



name: _____

date: _____

Accomplishments and traits

teacher reference

Accomplishments

Use the descriptions below as a reference when instructing on Prophet Muhammad's unique accomplishments.

Effective value system (e.g., justice, unity, equality)

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ set up an effective socio-political-legal order that translated the abstract values he advocated into concrete forms that actually governed people's lives. This ensured that these abstract values remained meaningful and impactful for all members of society.

Demanded an end to racism

He ﷺ preached against racial supremacy, stating that all of humanity originated from a single man, and that man was made from dust. What distinguishes us from the rest of humanity is our *taqwa* or God-consciousness. Going beyond tolerance, Prophet Muhammad argued that racial diversity should be appreciated and embraced.

Established social justice

Humanity has suffered countless casualties based on social classification. Some based it on lineage (ethnic patriotism), others on financial standing (socioeconomic class), and others on skin color (racial supremacy). Historically, these distinctions led to more than just bitter arguments, but also endless hatred, conflict, and generations of carnage. Prophet Muhammad ﷺ addressed a people that were knee-deep in feudal discriminatory tendencies and transformed that society into a model of social harmony in which all were liberated from the shackles of discrimination, and "superiority" was based only on piety—which only God could judge and all could compete for.

Validated accumulation of wealth

He ﷺ validated the wealth of the wealthy and the power of the powerful, whenever this wealth was not the fruit of exploitation or hoarding, and whenever this power did not translate into domination or authoritarianism. He also demanded an end to tyrannical classism by joining them at a beautiful middle called brotherhood.



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Uplifted the downtrodden

He ﷺ stood alongside the disenfranchised among society: the orphaned, the poor, the needy, the homeless, the widowed, the disabled, and the ill. He modeled beautiful ways to service the disenfranchised so that his companions could follow suit.

Humbled the affluent and reoriented their priorities

He ﷺ often reminded the affluent that their wealth is a blessing and mercy from Allah; He gives to whom He wills whenever He wills. The Prophet encouraged the wealthy toward charity as a means of reward and purification.

Established brotherhood

He ﷺ established a system to integrate immigrants into the preexisting Madina society. He did so by gathering 45 of the Muhajireen (migrants) and 45 of the Ansar (early Muslims of Medina) and pairing them together on the basis of compatibility. This system of brotherhood gave the Muhajireen psychological and economic support as they acclimated to new living conditions in Medina; it also alleviated much of the homesickness they experienced after leaving everything they had behind for the sake of Allah and His messenger.

Recognized inherent dignity of human beings

He ﷺ recognized universal brotherhood that affirmed the inherent dignity of the entire human race.

Demanded an end to bigotry

He ﷺ demanded an end to all forms of bigotry—systemic and inter-relational—based on race, color, gender, and class.

Encouraged cooperation between people

He ﷺ preached and modeled conflict resolution to his followers. By creating immediate and long-term incentives for social cooperation, he was able to unite competing tribes, the elite leaders and their subjects, and clashing family members under the banner of togetherness.

Created a theocentric vision for society and humanity as a whole

He ﷺ inculcated his followers with a deep love for their Creator. Developing clear insight into the identity of God inspired them to make Him the center of their ambitions, both on an individual level and on a societal level.



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Other accomplishments include:

- Undying influence on humanity
- Taught perfect unity of God
- Taught and lived a theocentric lifestyle
- Prioritized the mending of relationships
- Modeled effective conflict-resolution
- Produced the best generation witnessed by humanity
- Ennobled virtue and chastity
- Weaned society of alcoholism
- Embodied all the moral values/virtuous character traits he preached
- Deeply adored by contemporaries and followers for over a millennium

Character traits

Use the descriptions below as a reference when instructing on Prophet Muhammad's unique character traits.

Honesty

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ's clansmen, even those who staunchly opposed him, honored him with the title, "As-Sadiq al-Amin," meaning "the truthful and trustworthy one." Even when they persecuted him and rejected his message, they still trusted him with their most precious possessions. Aisha (rA) said, "He ﷺ instructed 'Ali (rA) to stay behind in Mecca, in order to return all the trusts the Messenger of Allah had for people. There was nobody in Mecca (even his enemies!) who had valuables that he feared for except that he kept them with the Messenger of Allah, due to the honesty and trustworthiness that was known [to all] about him. Thus, 'Ali (rA) stayed back for three days and three nights to deliver everything entrusted by the people to the Messenger of Allah, and then caught up with him after completing that task."

Austerity and asceticism

He ﷺ maintained a simple, non-materialistic lifestyle even after having gained a large following and control over all of Arabia. For months at a time, he would subsist on uncooked foods, such as dates and water. His living quarters were small to the extent that he would tap 'Aisha to bend her legs to make room for him to prostrate.



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Bravery

His ﷺ bravery reflects his certainty in his truthfulness. He fought in the frontlines of every battle. ‘Ali b. Abi Ṭālib (rA) would say, “I myself witnessed on the Day of Badr how we used to stay close to the Prophet ﷺ for cover, and he was the closest of us to the enemy, and he was the fiercest [warrior] on that day.” He even forbade his companions for standing guard by his door during times of political insecurity.

Perseverance

He ﷺ displayed flawless character and commitment to his mission in the face of every tragedy to befall him. He never knew his father, nor did he enjoyed the compassion of a mother, as he was orphaned in early childhood. He lost his grandfather, his uncle and wife simultaneously, and he witnessed every one of his children die save one. He was treated like a menace and fugitive after decades of building a flawless reputation among his people. He experienced physical abuse until he would faint, was starved for years by his own people, and faced countless campaigns of character assassination. He was driven out of his home, sent fleeing to Medina for shelter, only to find hypocrites there awaiting every opportunity to betray him. He witnessed the murder and mutilation of his relatives and companions, and then the slander of his cherished wife Aisha (rA), the daughter of his most loyal comrade. Yet, despite it all, he persevered with hope and an unparalleled commitment to his message to mankind.

Optimism

He ﷺ never lost hope in the support and victory of Allah, regardless of how apparently hopeless his situation would sometimes become. One example of this was when he was hiding in a cave with Abu Bakr on their way to Medina. With mercenaries standing at the mouth of the cave, just one peek away from uncovering their hideout and capturing them, Prophet Muhammad turned to Abu Bakr and said, “What do you think of two, and Allah is their third?” His supreme faith in Allah during moments of apparent hopelessness inspired his companions to become his greatest admirers.

Influence

He ﷺ is the single most influential figure in human history and is, a millennium and a half later, being imitated in the most private, or nuanced, particularities of his life.