

Amongst The Prophet's Companions

Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him

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PREFACE

Muslim religion does not stand by words but it stands on men's shoulders, who carry the holy duties and do not fight over their passions.. They are not attracted by lights and they are not looking for power and leadership.. They do not prefer life to religion.

They struggle in the Cause of Allah.. They also do not fear to be blamed.. They say the truth even if it is sour.. They protect the Holy Book and *Sunnah*¹ their Prophet Muhammad, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and practice what's in them acting in the same way as their Prophet and following his steps.. –Prophet Muhammad, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was a Qur'an walking on earth- They were not harmed by those who rejected them or objected to what they say till the hour comes.. They competed in spreading the religion.. They brought up generations of youth (whom we do not fear and whom we are not worried about).. They paved the way and cultivated the land with the principles of religion.. They do not wait to gather the crops in their life time because this is not their actual home but their home is there, with their god.. They seek it and work for it.. Their hearts loved and their souls were purified and their hands tied, so they

¹ The legal way or ways, orders,acts of worship and statements of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, that have become models to be followed by the Muslims.

became like one strong body that is not affected by temptations or fight over passions.. They are resembling one body, so that, if any part of the body is not well, then the whole body shares the sleeplessness (insomnia) and fever with it.

Allah, Praise and Glory be to Him, chose companions for His Prophet and made them ministers and assistants and privileged them over all nations.. He raised, lifted and mentioned them in the Holy Qur'an.. They were overwhelmed by content and contentedness.. Blessing on them and for those who saw them and loved them and for every human knew their value and followed their way and steps.. They were the ones who spread the Islam and held the Qur'an and transferred to us *Sunnah* Muhammad, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,.. All Islamic scientists asked for their opinions, so it is the duty of every Muslim to praise them and not to discuss their private lives nor their disagreements and wars.. Prophet Muhammad, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, warned those who came after them saying: "*Allah.. Allah concerning my companions.. Do not make them your target after I go away*"¹.

¹ As At-Termidhi narrated that 'Abdullah Ibn Meghfal (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

“If my companions are mentioned, then refrain. And if fate is mentioned, then refrain”¹.

Dear reader, we think we have to introduce samples of those outstanding characters who are like shiny stars, whoever you follow is a good guidance especially that we are in a period of time in which we lack the good, proper example and in an age where all standards are mixed up and principles are destroyed.. Football players and actors became stars who are pointed at with praise.. Newspapers relate all their news and show their photos. This affected badly our young generations. Our youth became victims of deviations and intellectual and cultural invasion that produces deformed weak characters with sick imagination, generations that cannot build their futures nor their nations future. They care only for fun, play and imitate blindly all traditions that do not coincide with the principles of a nation that Allah said in its favour: *﴿You [true believers in Islamic Monotheism, and real followers of Prophet Muhammad, Allâh’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, and his Sunnah] are the best of peoples ever raised up for mankind; you enjoin Al-Ma’rûf (i.e. Islamic Monotheism and all that Islam has ordained) and forbid Al-Munkar*

¹ As At-Tabarani narrated that Ibn Mas‘ûd (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

(polytheism, disbelief and all that Islam has forbidden), and you believe in Allâh. And had the people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians) believed, it would have been better for them; among them are some who have faith, but most of them are Al-Fâsiqûn (disobedient to Allâh and rebellious against Allâh's Command)). (Âl-Imrân, "The Family of Imran", 110).

No doubt, the best who represented this nation were the beginners who followed the manners and principles of their Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,.. They were a credit to Islam, they dominated the nations and spread the civilization in the whole world.

I would like to ask Allah to help our youth follow the path of the beginners who were worriers in the morning and nuns in night. Mohammad, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, admitted that saying: *"The best people are those of my generation, then those who come next, and then those who come next"*¹.

Yassin Roushdy

¹ As Al-Bukharî and Muslim naratted that 'Umran Ibn Al-Hussian (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

The Keeper Of The Secret And The *Siwâk*¹

‘Abdullâh Ibn Mas‘ûd

May Allah be pleased with him

Let us listen attentively, dear reader, to **Allah**'s Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, describing that man:

*"I give you the permission to hear my secret, and the barrier shall be removed"*²... This man used to be with **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, ... He used to help him put on his shoes, walk with him and in front of him, covered him when he, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, washed himself, and wake him up if he, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, slept... He was known amongst the *Sahâbah* (companions) who keeps the secret and the *Siwâk* ... 'Abû Mûssah Al 'Ash'arî said about him: My brother and I came from *Yemen*, and for some time we continued to consider 'Abdullâh Ibn Mas'ûd as one of the members of the family of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, because we used to see him and his mother going in the house of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, very often...

