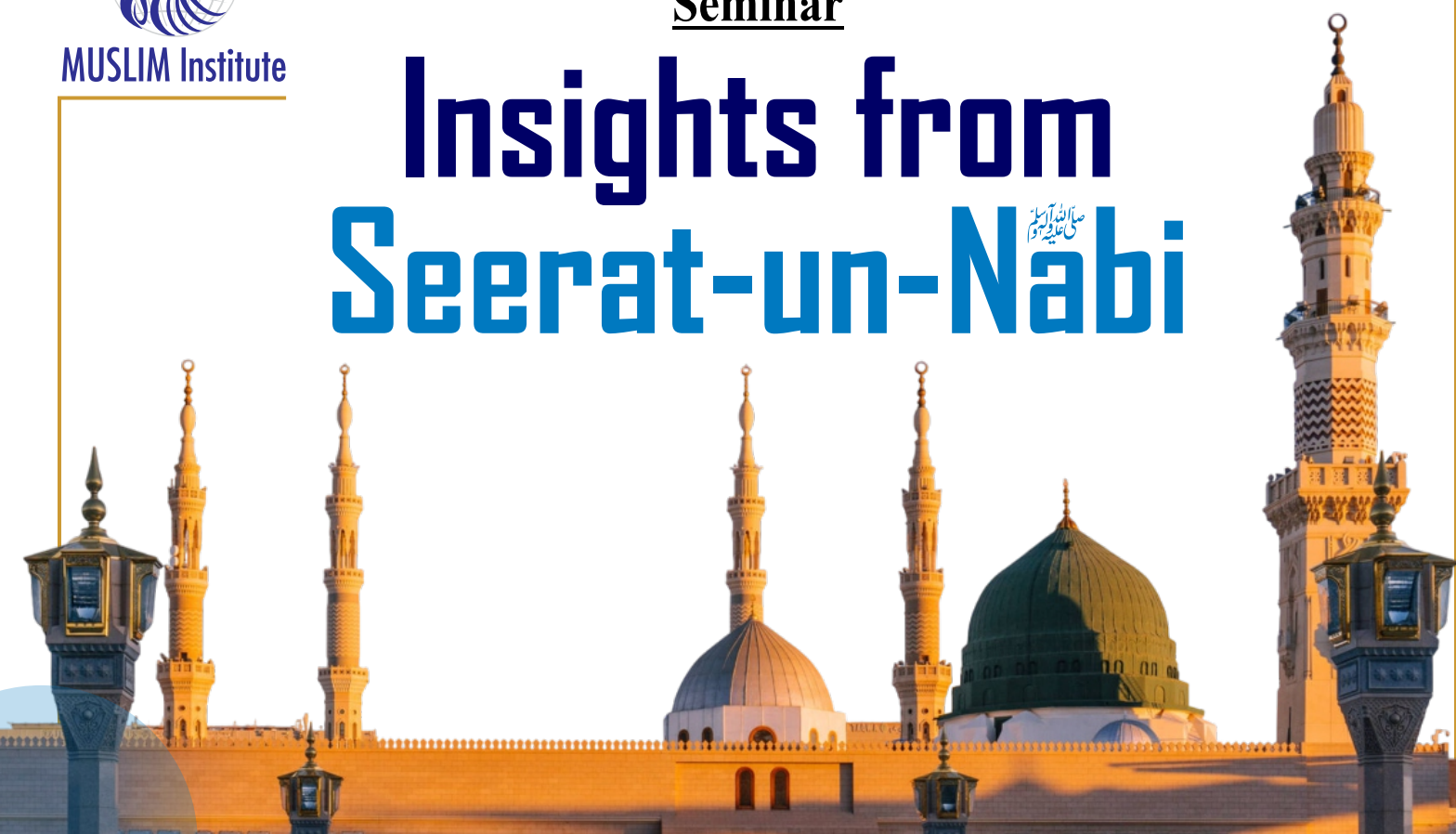


# Insights from Seerat-un-Nabi ﷺ



MUSLIM Institute organized a seminar titled "Insights from Seerat-un-Nabi (ﷺ)" on Friday, February 28, 2025, in

Lahore. The event featured an exclusive lecture by renowned scholar and Dean Pakistan College of Law, Lahore, Prof. Humayoun Ihsan. The session was presided over by the Chairman of MUSLIM Institute, Sahibzada Sultan Ahmed Ali. Public Relations Associate at MUSLIM Institute, Asif Tanveer Awan, delivered the welcome note, while Dr. Hamza Iftikhar, Assistant Professor at LUMS, moderated the proceedings. The seminar was attended by diplomats, advocates, scholars, academics, and policymakers, who actively participated in the discussions.

