



TARIQ RAMADAN

THE MESSENGER

THE MEANINGS OF THE LIFE OF MUHAMMAD

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MUHAMMAD AKRAM*

Assistant Professor, International Islamic University, Islamabad

<m.akram@iiu.edu.pk>

The Times rates, a sort of short biography of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be on him), *The Messenger: The Meanings of the Life of Muhammad*, by Tariq Ramadan, as “Fascinating ... punctuated by spiritual reflections,” which “tells Muhammad’s life from orphaned childhood to his death, with Islam dominant across Arabia” (see, title page). This fascinating, beautifully poetic and easy-to-read prose, owes its initiation to two Arab countries’ banning of author’s “entry to their territories,” for a journey intended “to narrate a film, *In the footsteps of the Prophet Muhammad*,” on invitation of a British TV channel, which “unfortunately made... [that] project impossible” (p. vii). This made the author decide to, “.... write a biography of the Prophet Muhammad, endeavoring to throw light on the spiritual and contemporary teachings in the life of the last Prophet” (p. vii). The resultant biography was originally published with the title, *In the Footsteps of the Prophet: Lesson from the Life of Muhammad*, by the Oxford University Press, in 2007.

* Muhammad Akram, securing MS from International Islamic University, Islamabad and PhD from University of Erfurt, Erfurt, Germany, is serving as an Assistant Professor, Department of Comparative Religion, Faculty of Islamic Studies (Usuluddin), International Islamic University, Islamabad. He has contributed several research papers in academic journals and conferences within Pakistan and abroad.