Hudhaifah Ibn Al Yamân, may Allah be pleased with him, -the keeper of **Allah**'s Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, secret- said

¹ *Siwâk*: A piece of a branch or a root of a tree called *Al-Arâk* used as a toothbrush.

² Narrated by Muslim and Ahmad.

about him: I do not know anybody resembling the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, (to some extent) in appearance and conduct more than Ibn 'Um 'Abd... The Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, companions, knew that Ibn 'Um 'Abd-'Abdullâh Ibn Mas'ûd- was from the closest men to **Allah**... Hudhaifah says: The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, said: *"Follow Ibn 'Um 'Abd's covenant"*¹...

He used to serve the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him,...

One day, he, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, ordered him to climb a tree to bring him something from it... His friends looked at his legs and laughed as they were very thin... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, said: *"Why do you laugh!!... For 'Abdullâh's legs would weigh more than the weight of 'Uhud² mountain on the day of judgment"*³...

One day, some people sitting at 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib's house said about him: We have never seen a man with better manners, or more gentle in his teaching, or a better companion, or more pious than Ibn Mas'ûd... 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib said: Do you swear by **Allah**, that you say the truth from the bottoms of your hearts?... They said: Yes... 'Alî said: O **Allah**, Be my witness that I say what they

¹ Narrated by Ahmad.

² 'Uhud: A well-known mountain in *Al-Madînah*. One of the great battles in the Islamic History took place at its foot. The battle is called *Ghazwât 'Uhud*.

³ Narrated by Ahmad.

say... And that Ibn Mas‘ûd is the best man to read the Qur’ân, the most careful to follow *Halâl* (Lawful) and forbid *Harâm* (Unlawful), a knowledgeable in religion, and a scholar in the *Sunnah*¹...

That Qur’ân reader that the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, ordered us to take the Qur’ân from him amongst four of the *Sahâbah* (Companions)... He, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, said about him: “*Who would like to read the Qur’ân tenderly and gently, let him read it like Ibn ‘Um ‘Abd’s reading*”²...

He was the man who would stay up all night -when all else was still- reciting the Qur’ân, which sounded like the humming of the bees, till morning dawns...Allah’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, said about him: “*If I could appoint anyone as a ruler, without counseling, I would appoint Ibn ‘Um ‘Abd*”³...

Let us hear from him the story of how he became a Muslim:

I was a young boy, taking care of ‘Uqbah Ibn ‘Abî Moa‘ît’s sheep... The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, and ‘Abû Bakr came to me... The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and peace be

¹ *Sunnah*: The legal way or ways, orders, acts of worship and statements of the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, that have become models to be followed by the Muslims.

² Narrated by Al Qazwini.

³ Narrated by Ahmad.

upon him, said: “*O young boy, do you have some milk?*”... I said: Yes, but I am trusted upon it!... He, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, said: “*Bring me a young goat (nursling) and had not even given birth yet*” (Could not have any milk yet)... So I brought him a she goat (Female)...

Allah’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, held the goat down and rubbed its udder and prayed until milk came out... ’Abû Bakr got him a hollow rock to fill it with the milk... He, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, told ’Abû Bakr: “*Drink*”... So ’Abû Bakr drank, then the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, drank after him... After that, **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, told the udder: “*Retract*”... It retracted to what it was... I told **Allah’s** Prophet: O Prophet of **Allah**... teach me from these words -or from that Qur’ân-... He, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, rubbed my head saying: “*You are a boy that shall be taught*”.. Ibn Mas’ûd says: I have learnt from him seventy Qur’ân *Sûrahs* perfectly that no one could compete with me in learning them...

He, may Allah be pleased with him, says about himself: Muhammad’s companions, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, knew that I was the most knowledgeable to **Allah’s** book, but that does not mean I am the best of them all, and if I knew that anyone was more knowledgeable to **Allah’s** book than I was, I would go out trying to reach him...

He, may Allah be pleased with him, was the first one to read the Qur'ân aloud in *Makkah*, after **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, . . . One day, the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, companions gathered and said: By **Allah**, *Quraish*¹ has never heard that Qur'ân being read aloud amongst them. . . Who could be the man that will make them hear it? . . . 'Abdullâh Ibn Mas'ûd said: I will. . . They said: We fear they would hurt you, we need a man who would be protected by his tribe, if they intend to hurt him! . . . He said: Let me go. . . For **Allah** shall protect me. . . He reached *Maqâm Ibrâhîm*² (Ibrâhîm's shrine) before noon, while the men of *Quraish* were sitting around *Al Ka'bah*³. . . He read in a loud voice: ***«In the Name of Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. The Most Gracious (Allâh)! He has taught (you mankind) the Qur'ân (by His Mercy).»*** (*Ar-Rahmân*, "The Most Gracious", 1-2). . . The people started saying: What is Ibn 'Um 'Abd saying? . . . Then they said: He is reciting some of what Muhammad

¹ *Quraish*: One of the greatest tribes in *Arabia* in the Pre-Islamic period of Ignorance. Prophet Muhammad, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, belonged to this tribe, which had great powers spiritually and financially both before and after Islâm came.

