

201029 - Is it correct to say that the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) was given the beauty of the entire universe?

the question

What exactly is meant by saying that the Messenger (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) was given the beauty of the entire universe?

Detailed answer

Firstly:

Love of the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) and mentioning his good attributes, both in his physical appearance and in his character, is part of faith. But exaggerating in praising him is something that he (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) forbade. Al-Bukhaari (3445) narrated from ‘Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) that he said: I heard the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) say: “Do not exaggerate in praising me as the Christians exaggerated in praising the son of Maryam, for I am but a slave, so say: the slave of Allah and His Messenger.”

What is meant by exaggeration is going to extremes in praising and overstepping the mark in that regard.

Imam Ahmad (12551) narrated from Anas ibn Maalik that a man said: O Muhammad, O our master (sayyid) and the son of our master, the best of us and the son of the best of us. The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: “O people, you should fear Allah and do not let the Shaytaan make you get carried away. I am Muhammad ibn ‘Abdullah, the slave of Allah and His Messenger. By Allah, I do not like for you to raise me above my station to which Allah appointed me.”

Classed as saheeh by al-Albaani in as-Saheehah (1097)

And there are many similar hadiths.

Secondly:

The Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) was the most beautiful and handsome of people in appearance.

Al-Bukhaari (3549) and Muslim (2337) narrated that al-Bara' said: The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) was the most handsome of people in face and body.

At-Tirmidhi (2811) narrated – and classed it as saheeh – from Jaabir ibn Samurah, who said: I saw the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) on a moonlit night, and I started looking at the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) and at the moon, and he was wearing a red suit, and in my view he was more beautiful than the moon.

Al-Bukhaari (3556) and Muslim (2769) narrated that Ka'b ibn Maalik (may Allah be pleased with him) said: When the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) was happy, his face would shine, as if it were a piece of the moon, and we would recognize that.

Please see also the answer to question no. [10452](#)

The Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) was given the most perfect of good characteristics and sublime attitudes, in addition to his perfect piety, worship and fear of Allah, such that no one exceeded him or even came close to him.

Al-Bukhaari (6203) and Muslim (659) narrated that Anas said: The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) was the best of people in attitude.

At-Tirmidhi (2820) and Muslim (2307) narrated that Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) said: The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) was the best of people, and he was the most courageous of people and the most generous of people.

Al-Haafiz (may Allah have mercy on him) said:

He attained the pinnacle of rational thinking, the pinnacle of courage and the pinnacle of generosity, and beauty is connected to a balanced temperament, which leads to a sense of

tranquillity, which in turn leads to sound reasoning and intellect. Therefore he may be described as beautiful in all of these aspects.

Thirdly:

In addition to what is mentioned above, describing the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) as having been given the beauty of the entire universe is something that is unknown in the Islamic texts and in the words of the scholars. Moreover, it is a statement that requires further discussion. Beauty in the universe is relative; humans have their own kind of beauty, animals have their own kind of beauty, birds have their own kind of beauty, plants have their own kind of beauty, buildings have their own kind of beauty, the stars have their own kind of beauty, and so on.

The Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) was given of human beauty that which was appropriate for one such as him (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him). So he was the most perfect of them in terms of physical appearance and character. To suggest anything other than that comes under the heading of the devils making some people get carried away and overstep the mark, and there is no need for that. Moreover, that has nothing to do with beneficial knowledge or righteous deeds.

Please see also the answer to question no. [4509](#).

And Allah knows best.