

The Birth of the Mercy of Mankind (peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him)

In his award-winning biographical account of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him) Ziā al-Nabī, Justice Pīr Muhammad Karam Shāh al-Azharī (may Allāh be pleased with him) describes some of the unique events that occurred on the night the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him) was born.

Historians have recorded many special and logic-defying events that occurred on the night the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him) was born. Here are just a few of these events.

1. On this night, all the statues and idols that were in the Ka'ba tumbled and fell to the ground. This was a symbolic event, since the eventual destroyer and annihilator of all idols was born on this night. Abd al-Muttalib reports:

‘On that night [when the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him) was born], I was at the Ka'ba. All the idols and statues there suddenly fell to the ground and a voice was heard from the doors of the Ka'ba saying: ‘The chosen (*al-Mustafā wa'l Mukhtār*) one has appeared.’ The infidels will perish at this hands, the Ka'ba will be purified from polytheism and he will preach the worship of Allāh, the King and All-Knowing’.ⁱ

2. At the time of the Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him) birth, a shining light appeared by which Sayyida Āmina (may Allāh be pleased with her) could see the palaces of Persia. According to another narration, the light appeared from Āmina (may Allāh be pleased with her) herself.ⁱⁱ

3. Imām Ibn Ishāq writes in *Sīrah Ibn Hishām*, narrating from Hishām ibn Urwa that his father heard Sayyida Āisha (may Allāh be pleased with her) relate that a Jewish woman came to Makka for business purposes. When the night of the Prophet's (peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him) birth came, she approached the tribe of Quraysh and asked: ‘Has someone bore a child from amongst your people tonight?’ They replied that they did not know of such occurrence. She asked Quraysh to investigate further and find out if any child had been born. When asked why this matter was important she replied: ‘The Prophet of this Ummah has been born on this night. His sign is that between the shoulders, a cluster of hair is to be found.’ Upon further investigation, the Jewish woman was informed that a child had been born in the house of Sayyida Āmina. She went to the house and asked to see the child. She looked at the baby and saw the cluster of hairs, upon which she fell to the ground and fainted. When she gained consciousness, the people asked why she had shown so much shock and surprise. She replied:

‘The line of *nabuwwa* in the people of Banū Isrā'īl has today stopped. O People of Quraysh! Today should be a great source of happiness for you. This child will guide you to lofty heights and will raise your pride and prestige in the East and West.’

4. On the night the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him) was born, the palaces of Iran trembled and fourteen of its walls fell to the ground.

5. In Iran on this night, a fire-temple that had remained lit for one thousand years suddenly went out and fused.ⁱⁱⁱ

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ⁱ *Zia-un-Nabi*, II: 32. Pir Muhammad Karam Shāh al-Azharī. Ziā-ul-Quran Publications, Lahore, Pakistan).

ⁱⁱ II: 29, Ibid.

ⁱⁱⁱ I: 478-479, Ibid.