² *Maqâm Ibrâhîm*: The stone on which Ibrâhîm (Abraham), may Allah be pleased with him, stood while he and Ismâ'îl (Ishmael), may Allah be pleased with him, were building the *Ka'bah*.

³ *Ka'bah*: A square stone building in *Al-Masjid-al-Harâm* (the great mosque at *Makkah*) towards which all Muslims face in *Salât* (prayer).

says... They got up and started hitting him on his face, but he kept on reading... He returned to his friends with his face all marked with blows, They said: We feared that this would happen to you... He said: I never hated **Allah**'s enemies as much as I hate them now, and if you wish, I could do the same thing again tomorrow?... They said: Enough... You have told them what they hate...

He, may Allah be pleased with him, immigrated during the two *Hijrah*¹ to *Ethiopia*, then to *Al Madīnah Al Munawarah*... He fought in *Badr*², and killed 'Abû Jahl... He also fought in '*Uhud* and witnessed all the conquests with **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him,... He took part in *Bai'at-ur-Ridwân*³ (pledge of allegiance) and

¹ *Hijrah*: Literally it means migration. This term is used for: The migration of Muslims from an enemy land to a secure place for religious causes, the first Muslims migration from *Makkah* to *Abyssinia* (Ethiopia) and later to *Al-Madīnah*, the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, migration journey from *Makkah* to *Al-Madīnah*, and the Islamic calendar year which started from the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, migration journey from *Makkah* to *Al-Madīnah*.

² *Badr*: A place about 150 k.m. to the South of *Al-Madīnah* where the first great battle in Islamic History took place between the early Muslims and the infidels of *Quraish*.

³ *Bai'at-ur-Ridwân*: The oath and pledge taken by the *Sahâbah* (companions) at *Al-Hudaibiyah* in the year 6 H. to fight *Quraish* in case they harmed 'Uthmân, may Allah be pleased with him, who had gone to negotiate with them and reported to have been taken captive.

fought in the battle of *Yarmûk*¹, after **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, died...

He, may Allah be pleased with him, relates to us, he says: **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, said to me: "*Recite Qur'an to me*"... I said to him: Shall I recite (it) to you while it has been revealed to you?!... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, said: "*I like to hear it from another person*"...

I read to Him from *Sûrat Al Nisâ'* (The women) until I reach: **﴿How (will it be) then, when We bring from each nation a witness and We bring you (O Muhammad, Allâh's Prayers and Peace be upon him), as a witness against these people? On that day those who disbelieved and disobeyed the Messenger (Muhammad, Allâh's Prayers and Peace be upon him), will wish that they were buried in the earth, but they will never be able to hide a single fact from Allâh﴾**. (*An-Nisâ'* "The Women", 41-42).

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him, told: "*Stop*"²..For then his eyes were full of tears ...

As time passes, 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, may Allah be pleased with him becomes a *Khalifah*³ (caliph) and he sends Ibn Mas'ûd to

¹ *Yarmûk*: A place in *Shâ'm*.

² Narrated by Al Bukhâri.

³ *Khalifah*: (Plural: *Khulafâ'*) Caliph, a successor, an Islamic term used for the first four rulers after the death of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and peace be upon him.

*Kûfah*¹ with ‘Ammâr Ibn Yâsir... He wrote to its people saying: I have sent ‘Ammâr Ibn Yâsir as a ruler, and ‘Abdullâh Ibn Mas‘ûd as a scholar and an advisor... They are both from the most respectable and knowledgeable of **Allah**’s Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, companions... They are men who fought in *Badr*... Therefore, take them as an example and listen to them... By sending you ‘Abdullâh Ibn Mas‘ûd, I am preferring you to myself.