# FOLLOWING IS THE SUMMARY OF THE SPEAKERS' REMARKS:



Welcome note

**Asif Tanveer Awan Advocate,**  
Public Relations Associate,  
MUSLIM Institute

Seerat-un-Nabi (ﷺ) serves as an illuminating model, offering guidance in every aspect of life. The growing social instability, moral decline, and societal challenges are eroding our social fabric. Pakistan, as a diverse, multi-ethnic, multilingual, and multicultural nation, faces numerous complex issues. In this context, the Seerat provides invaluable guidance for building a stable and resilient society.

Today's gathering is a testament to our commitment to deepening our understanding of the Seerat. It is an opportunity to reaffirm our dedication to integrating its teachings into our lives to promote individual well-being, societal harmony, and national cohesion. The Seerat holds the promise of transforming the current socio-political turmoil into a foundation for peace, stability, and prosperity.



Exclusive Lecture

**Prof. Humayoun Ihsan**

Dean, Pakistan College of Law

In his first address to the people of Makkah, the Prophet (ﷺ) presented his own character as testimony and asked the people about their perception of him.

Even the non-Muslims acknowledged him as the most truthful and trustworthy among them. This fundamental principle of Islam (to be truthful and trustworthy) was emphasized by the Prophet (ﷺ) even before his declaration of prophethood.

History proves that only those nations succeed that uphold truth, embrace perseverance, and cultivate a strong work ethics and values, as exemplified by the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) himself. These principles serve as the foundation for nation-building and the path to true success.

As followers of the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ), we must not succumb to despair or disappointment due to challenging circumstances. Instead, we should rise above them, driven by our high aspirations and purpose. Moreover, as an Ummah, it is our collective duty to uphold and protect the finality of the Prophethood of the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ). Despite holding numerous positions, he never accumulated wealth for his family, demonstrating that true progress for a nation lies not in material gain but in selflessness and higher ideals.

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The life of the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) reflects an unceasing pursuit of knowledge. While it is often said that "humans are social animals," in reality, men and women are knowledge-seeking beings. The universe operates not on the rule of material possessions but on the principles of knowledge. By embracing knowledge, humanity can reach the stars, explore planets, and harness the forces of nature. Indeed, Allah created the universe upon the foundation of knowledge.

Throughout history, scholars have proposed various ideologies and theories, many of which have been rejected over time, even by their own successors. However, in the vast expanse of the universe, the knowledge imparted by Exalted Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) has remained unchanged for over 1,400 years.



His teachings continue to be just as relevant and beneficial today as they were in his time. This is because the knowledge he conveyed was not merely theoretical—it was exemplified through his character and actions in everyday life. The Exalted Prophet's (ﷺ) words serve as Hadith, while his entire character is the Exalted Quran.

Today, scholars seek to distinguish between what is apparent and what is real. However, the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) always

embraced the essence of truth rather than its superficial form. The principles he provided do not require validation through Western frameworks, as those frameworks lack the authority to assess divine wisdom. Instead, our faith should remain firmly rooted in Exalted Quran. The essence of the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) transcends mere discussions of Noor (Sacred light) and Matter; his legacy is far greater, guiding all aspects of life with eternal wisdom. Most importantly, even the slightest trace of the physical body of Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) surpasses the quality of the commonly known Noor.

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Immanuel Kant introduced the concept of categorical imperatives, which include two fundamental principles. First, always pray for what benefits everyone that can be universal- just as the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) always prayed for the well-being of all. Second, never treat human beings as mere commodities or use them as a means to an end.

Even the slightest trace of the physical body of Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) surpasses the quality of the commonly known Noor.

In the pursuit of ultimate truth, Gabriel (A.S) descended to the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) to deliver the divine revelation-the ultimate Book. When Allah Almighty gathered all souls and asked, "*Am I not your Lord?*" they unanimously responded, "*Indeed, You are our Lord.*" Among all testimonies, the one given by the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) was the most perfect, for his faith and sincerity surpassed all others. Thus, his personality stands closest to reality.

