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Al-Israa wa Al-Mi 'raj and the Great Miracles from Allah

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, "Glory to Him who made His servant travel by night from the sacred place of worship to Al-Aqsa Mosque, whose surroundings We have blessed, to show him some of Our signs: He alone is the All Hearing, the All Seeing." I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger. May Allah's Peace and Blessings be upon him, his Household, Companions and upon those who follow their path to the Day of Judgment.

The journey of *al-Israa wa al-Mi 'raj* is a great miracle that shows us the absolute power of the Almighty Allah, Who is the creator of all means. Therefore, what seems miraculous for humans is not as such in the Sight of Allah Who says, "When He wills something to be, His way is to say, "Be"- and it is."

The Almighty Allah supported His beloved Prophet with this blessed journey, as He brought him up from the land the heavens, until the Prophet (PBUH) reached *Sidrat al-Muntaha* (the Lote Tree of the Utmost

Boundary in the seventh heaven) so as to make him see great signs of Allah's Power and miracles.

Some of these great miracles are known to us, but still some are unknown. The Almighty Allah made His Prophet (PBUH) travel in this Journey from the Holy Mosque in Mecca to Al-Aqsa Mosque. From this point, the Prophet (PBUH) experinced an ascension to the heavens, then from the heavens to al-Aqsa Mosque, and then to the Holy Mosque in Mecca again, all at one night in an absolute Power from the Almighty Allah.

Our Prophet (PBUH) saw in the heavens great wonders that show Allah's Power. The Glorious Qur'an draws our attention that these signsshould be marvelolous saying, "We shall show them Our signs in every region of the universe and in themselves, until it becomes clear to them that this is the Truth."

Among these great miracles: is that Allah provided His Messenger with a creature known as "Al-Buraq" to be his transport means in this journey, as the Prophet (BUH) said, "I was brought al-Buraq who is an animal white and long, who would place his hoof a distance equal to the range of version." Besides, being a miracle, this teaches us the necessity of making use of available means, as it was possible to Allah to move His Messenger without any means.

Another sign is that the Prophet met all Prophets and Messengers (Peace be upon them all). The Almighty Allah brought all Prophets to the Prophet, a matter that shows Allah's ability to bring people to life after death. Prophet Muhammad led all Prophets in Prayer. Also, in the Heavens Prophet Muhammad met some Prophets and they all welcomed him, and asked Allah to bless him. This incident is a representation of Allah's saying, "Allah took a pledge from the prophets, saying, 'If, after I have bestowed Scripture and wisdom upon you, a messenger comes confirming what you have been given, you must believe in him and support him. Do you affirm this and accept My pledge as binding on you?' They said, 'We do.' He said, 'Then bear witness and I too will bear witness."

Another sign is: Seeing *al-Bayt al-Ma'mour* (the much-visited House) in the Heaven as the Prophet (PBUH) said, "I saw Abraham resting his back to *al-Bayt al-Ma'mour*, a hoise that seventy thousand angels enter into it daily and, and after they come out, they never return again." Allah made an oath i the Qur'an with this house saying, "By the much-visited House."

Another sign is: reaching *Sidrat al-Muntaha*, and this is a great honor bestowed from Allah to His Messenger, as Allah said, "[The Prophet's] own heart did not distort what he saw. Are you going to dispute with him what he saw with his own eyes? A second time he saw him; by the lote tree beyond which none may pass; near the Garden of Restfulness; when the tree was covered in nameless [splendor]."

All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds; may Allah's Peace and Blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), his companions and followers:

The journey of *al-Israa and al-Mi'raj* was a divine honoring to our Prophet (PBUH) after all the troublesand adversities he had suffered. It was a blessing to relief the Prophet's pains and to assure and strengthen his soul and heart, as aAllah said, "So truly where there is hardship there is also ease; truly where there is hardship there is also ease."

The Almighty Allah has showed His Prophet facts from the Unseen and the secrets of the universe, to affirm for him that he is supported by Allah and in His protection. Imam al-Bousiri said describing this incident:

(O Prophet!) You traveled over night from one sacred place to another as the full moon travels (at night) through intense darkness

And (O Prophet!) you continued ascending (over night) until you reached (your) destination (which is),

so close (To Allah) which is never been attained nor sought (by any other prophet)

And (O Prophet!) you were preferred (to lead other prophets in prayer),

by all prophets and messenger just as a preference given by (a) servant to (his) master

May Allah guide us to perfectly follow the Prophet in in this world and get his intercession in the Hereafter!