When ‘Uthmân Ibn ‘Affân, may Allah be pleased with him, becomes a *Khalifah* (caliph), he sends for ‘Abdullâh Ibn Mas‘ûd to come to *Al Madînah*... ‘Abdullâh falls sick, and ‘Uthmân goes to visit him... He asks him: What are you suffering from?... Ibn Mas‘ûd said: My sins.. ‘Uthmân said: What do you desire?.. Ibn Mas‘ûd said: **Allah**’s mercy.. ‘Uthmân said: Shall I bring you a doctor?.. Ibn Mas‘ûd said: The doctor has made me sick.. ‘Uthmân said: Do you need to be provided with some money?.. Ibn Mas‘ûd said: I have no need for it.. ‘Uthmân said: It will be kept for your daughters.. Ibn Mas‘ûd said: Do you fear that my daughters would be poor?!... I have ordered my daughters to read *Sûrat Al Wâqi‘ah* (The Event) every night, for I have heard **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him,

¹ *Kûfah*: A town in *‘Irâq*.

saying: “Whoever reads *Sûrat Al Wâqi‘ah (The Event)* every night, shall never be a poor”¹...

The end is near... He is now sixty years and some... One of his friends visits him, he tells him: I have seen you in my dream last night, and I saw the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, standing on a high elevated pulpit, and you were at a lower level... He, Allah’s Prayers and peace be upon him, told you: “O Ibn Mas‘ûd... Come to me, for you have been harshly treated after I died”... Ibn Mas‘ûd told him: By **Allah**, Have you seen that?!... He said: Yes... Ibn Mas‘ûd told him: I ask you not to leave *Al Madînah* until you pray in my funeral prayer... He died only a few days later, and was buried at night as he had wished... When ‘Abû Ad-Dardâ’, may Allah be pleased with him, knew about his death, he said: No one left behind, will ever be equivalent to him...

One of the best centuries is ended, and a beam of light is extinguished... Leaving behind a great number of *Hadîth*² of the Master of all the Messengers... And thousands of readers who have learnt from his reading, and benefited from his enlightened knowledge throughout the ages...

¹ As Ibn Hagar narrated that Al Kashaf said.

² *Hadîth*: The Traditions of the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, i.e his saying and deeds.

You Shall Enter Paradise Crawling

‘Abdur Rahmân Ibn ‘Auf

May Allah be pleased with him

One day, the people of *Al-Madînah* were surprised by a lot of fuss and noise... ‘Āishah, may Allah be pleased with her, ‘*Um Al-Mu’minûn* (the mother of the believers) asks about the reason... She was told: It was camels belonging to ‘Abdur Rahmân Ibn ‘Auf that had come from *Shâ’m*¹... She said: And do the camels cause all that noise?... She was told: O mother of the believers... Seven hundred camels carrying wheat, flour and food... She said: By **Allah**, I have heard **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying: “*I have seen ‘Abdur Rahmân Ibn ‘Auf entering Paradise crawling (on his hands and legs)*”².. The news reaches ‘Abdur Rahmân Ibn ‘Auf while the merchandise had not been taken off the backs of the camels yet... He rushes to ‘Āishah saying: O mother of the believers, be my witness that I donate the camels with all what they are carrying in the Cause of **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, ...

That was ‘Abdur Rahmân Ibn ‘Auf who was one of the richest of the *Sahâbah* (companions), yet he could never

¹ *Shâ’m*: The region comprising Syria, Palestine, Lebanon and Jordan.

² Narrated by Ahmad Ibn Hambal.

enjoy his money ... For whenever he was offered food to eat, he would weep and say: By **Allah**, **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and his family had never had their fill of barley bread until the day he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, died, and we do not find that we have kept what will be as our reward in the hereafter...

A meal was brought to 'Abdur Rahmân Ibn 'Auf while he was fasting. He said: Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair was martyred, and he was better than I; yet he was shrouded in a *Burda* (i.e. a sheet) so that, if his head was covered, his feet became naked, and if his feet were covered, his head became naked. 'Abdur Rahmân added: Hamzah Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib was martyred and he was better than I. Then worldly wealth was bestowed upon us and we were given thereof too much. We are afraid that the reward of our deeds have been given to us in this life. 'Abdur Rahmân then started weeping so much that he left the food.

All that fear and apprehension, although he is one of the ten men promised to go to Paradise, and one of the six *Shûrah* (consultation) men, that 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb said about them: Before the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, died, he was pleased with them... He was also one of the first eight men to become Muslims... That was when Islam had just started being spread, and before **Allah**'s

Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, enters Al Arqam Ibn 'Abî Al Arqam's house... He is also one of the five men who became Muslims through 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq, may Allah be pleased with him, these men were: 'Uthmân Ibn 'Affân, Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awwâm, Talhah Ibn 'Ubaidullah, Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs and 'Abdur Rahmân Ibn 'Auf... That solemn *Sahâbî* (companion) who had immigrated to *Ethiopia* during the two *Hijrahs*, then he immigrated to *Al Madînah Al Munawwarah*... He was from the early preceding men...

