



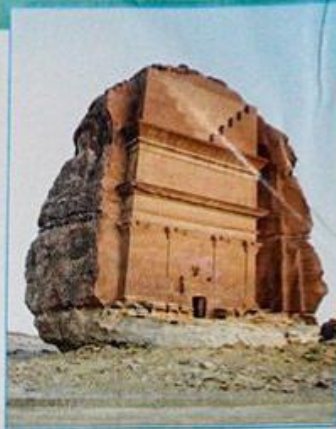
AR-RAHEEQUL  
MAKHTUM

# THE SEALED NECTAR

**Biography of the Noble Prophet** ﷺ

Safiur-Rahman Al-Mubarakpuri





The Sealed Nectar

# CONTENTS

Publisher's Note .....	24
Author's Autobiography .....	27
Location & Nature of Arab Tribes .....	31
Location of the Arabs .....	32
Arab Tribes .....	36
Rule & Government among the Arabs .....	45
Rule in Yemen .....	46
Rulership in Heerah .....	49
Rulership in Geographical Syria .....	51
Rulership in Hijaz .....	52
The Reasons for This War Have Been .....	
Illustrated in Three Versions .....	54
Rulership in Pan-Arabia .....	57
The Political Situation .....	59
Religions of the Arabs .....	60
The Religious Situation .....	70



# Publisher's Note



The heart of every Muslim is filled with love for the last Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and this love of the Messenger of Allâh is an asset for him. Love and respect for a person depends on the benefits we get from him. As the Prophet ﷺ is the greatest benefactor of humanity, every Muslim has the deepest love for him. Every action of his life is to be followed by every individual of the Muslim Ummah. Achieving the highest love for the Prophet ﷺ is a test of our Faith. Allâh the All-Mighty has described and explained the status of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in the Qur'ân:

﴿قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ﴾ (3:31)

“Say (O Muhammad ﷺ to mankind): If you (really) love Allâh then follow me (i.e., accept Islamic monotheism, follow the Qur'ân and the Sunnah), Allâh will love you...” (3:31)

Love for Allâh's Messenger ﷺ is a part of our Faith. There is a *Hadith* (narration) of the Prophet who said:

«لَا يُؤْمِنُ أَحَدُكُمْ حَتَّى أَكُونَ أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ وَالِدِهِ وَوَلَدِهِ وَالنَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ»

“None of you has Faith unless I am dearer to him than his father and his son and all mankind.”

In the early period of Islam, many books were written on the life of the Prophet ﷺ. The Qur'ân mentions that the life of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is the best example, when it says:



﴿وَإِنَّكَ لَعَلَّ خَاتَمَ عَظِيمٍ﴾

“And verily, you (O Muhammad ﷺ) are on an exalted standard of character.” (68:4)

Once `Aishah (رضي الله عنها) was asked about the noble character and manners of the Prophet and she answered: “Have you not read the Qur’ân? His character is a complete explanation of the Qur’ân.”

This means that whatever is commanded and prohibited in the Qur’ân, its practical embodiment is present in the manners of Muhammad ﷺ. In other words, the ideal and perfect example of good manners and character which the Qur’ân demands from mankind, was personified by Muhammad ﷺ in its highest degree.

Scholars of *Ahadiith* (narrations) and writers of the biography of Muhammad, the Messenger of Allâh, have explored his life from every angle and aspect from birth to death. Every event and incident of his life has been described and narrated in detail, but no one can claim to have rendered the Prophet’s biography its full right. Hundreds of books have been written on the life of Muhammad ﷺ and this endeavor will continue till the Day of Resurrection.

No doubt, ‘The Sealed Nectar’ (*Ar-Raheeq Al-Makhtum*) is a book of great value and praiseworthy work on the life of Muhammad ﷺ. This book was written by the Eminent Shaikh Safiur-Rahman Mubarakpuri of Jamiah Salafiyah, Banaras (India). The first Islamic Conference on the *Seerah* (biography of the Prophet ﷺ) was held in 1976 in Pakistan sponsored by the Muslim World League. The League announced a worldwide contest for writing a book on the life of the Prophet ﷺ. One hundred and fifty thousand Saudi Riyals (SR 150,000) (forty thousand U.S. Dollars) was announced the grand prize for the best five books.

One hundred and seventy-one manuscripts were received from all over the world. Out of these, eighty-five were in the Arabic language, sixty-four in Urdu, twenty-one were in English and one in French and Hausa.

A board of highly qualified scholars judged the manuscripts and announced the results. The manuscript of Shaikh Safiur-Rahman Mubarakpuri, Jamiah Salafiyah Banaras (India), the author of this



book ( The Sealed Nectar ) received the first prize of SR 50,000 (fifty thousand Saudi Riyals) for its authentic and sound collections of the narrations. Dr. Majid Ali Khan, New Delhi, India, was placed second. The third prize went to Dr. Naseer Ahmed, Islamic University, Lahore, Pakistan. The fourth prize was awarded to Mr. Hamid Mahmud of Egypt. The fifth and final prize was awarded to Abdus-Salam Hashim of Madinah Munawwarah. A grand award ceremony was held at Makkah Al-Mukarramah on 12 Rabi'ul-Awwal 1399 A.H. (1979 C.E.). Later, the book was published by the Muslim World League and then numerous other organizations gained the honor of publishing this masterpiece. Darussalam also published this book in the Arabic language. I had wished to publish this book in the English language for the wider benefit of humanity. Shaikh Safiur-Rahman willingly agreed to the idea and consented to publish the English translation. The stage of translation was traversed with the help of brother Mahir Abu Dhahab, owner and general manager of Markaz Noor Ash-Sham in Damascus, Syria.