The Exalted Quran presents a profound comparison: had it been revealed upon a mountain, the mountain would have crumbled under its immense weight. Yet, the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) alone possessed the strength to bear the responsibility of this divine truth. His unparalleled truthfulness and spiritual depth enabled him to fully comprehend the message that Allah willed for humanity.

For true success, it is essential to study the practical life of the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) through the lenses of ontology and epistemology, just as the early Muslims did. In the past, he was recognized as both a scientist and a philosopher, yet, unfortunately, such scholarly engagement with his life has diminished in the present era-one of the many reasons for the decline of the Muslim Ummah.

The Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) always prayed for guidance on the right path. In this prayer lies a profound message-he embraced the paths of his predecessor prophets, signifying the unity of divine teachings and the absence of a clash of civilizations. In doing so, he also demonstrated humility by setting aside his personal identity in submission to Allah's command.

### **The Quran further emphasizes this in the verse:**

*“Holy (i.e., free of any imperfection, weakness and insufficiency) is He Who took His (most beloved and intimate) Servant in a small portion of a night from the Sacred Mosque to the al-Aqsa Mosque, whose surroundings We have blessed, in order that We might show him (the Perfect Servant) Our signs. Surely, He is the One Who is All-Hearing, All-Seeing” (Surah Al-Isra 17:1)*



This signifies that, first, the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) humbly set aside his own identity, and in return, Allah Almighty revealed to him the paths of past prophets, ultimately entrusting him with the leadership of all.

Once, Prophet Moses (A.S) pleaded with Allah Almighty to reveal His divine manifestation. When Allah unveiled His glory, Mount Tur crumbled under its immense power. In contrast, the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) was granted the unparalleled honor of witnessing Allah directly-a sacred station where no one else could ascend.

Allah Almighty has bestowed a reflection of this *Mi'raj* upon the Ummah of the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ), granting each believer a spiritual elevation according to the sincerity and depth of their prayers. This is a divine gift, a means of nearness to Allah, exclusively for his followers.

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Remarks by the chair,  
**Sahibzada Sultan Ahmed Ali**  
Chairman MUSLIM Institute

The intellectual and spiritual legacy continued through the mission of Imam Ghazali, who successfully bridged the gap between Sufism and intellectual discourse. Before his efforts, mysticism and philosophical inquiry remained distinct disciplines. Imam Ghazali was the first to integrate these two realms into a cohesive framework. Later, Mohy ad-Din Ibn al-Arabi expanded this synthesis by interlinking mysticism and philosophy, presenting his insights in a manner accessible even to the layperson.

Mevlana Jalal ad-Din Rumi, in his exploration of higher mystical and religious experiences, masterfully conveyed these concepts through his epic Masnavi Manavi. He completed the mission of Imam Ghazali and Ibn Arabi by transforming complex mystical and philosophical ideas into relatable parables and stories with artistic eloquence. Similarly, Allama Muhammad Iqbal carried this tradition forward, further refining and modernizing these intellectual and spiritual insights. His work, *The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam*, represents a significant step in making spiritual and intellectual knowledge more accessible to contemporary audiences.

Intellect serves as both a tool and a guide, enabling humanity to recognize and authenticate the Exalted Message. When operating within a common framework, it leads individuals closer to divine guidance and ultimate truth.

## INTERACTIVE SESSION



The foundation of knowledge lies in revelation. Even Kant struggled to relate religious and material knowledge, as either one must be incorrect or they exist as separate forms of knowledge. Therefore, faith cannot be challenged solely based on the principles of Western philosophy. In Western thought, the concept of reality and the purpose of creation

were initially based on two reasons but later evolved into a singular perspective. This shift demonstrates how philosophical interpretations change over time. However, no one can attain the spiritual and intellectual culmination of the Exalted Prophet (ﷺ).

Karl Marx argued that ideas arise from material conditions. While modern society possesses physical objects and instruments for measurement, such tools did not exist in history. However, faith is not dependent on physicality or materiality—it is rooted in belief. A true devotee of the Exalted

Prophet (ﷺ) should embody His love in their character and actions.

Allah Almighty has 99 names, which are not merely for learning but for practice. The Exalted Prophet (ﷺ) is the perfect embodiment of these divine attributes.

The souls of human beings entered into a social contract with Allah Almighty, as stated in Surah Al-A'raf (7:172). Human beings are accountable for their deeds and will receive the blessings of paradise or the punishment of hell accordingly. It is essential to seek and align with the will of Allah Almighty, and His will is for humanity to act with wisdom and intelligence.



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