When the emigrants reached *Al-Madînah*, Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, established the bond of fraternity between 'Abdur Rahmân and Sa'd Ibn Ar-Rabî'. Sa'd said to 'Abdur Rahmân: I am the richest of all the *Ansâr*¹, so I want to divide my property (between us), and I have two wives, so see which of the two you like and tell me, so that I may divorce her, and when she finishes her prescribed period (i.e. *Idda*)² of divorce, then marry her. 'Abdur Rahmân said: May Allah bless your family and property for you; where is your market?.. So they showed

¹ *Ansâr*: The companions of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, from the inhabitants of *Al-Madînah*, who embraced *Islam* and supported it and who received and entertained the Muslim emigrants from *Makkah* and other places.

² *Idda*: here means a period of three monthly courses for which a divorced woman should wait before she remarries.

him the *Qainuqâ* market. (He went there and) returned with a profit in the form of dried *yoghurt* and butter.

Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, knew and he was pleased... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, prays that **Allah**'s blessings affect 'Abdur Rahmân's earnings... The prayer is accepted... 'Abdur Rahmân's earnings and his money increase to the extent that he says about himself: By **Allah**, I find that if I lift any stone, I would find gold and silver under it... By the blessings of **Allah**'s Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, prayers to him, Ibn 'Auf becomes one of the richest of all riches... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells him: "*O Ibn 'Auf... You are from the rich, and you shall enter Paradise crawling... So give in the Cause of Allah (to the needy) so that Allah shall set your feet free*"...

'Abdur Rahmân Ibn 'Auf carries out **Allah**'s Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, advice... He gives away half his money as *Sadaqah* (Charity), and it was four thousand *Dirhams*¹... Then he gave away as *Sadaqah* forty thousand *Dirhams*... Then he gave away as *Sadaqah* forty thousand *Dînârs*²... He also gave away as *Sadaqah*, goods carried on five hundred horses in the Cause of **Allah**, then

¹ *Dirham*: A silver coin weighing 50 grains of Barley with cut ends.

² *Dînâr*: An ancient gold coin.

more goods on five hundred camels in the Cause of **Allah**... He sets free thirty slaves in one day...

Although he spent a lot in the Cause of **Allah**, he was also a brave warrior... He never stayed behind during any of **Allah**'s Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, battles... He joined in *Ghazwah*¹(battle) *Badr*, *'Uhud* and witnessed all the conquests... In *'Uhud*, he was hurt twenty one times, one of which was in his leg, that made him limp for the rest of his life... He was proud that it was done in the Cause of **Allah** and in the company of the Prophet of **Allah**, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, ... Another hurt made him lose all his front teeth and he became toothless...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sent Ibn 'Auf to the battle of *Dawmat Al Jandal*... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, placed a turban on his head with his own sacred hands, and let the tip of the cover come down between his shoulders... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him: "*If Allah grants you victory, marry their king's daughter*"... **Allah** grants him victory... He marries their king's daughter Tumâdir Bint Al 'Asbagh Ibn Tha'labah... She gave birth to a son who became one of the great narrators

¹ *Ghazwah*: (plural: *Ghazawât*): A holy battle or fighting in the Cause of **Allah** consisting of a large army unit with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, himself leading the army.

to *Al Hadîth*... His name was 'Abû Salama Ibn 'Abdur Rahmân...

'Abdur Rahmân Ibn 'Auf is the only *Sahâbî* (companion) that **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, prayed behind... That was in a journey when he was *Imâm*¹ to the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companions, then **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, approached... Ibn 'Auf wanted to retreat, but **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, waved to him to stay in his place... He stayed as *Imâm*, and **Allah's** Prophet Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, prayed behind him...

In spite of that, he, may Allah be pleased with him, was a man who feared **Allah** tremendously... For when 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, may Allah be pleased with him, was wounded, he ordered that the *Khilafah* (caliphate) would be granted to one of the six men that before **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, died, he was pleased with them, who were: 'Uthmân Ibn 'Affân, 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib, Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs, Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awwâm, Talhah Ibn 'Ubaidullah and 'Abdur Rahmân Ibn 'Auf;.. The people came to him saying: O Ibn 'Auf... You are most worthy of that position... He said: By **Allah**, if a knife was put in my

¹ *Imâm*: The person who leads others in the *Salât* (prayer) or the Muslim caliph (or ruler).

throat, and gone through to the other side, it would have been better than that position... He goes to his friends, the other five *Shûrah* (consultation) men and tells them: Who would give up his position and choose a ruler to the Muslims?.. They do not answer him to that... He says: I deny myself the right to the *Khilafah* (caliphate), and I choose a *Khalifah* (caliph) for the Muslims... They agreed upon that and he took their vows that they would agree to his choice.. ‘Abdur Rahmân gave ‘Uthmân Ibn ‘Affân, may Allah be pleased with him, the solemn pledge, and then ‘Alî gave him the pledge of allegiance, and then all the (*Madînah*) people gave him the pledge of allegiance.

