## Prophet Muhammad **\* - QUOTES BY NON-MUSLIMS**

If I were in his presence, I would wash his feet. -- [Hercules, the Great Roman Emperor]

In 1854 Lamartine, a Historian raised a very interesting question in HISTOIRE DE LA TURQUIE, Paris, 1854, Vol. II, pp 276-277, "IS THERE ANY MAN GREATER THAN HE?" I firmly believe the answer to his question will remain negative until the end of this world.

In 1936, George Bernard Shaw how truly said about **Prophet Mohammed** in the book, THE GENUINE ISLAM, Singapore, Vol. 1, No. 8, 1936, "He must be called the **Savior of Humanity**. I believe that if a man like him were to assume the dictatorship of the modern world, he would succeed in solving its problems in a way that would bring it much needed peace and happiness."

## Encyclopedia Britannica:

"... a mass of details in the early sources show that he was an **honest and upright** man who had gained the respect and loyalty of others who were like-wise honest and upright men." (vol. 12)

Michael H. Hart while ratings the men who contributed towards the benefit and uplifting of mankind writes in his book, THE 100: A RANKING OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSONS IN HISTORY, New York, 1978, p 33:

"My choice of **Muhammad** to lead the list of the world's most influential persons may surprise some readers and may be questioned by others, but **he was the only man in history** who was supremely successful on both the religious and secular levels."

Mohandas Gandhi, a staunch Brahmin Hindu leader, speaking on the character of **Prophet Muhammad**, says in YOUNG INDIA:

"I wanted to know the best of one who holds today's undisputed sway over the hearts of millions of mankind... I became more than convinced that **it was not the sword** that won a place for Islam in those days in the scheme of life. **It was the** rigid simplicity, the utter self-effacement of the Prophet, the scrupulous regard for his pledges, his intense devotion to his friends and followers, his intrepidity, his fearlessness, his absolute trust in God and in his own mission. ... These and not the sword carried everything before them and surmounted every obstacle. When I closed the 2<sup>nd</sup> volume (of the Prophet's biography), I was sorry there was not more for me to read of the great life."

K.S. Ramakrishna Rao, an Indian Professor of Philosophy in his booklet: Muhammad, The Prophet of Islam," calls him the "PERFECT MODEL FOR HUMAN LIFE." Prof. Ramakrishna Rao explains his point by saying: "The personality of Muhammad, it is most difficult to get into the whole truth of it. Only a glimpse of it I can catch. What a dramatic succession of picturesque scenes! There is Muhammad, the Prophet. There is Muhammad, the Warrior; Muhammad, the Businessman; Muhammad, the Statesman; Muhammad, the Orator; Muhammad, the Reformer; Muhammad, the Refuge of Orphan; Muhammad, the Protector of Slaves; Muhammad, the Emancipator of Women; Muhammad, the Judge; Muhammad, the Saint. All in all these magnificent roles, in all these departments of human activities, he is alike a hero."

Lamartine, the renowned historian speaking on the essentials of human greatness writes in great details and wonders:

"If greatness of purpose, smallness of means and astounding results are the three criteria of human genius, who could dare to compare any great man in modern history with Muhammad? The most famous men created arms, laws and empires only. They founded, if anything at all, no more than material powers which often crumbled away before their eyes. This man moved not only armies, legislation, empires, peoples and dynasties, but millions of men in one-third of the then inhabited world ...his forbearance in victory, his ambition, which was entirely devoted to one idea and in no manner striving for an empire; his endless prayers, his conversations with God, his death and his triumph after death; all these attest not to an imposture but to a firm conviction which gave him the power to restore a dogma. ... The Philosopher, orator, apostle, legislator, warrior, conqueror of ideas, restorer of rational dogmas, of a cult without images, the founder of twenty terrestrial empires and of one spiritual empire that is MUHAMMAD. As regards all the standards by which Human Greatness may be measured, we may well ask. IS THERE ANY MAN GREATER THAN HE?" (Lamartine, HISTOIRE DE LA TURQUIE, Paris, 1854, Vol. II, pp 276-277)

Leaders must fulfill three functions; provide for the well-being of the led, provide a social organization in which people feel relatively secure, provide them with one set of beliefs. People like Pasteur and Salk are leaders in the first sense. People like Gandhi and Confucius, on one hand, and Alexander, Caesar and Hitler on the other, are leaders in the second and perhaps the third sense. Jesus and Buddha belong in the third category alone. Perhaps the greatest leader of all times was **Mohammed**, who combined all three functions. To a lesser degree, Moses did the same. -- [Jules Masserman, Professor of History and Psychoanalyst

He was Caesar and Pope in one; but he was Pope without Pope's pretensions, Caesar without the legions of Caesar: without a standing army, without a bodyguard, without a palace, without a fixed revenue; if ever any man had the right to say that he ruled by the right divine, it was **Muhammad**, for he had all the power without its instruments and without its supports. -- [Reverend B. Smith - Muhammad and Mohammadanism, London

Islam is the only religion that gives dignity to the poor. [Ramsey Clark, Former U.S. Attorney General]

Sir Thomas Carlyle did not believe in our **Prophet Muhammad** but he was simply amazed and wrote in his book, Heroes and Hero-worship:

"... A man of truth and fidelity, true in what he did, in what he speaks and thought - this is the only sort of speech worth speaking. -- The lies that we (Christians) have heaped round this man (Muhammad) are disgraceful to ourselves only. ... The word of Muhammad is a voice direct from nature's own heart - all else is wind in comparison. -- How one man single-handedly, could weld warring tribes and wandering Bedouins into a most powerful and civilized nation in less than two decades."

(O Prophet Muhammad) Say, .O people, I am a messenger of Allah (sent) to you from the One to whom belongs the kingdom of the heavens and the earth. There is no god but He. He gives life and brings death. So, believe in Allah and His Messenger.. [Holy Qur'an, 7:158]