For the first edition of this book, brother Mahir Abu Dhahab from Syria, Damascus, provided his help and cooperation as regards the translation work for which I offer my special thanks to him.

Now in your hands is the new revised edition with several changes and additions. Brother Abu Khaliyl (U.S.A.) amended and improved the translation to make its language simple and easy, besides comparing the English translation with the Arabic revised text from the beginning to the end again, to update the changes therein.

Thus, after a concerted effort spanning several months, this edition was published. الحمد لله (All praise is for Allah). Readers' opinions and views concerning this edition will be appreciated.

Your brother in Islam,  
Abdul-Malik Mujahid  
17th Shawwal 1422 A.H.  
1st January 2002



# Author's

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## AUTOBIOGRAPHY

*All* praise is due to Allâh, the *Rabb* of all mankind, Jinn and all that exists. May the peace and blessings of Allâh be upon our Prophet, the Seal of all Messengers, Muhammad, his family, Companions and all those who follow him until the Day of Judgement (*Aameen*).

[The following is an updated outline on the life of Shaykh Safiur-Rahman Mubarakpuri, may Allah have mercy upon him, based on the brief biography detailing his life and professional career presented to the Muslim World League while compiling this book for publication.]



## Name and Lineage

Name : Safiur-Rahman

Kunya<sup>1</sup>: Abu Hisham

Lineage: Safiur-Rahman bin Abdullah bin Muhammad Akbar bin Muhammad Ali bin Abdul-Mumin bin Faqirullah Mubarakpuri, Azami.

## Date and Place of Birth

I was born in the year 1942 C.E., in Husainabad, a village at a distance of one mile from the north side of Mubarakpur (Azamgarh District), a town famous for cottage industry in the northern province of India.

## Educational Background

I started my studies at home reading the Qur'ân from my grandfather and uncle. Then I was admitted to Madrasah Arabia Darut-Taleem, in Mubarakpur, and began my basic Islamic education in Arabic and Persian languages.

In Shawwal 1337 A.H. (June 1954 C.E.), I received admission to the Madrasah Ehyaul-Uloom, in Mubarakpur, for further education in Islamic studies and Arabic literature. Two years later, in Shawwal 1375 A.H. (May 1956 C.E.), I joined the Madrasah Fa'id Aam, Maunath Bhanjan, Azamgarh District for higher studies.

Upon completion of seven years of study in Islamic courses, I received a Master Degree from the same Institute in Sha'ban 1380 A. H. I also received the Certificates of Maulvi in 1959 C.E. and Alim in 1960 C.E. from the Government Education Board on passing their examinations with high grade. After changes in the system of the Arabic schools, I participated in the Fadil Degree examination under the Government Education Board, successfully passed double Fadil examinations in 1976 and 1978 C.E. with high honors.

## Professional Life

After completing my studies at the Madrasah Fa'id Aam in 1961

1 A surname which is usually derived from the name of a first-born son or daughter according to Muslim traditions.





C.E., I began teaching, preaching, lecturing and delivering sermons. However, unfavorable circumstances did not permit me to stay in one place for long. In March 1963 C.E., I joined the Madrasah Faid Aam in Maunath Bhanjan as a Teacher. Then I was transferred to the Madrasah Darul-Hadeeth in the same city in February 1966 C.E.

In January 1969 C.E., I was appointed as the Principal at the Madrasah Faidul-Uloom at Seoni (M.P.), India. After four years, in 1972 C.E., I was requested to serve in my native Institute Madrasah Arabia Darut-Taleem as Principal. After spending two years, I was invited by Jamiah Salafiyah Banaras to join as a Professor (Ustadh). I was appointed in Shawwal 1394 A.H. (October 1974 C.E.) working in various academic departments till Dhul-Hijjah 1408 A.H. (July 1988 C.E.).

A research institute was established in 1408 Hijrah at the Islamic University of Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah known as "The Center for the Services of the Prophet's Biography." I was selected to work there and was entrusted the duty of preparing an encyclopedia on the subject of the life history of the Noble Prophet ﷺ, as a research scholar.

"O our Rabb, accept from us with goodly acceptance and seek it grow in a good manner."

## Books and Compilations

It is the mercy of Allāh Who favored me and provided me the ability of writing from the very beginning of my career. During my teaching period, I wrote and compiled about seventeen books in the Urdu and Arabic languages. When the monthly Urdu magazine *Muhaddith of Jamiah Salafiyah* was published in 1980 C.E., I was appointed as Chief Editor of the magazine section up to September 1988 C.E., until I joined the Islamic University at Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah. During that period, I wrote a number of articles on social, historical, political and religious topics which were well received by many people. *Al-Hamdu lillah!*

Safiur-Rahman  
Al-Mubarakpuri





“And We have sent you (O Muhammad ﷺ)  
not but as a mercy for the `Alamin  
(mankind, Jinn and all that exists).”

## Formulas used in this book:

Arabic Formula	Symbolic Image	English Translation
سبحانه و تعالیٰ	☞	Might and majesty belong to Him!
صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم	☞	May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him!
علیہ السلام	☞	May peace be upon him!
رضی اللہ عنہ	☞	May Allah be pleased with him!
رضی اللہ عنہا	☞	May Allah be pleased with her!
رضی اللہ عنہما	☞	May Allah be pleased with both of them!
رضی اللہ عنہم	☞	May Allah be pleased with all of them!



# الرحيق المختوم

(باللغة الإنجليزية)

This Book was awarded First Prize by  
*The Muslim World League*  
at worldwide competition on the  
*Biography of The Prophet ﷺ*  
held at  
*Makkah Al-Mukarramah*  
in 1399H / 1979



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