‘Abdur Rahmân lives obedient to **Allah**’s rules, spending in the Cause of **Allah** as if he never fears poverty while he is spending... To that, the people commented saying: The people of *Al Madînah* share Ibn ‘Auf his money, he lends them one third, he pays the debts of the other third, and he is kind and gives away to the last third ... The more he gives away, the richer he becomes... But his fear also increases... He goes to ‘Um Salamah, may Allah be pleased with her, *‘Um Al-Mu’minûn* (the mother of the believers) and tells her while he is weeping: O mother... I fear that my great wealth shall make me perish... She tells him: O my son... Spend ... ‘Abdur Rahmân Ibn ‘Auf spends... He bequeaths fifty thousand *Dînârs* and one thousand horses

in the Cause of **Allah**... He also bequeaths to the people who have survived *Badr* -and they were one hundred- four hundred *Dînârs* to each one of them... ‘Uthmân Ibn ‘Affân -in spite of being rich- insisted on taking his share saying: Ibn Auf ’s money is pure *halâl* (lawful)... And feeding on this money is good and a blessing... In spite of that, he, may Allah be pleased with him, still left behind three thousand sheep, one thousand camels, one hundred horses and gold that was so difficult to cut by axes, that it hurt the men’s hands while being cut... For **Allah**’s words are true when He says: **﴿Say: “Truly, my Lord enlarges the provision for whom He wills of His slaves, and (also) restricts (it) for him, and whatsoever you spend of anything (in Allâh’s Cause), He will replace it. And He is the Best of providers.”﴾**. (*Saba* ‘“Shaba”,39).

For indeed, **Allah**’s Prophet’s, words were true when he, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: “*Sadaqah (Charity) does not lessen the amount of any money*”¹...

It is the hour, the hour of the departure... ‘Âishah, may Allah be pleased with her, sends him a messenger asking him if he would be buried beside **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, and his two companions... He, may Allah be pleased with him, says:

¹ As At Tirmidhi narrated that ‘Abî Kabshah ‘Umar Ibn Sa’d Al Anmari (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

And who am I to deserve that special company... He asks to be buried beside ‘Uthmân Ibn Maz‘ûn, may Allah be pleased with him, his friend and his beloved one... They had both agreed that whoever dies last, would be buried beside the first, so that they would keep each other’s company in the grave as they had been friends in life...

His soul returns to its Creator... The honest man dies at the age of seventy five... Sa‘d Ibn ‘Abî Waqqâs carries him in his funeral... He weeps and cries saying: A mountain has been shattered... A mountain has been shattered (Meaning a great strong man has been lost)... ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib stands at his grave saying: Go in peace Ibn ‘Auf for you have won its best and refrained from its vice...

All the men standing by the grave remember the day that Khâlid Ibn Al Walîd and ‘Abdur Rahmân Ibn ‘Auf were talking and disagreeing about a certain matter when *Makkah* was opened to the Muslims... Khâlid told ‘Abdur Rahmân: You feel you are better than us because you entered Islam before us (Spent more days as a Muslim).. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, heard of that, to which he said: *“Do not abuse my companions for if any one of you spent gold equal to ‘Uhud (in Allah’s Cause) it would not be*

equal to a Mud¹ or even a half Mud spent by one of them”²...

How true are **Allah**'s Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, words, for who would reach the rank of 'Abdur Rahmân Ibn 'Auf that the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said about him: “‘*Abdur Rahmân Ibn 'Auf, an honest man in heaven, an honest man on earth*”³

Peace be on you, O companion of **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,... Peace be on you in the highest ranks...

¹ *Mud*: a measure of two-thirds of a kilo-gramme (Approx).

² As Al Bukhâri narrated that 'Abû Sa'id Al Khudrî (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

³ As Al Estiâb narrated that 'Alî (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

The Nation's Wise Man 'Abû Ad-Dardâ'

May Allah be pleased with him

'Uwaymir Ibn 'Âmir known as 'Abû Ad-Dardâ', became a Muslim after the battle of *Badr*. He joined the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, in the battle of '*Uhud*' then he joined him in all the other conquests and although he became a Muslim rather late, he quickly became one of the pioneers in Islam because of his excessive worship to **Allah**, and his indifference to worldly matters, and his contemplation in **Allah**'s verses. This made the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, say about him: "'Uwaymir Ibn 'Âmir is my nation's wise man"¹. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, established the bond of brotherhood between him and Salmân Al Farsî. 'Uwaymir says about himself: I became a Muslim with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and I was a merchant, I wanted to be a merchant and a worshipper at the same time, but they could not be joined so I refused merchandise and preferred worship.. I would not want to sell or buy and then gain every day three hundred *Dînârs* even if my shop was in front of the door of the mosque.. I do not claim that **Allah**

¹ Al-Estiaab by Ibn 'Abdul Bar.

has forbidden buying and selling, but I would like to be with those men whom neither trade nor sale (business) diverts from the Remembrance of **Allah** (with heart and tongue).

