these Hadith. There are many books of Hadith. The most famous books of Hadith are Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim.

We should memorize the Qur'an and we should memorize some Hadith as well, Insha Allah.

Through the Hadith we Muslims learn many different practices, the teachings of Islam, how we can live our lives, and how to worship Allah (The Glorified and The Exalted). The Hadith teach us how we can follow the way of life of the Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), as the Hadith give the believers a deeper insight to the Prophet's life and the trials he went through. For example, through Hadith we learn that the Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) never used to laugh out loud, but only smiled. Believers also learn how to behave and act in certain situations. It is mentioned in Hadith how Muslims should remain silent if they do not have anything good to say. Through the Hadith, one can also learn different lessons about the unseen world, for example, about the angels, and the Hereafter. Hadith can also warn Muslims of what will happen in the future. Believers are warned of what to prepare for when they enter their graves, and what will occur on the Day of Judgement.

The following is an example of a Hadith.

Narrated by Hadrat Jabir bin Abdullah (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Messenger of Allah (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: Guard yourself from committing oppression, for oppression will be darkness on the Day of Judgement. Guard yourself from greed, for greed destroyed those before you. It caused them to shed blood and to make lawful what is unlawful. (Sahih Muslim)

Hadith address many different topics of how we Muslims should live our lives. For example, gaining Allah's mercy, how to give Zakat, maintain good behaviour, eating, virtuousness of women and how to be just and fair. When we recite Hadith and start to practice the Sunnah of the Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), we start to gain a deeper love for him. Through learning and reciting Hadith, the believer can gain a deeper understanding of Islam, and prepare for the Day of Judgement.

One can also understand and learn the Qur'an through Hadith. Hadith and the life of the Prophet (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) give context to the Qur'an, of what is being talked about. This is very important, as the Qur'an has all the lessons for believers. The Qur'an and Sunnah are the two most important guides of how Muslims should go about their daily lives, in order to be successful in this life and in the next.

Hadrat Jabir bin Abdullah (may Allah be pleased with him) said that the Messenger of Allah (may the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: For every Prophet was a prayer with which he prayed (to his Lord) for his Ummah (community), but I have reserved my prayer for the intercession of my Ummah on the Day of Judgement. (Sahih Muslim)

By: Humayra Sidik