

## ISRA' AND MI'RAJ

16 JANUARY 2026M / 26 REJAB 1447M

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ  
فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّلْ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.  
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.  
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Be righteous to Allah SWT with true piety. Uphold His commands with devotion, and abstain from all that He has forbidden. May Allah SWT shower us with His blessings in this world and the Hereafter.

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

The event of Isra' and Mi'raj is one of the great miracles of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), which took place on a blessed night. This event stands as a clear proof of the truth of the Prophet's mission and of the power of Allah the Almighty that transcends the limits of human logic. Allah the Almighty declares in the first verse of Surah al-Isra':

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

أ ب ب پ

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَى بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا مِنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَا الَّذِي بَرَكْنَا حَوْلَهُ لِنُرِيَهُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ  
إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ ۝

**Which means:** *“Glory be to Him Who carried His servant (Muhammad) by night from the Sacred Mosque (in Makkah) to the Farthest Mosque (in Palestine), whose surroundings We have blessed, so that We might show him some of Our signs. Indeed, He alone is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing.*

The majority of scholars including Imam al-Tabari, Imam al-Qurtubi, Imam Ibn Kathir, Imam al-Suyuti, Shaykh Tahir ibn ‘Ashur, and many others, hold the view that the Isra’ and Mi’raj took place with both the body and soul of the Messenger of Allah (pbuh), in a real and physical state, not merely as a spiritual experience or a dream. This is the strongest opinion among Ahl al-Sunnah wal-Jama‘ah, and it stands as a decisive proof of the Prophethood and Messengership of the Beloved Prophet (pbuh).

This momentous event took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> of Rejab, in the tenth year of Prophethood. At that time, the Messenger of Allah (pbuh) had just endured the loss of two of his greatest supporters, his beloved uncle Abu Talib and his cherished wife Khadijah. That year came to be known as the ‘Year of Sorrow’.

In the event of Isra’, the Messenger of Allah (pbuh) was taken from the Sacred Mosque in Makkah to al-Aqsa Mosque in Palestine, riding upon al-Buraq. Al-Aqsa was chosen as the destination to affirm that this blessed land has always been bound by faith to the Muslim ummah. Then, in the event of Mi’raj, the Prophet (pbuh) was raised through the seven heavens until he reached Sidrat al-Muntaha. There, he received the divine command of prayer from Allah the Almighty.

The event of Isra' and Mi'raj was a test of faith and conviction for the Muslims of that time. The disbelievers opposed the Messenger of Allah (pbuh), mocking and ridiculing him, and even accusing him of falsehood and madness for narrating something beyond human comprehension. Yet, Sayyidina Abu Bakar Radiallahu 'Anhu did not waver in the slightest. He affirmed the truth of the Prophet (pbuh) , declaring that if such a miraculous event had occurred, he would believe it without hesitation, even if greater wonders were to be told. From that moment, he was honored with the title 'As-Siddiq,' meaning 'The Truthful One who Affirms'.

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Imam al-Bukhari narrates the dialogue between the Messenger of Allah (pbuh) and Prophet Musa AS after the command of fifty daily prayers was given. Prophet Musa AS said:

*“Indeed, your people (O Muhammad) will not be able to perform fifty prayers every day. I have tried with those before you, and I have exerted myself with the Children of Israel as best as I could. So return to Allah and ask Him for ease for your community.”*

In the end, Allah the Almighty granted ease by commanding the Muslim ummah to perform the obligation of prayer only five times a day. This event reflects the profound love and mercy of the Messenger of Allah (pbuh) towards his people.

As Muslims, we must appreciate the sacrifices of the Messenger of Allah (pbuh) and resolve firmly to fulfill the command of performing the five daily prayers with sincerity and devotion. Indeed, it is the very first act of worship to be accounted for, as the Prophet (pbuh) said in the narration of Imam Abu Dawud and Imam al-Tirmidhi, which means: *“Indeed, the very first deed to be accounted for from a servant on the Day of Judgment is his prayer. If his prayer is sound, then all his deeds will be sound; but if his prayer is corrupt, then he has failed and lost.”*

**Dear blessed brothers and sisters,**

Among the great lessons from the event of Isra’ and Mi’raj is the importance of al-Aqsa Mosque and the city of Baitul Maqdis in Palestine. Al-Aqsa is the third holiest mosque for Muslims after the Sacred Mosque in Makkah and the Prophet’s Mosque in Madinah, and it was the first qiblah of the Muslim ummah. Thus, defending and liberating Baitul Maqdis is part of our shared responsibility of faith. Let us join together in prayer, that al-Aqsa Mosque and the city of Baitul Maqdis may be freed from the hands of the unjust oppressors.

**Dear blessed Muslims,**

We may conclude several key lessons from today’s Friday sermon:

1. The event of Isra’ and Mi’raj is an extraordinary miracle that demonstrates the power of Allah the Almighty, which transcends the limits of human logic, and affirms the truth of the Prophethood of

Muhammad (pbuh) as well as his position as the leader of all the Prophets.

2. This event shows that prayer is the most exalted act of worship, for it was delivered directly in a place of great sanctity, without the mediation of any angel,
3. The selection of al-Aqsa Mosque as the destination of Isra' affirms that this sacred land has a deep bond of faith with the Muslim ummah, and is tied to the responsibility of preserving, defending, and liberating the holy city of Baitul Maqdis from oppression.”

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ  
الَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْغَيْبِ وَيُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنْفِقُونَ ٣

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَانِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.