That was the motto of 'Abû Ad-Dardâ', may Allah be pleased with him. He lived his life as a thinker and as a contemplator. He said: One hour of contemplation is better than one night of worship, and one drop of good deed from a pious and believing man is better than a mountain's equivalence of proud worshipper.

One day, his friends go to him, and find him sleeping on a rough bed of leather, and so they tell him: If you wish you may get a softer and better bed. He points far away and says: Our home is there, for it we gather and to it we return, for it we strive and for it we work.. So little is enough and better than plenty that disperses the concentration on worship.

He, may Allah be pleased with him, encouraged people to love, tenderness, and being lenient in all matters. One day he was walking by some people while they were insulting a man who had committed a sin.. He had told them: If you had found him in some ditch, wouldn't you bring him out? They replied: Yes.. He said: Then do not insult your brother and thank **Allah** who saved you.. They said: Don't

you dislike him?.. He said: No, but I dislike his deed, if he stops doing it, he is my brother...

He was gentle to people, he encouraged them to good deeds, even if they were little. He reminded them of the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying: "*Can any of you read every night one third of the Qur'an?!*".. They said: We are weaker and less able than that.. He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "**Allah, Praise and Glory be to Him, divided the Qur'an to three parts, one of these parts is (Say (O Muhammad, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,): He is Allâh, (the) One..).**" (Al-Iklâs or At-Tauhîd, "The Purity",1)¹.

An incident that shows how he had no interest in life, is when Mu'âwiyah came to him while he was a *Khalifah* (caliph) of *Shâ'm* to ask for his daughter's hand for his son Yazîd, but he refused and he wedded her to a poor pious Muslim man, and when he was blamed by some of his friends for that he said: How will she be while the slaves and the servants are standing at her head. She will be flattered by the extravagance of the palaces! Where will her religion be then?. It is not too much wealth that means well or many children, what is good is when your patience is vast and, your knowledge wide, and you compete with

¹ Narrated by *Imâm Ahmad*.

people and push your way amongst them in the nearness and devotion to **Allah**.

And when one of his brothers -after knowing how bad his financial state was- sends to him trying to let him accept to share his money, he answers him saying: Let it be known that what you have now from wealth belonged to someone else before coming to you, and it will go to another after you, and you will not gain any of it except what you have earned for yourself... It will affect who you are keeping the money for from your children as an inheritance; for you are collecting the money for one of two children; for a good child who will use this money in the obedience of **Allah** so he will enjoy what you have suffered for in gaining this money, or a corrupt child who will use this money in a disobedient way to **Allah**'s rules and so he will suffer from what you collected to give him, therefore, have confidence in what **Allah** has in store for them and save yourself.

When he was assigned as judge in *Shâ'm*, and he saw how people were indulged in abundance of wealth and prosperity and extending in the world's pleasures and collecting money, he gave a speech saying: O People of *Shâ'm*.. You are our brothers in religion, and our neighbours in our homes, and supporters to our enemies, but why do I see you without any shyness?!.. You collect

what you do not spend, you build what you do not inhabit, you hope for what you are not aware of... people before you collected and kept it in, hoped too far, built with too much confidence so their collecting became barren, and their hopes turned to arrogance and their castles to tombs. There was the people of '*Âd*¹', the like of which were not created in the land, they filled the space between '*Adan* and '*Umân* with money and children... Then he continued sarcastically: Who would buy the inheritance of '*Âd* now from me for two *Dirhams*?!!.. He used to advise people saying: Get rid of your worldly problems as much as you can.. For whose first interest was this life, **Allah** dispersed his unity in life, and kept poverty between his eyes (very near to him), and for whose first interest was the afterlife, **Allah** gave him harmony in his life, made his wealth in his heart, for **Allah** is faster in giving where there is good.

One day he tells to his friends: Shall I guide you to your best deeds and the best accepted to **Allah**, and the best in degree, and even better to you than conquering your enemies and cutting off their heads and they cutting off your heads, and better to you than *Darâhim* and *Danânîr* (money-coins)?. They said: And what is that, O 'Abû Ad-

¹ '*Âd*: An ancient tribe that lived after Noah. It was prosperous but naughty and disobedient to **Allah**, so **Allah** destroyed it with violent destructive westerly winds.

