

Those Before Us

﴿إِهْدِنَا الصِّرَاطَ الْمُسْتَقِيمَ * صِرَاطَ الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ غَيْرِ
الْمَغضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا الضَّالِّينَ﴾
وَقَالَ قَدُوتْنَا نَبِيَّ اللَّهِ ﷺ:
«مَنْ سَنَّ فِي الْإِسْلَامِ سُنَّةً حَسَنَةً فَلَهُ أَجْرُهَا وَأَجْرُ مَنْ عَمِلَ بِهَا بَعْدَهُ
مِنْ غَيْرِ أَنْ يَنْقُصَ مِنْ أَجُورِهِمْ شَيْءٌ»

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

In Surah Al-Fatiha, that we recite in every rak'ah of our prayers, we make dua by saying **“Guide us to the straight path-The path of those upon whom You have bestowed favour, not of those who have earned [Your] anger or of those who are astray!”**¹ Allah (swt) has explained who those people are that have been bestowed his favour in Surah An-Nisa by saying: **“And whoever obeys Allah and the Messenger-those will be with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favour of the prophets, the steadfast affirmers of truth, the martyrs and the righteous. And excellent are those as companions”**²

Dear Jama'ah!

Islam suggests principles that will lead to happiness in this world and the next through the Prophet Muhammad (saw). And this universal offer is applicable and covers all ages and geographies until the end of time. In our distant and recent history, there have been valuable personalities who have applied this call of the religion of Islam to their own lives first and then made an effort to bring it to humanity. Allah (swt) mentions in the Quran; **“And the first forerunners [in the faith] among the Muhājireen and the Anṣār and those who followed them with good conduct - Allah is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him, and He has prepared for them gardens beneath which rivers flow, wherein they will abide forever. That is the great attainment.”**³

By saying this, Allah (swt) has pointed to his valuable servants.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Our Prophet Muhammad (saw) gave us the good news of those who lead in goodness and charity as follows: **“Whoever calls to guidance will have a reward similar to those who follow him, without detracting from their rewards at all.”**⁴

Those who were sincere in belief and good deeds in the period they lived in, set an example for future generations. The consistent and stable lives they have lived with sincerity in their belief have been impacting the hearts of all Muslims. The attitude and stance they took in the face of difficult tests have become a measure for the Muslims of our century. With all the principles and values of Islam, they have been instrumental in the surfacing of a generation that have the correct principles and ideals to influence and penetrate all areas of life. Those who are ahead in the charity and goodness will definitely be ahead when being rewarded by Allah (swt).

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

As the Islamic Community Milli Gorus, we find it extremely important to remember and understand the leading figures for future generations. Activities aimed at promoting these valuable personalities who set an example for Muslims and serve as role models were carried out with great programs in previous years. Even though there is a pandemic, we will not and have not let this disrupt our programs. Some of our regions have either already had run the “Onden Gidenler” program, which translates to “Those Before Us”, or are going to run the program via online platforms. Let us not neglect to participate in these programs with our families and friends, as they aim to promote prominent leaders within the history of Islam.

May Allah (swt) allow us to be of those who live and understand Islam properly. Ameen



¹ Surah Al-Fatiha, 1:6-7

² Surah An-Nisa, 4:69

³ Surah At-Tawbah, 9:100

⁴ Muslim, Zekât, 20