Dardâ'?.. He said: Remembering **Allah** ... for mentioning **Allah** is greater than all...

'Abû Ad-Dardâ' used to weep a lot, he had great fear of **Allah**, and he was highly apprehensive. He used to say about himself: What I fear most is to be called at the Judgment Day amongst all and addressed as such: O 'Uwaymir, have you known and learnt?! So I say: Yes. So I am addressed: So what have you done with what you have learnt and known?!!

'Abû Ad-Dardâ' falls in his illness of death, he becomes horrified and cries a lot. His wife tells him: You 'Abû Ad-Dardâ'?!! You are a companion of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him. How can you cry?! So he says to her: Why shouldn't I cry.. I do not know what shall I do with my sins?! So she says: You used to tell us that you loved death?! So he says: Yes by the Might of **Allah**, but when I was aware of the reality of death I hated it..

He calls his son Bilâl and tells him: *Waihaka*¹ Bilâl, work for the Judgment Day, work for the same fate you will face like your father and remember your death and your Judgment hour.. His end approaches, and his weeping and sobbing increase and he says: Those are my last hours in the world... Let me say (There is no god but **Allah**)... Let

¹ *Waihaka*: May **Allah** be merciful to you.

me say (There is no god but **Allah**).. And so his soul returns to its Creator. A pure, clean and good soul... He did not receive any of his reward in his life. He was buried, may Allah be pleased with him, in *Shâ'm* during the rule of ‘Uthmân Ibn ‘Affân, may Allah be pleased with him,.

It is enough pride for him that the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said about him:

“Uwaymir is my nation’s (people’s) wise man”.

A Man Is With His Belongings

'Abû 'Aiyûb Al 'Ansârî

May Allah be pleased with him

All the people of *Al-Madînah* went out to welcome and meet the Prophet Muhammad, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and every one was extremely anxious to seeing him and enjoying looking at him, for they had believed in him, and believed him without seeing or hearing him and they had long waited for his immigration to them and joining them and living amongst them, and there he is at last coming to them after **Allah** had permitted him to do that, while each one of them was telling himself and having hope that he might win the honor of hosting and serving him.

And the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, approaches on his camel moving quietly, while he left its leash without guidance, and the people tried to get a good chance of that by taking and directing the camel's leash saying: Come where we are many, well-armed, have protection Prophet.. And he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, says: "*Let it be for it is ordered and guided*".. They quickly and with obedience left it, the travelling group passes by the tribe of *Banî Sâlim Ibn 'Auf* then *Banî Bayâdah* then *Banî Sâ'idah* and the trials are repeated, then it passes by *Banî 'Adîy Ibn An-Najjâr* who are hoping for this great honour for they are

his uncles and most worthy of him. They say: Come to your uncles (brothers to your mother) Prophet, but he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, replies: "*let it be for it is ordered and guided*". And the travelling group reaches the house of *Banî Mâlik Ibn An-Najjâr* where the camel rests by itself, then it rises and makes a turn, then it returns to its first place and rests again and stays... There a man rushes out of the crowds and takes the belongings of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, off the camel's back and takes it to the house. He is Khâlid Ibn Zaîd Ibn Kulayb known as 'Abû 'Aiyûb Al 'Ansârî who was lucky to have the camel rest near his house. The people of *Banî Mâlik Ibn An-Najjâr* surrounded the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, feeling happy and optimistic that he is with them, and all of them inviting him to his home, but he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, says: "*A man is with his belongings*". And so 'Abû 'Aiyûb Al 'Ansârî wins the honour of having the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, in his house until he builds the mosque and his wives' rooms.

'Abû 'Aiyûb's house was two floors; the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, stayed on the ground floor and 'Abû 'Aiyûb and his wife went to stay in the first floor. As soon as he lay down on his bed, he sprang up objecting to how could be sleeping in the higher floor while the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, stayed under him in the ground

floor. What made him even more embarrassed was that some water was split on the floor and he feared that it would drip on the ground room where the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was sleeping; so he and his wife kept drying the water with their bed-cover and praying to **Allah** that it would not reach the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, when the morning dawned, he hurried to him saying: O Prophet of **Allah**, it cannot be that we be above you, so would you move to the upper room?. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, agreed and moved his belongings and 'Abû 'Aiyûb and his wife moved to the lower floor.

The food was presented to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and he would eat from it, then he would send the rest of it to 'Abû 'Aiyûb who would trace the place where the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, fingers lay on the food and eat from that place, until one day the big plate came back to him but there were no traces for the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, fingers on the food. 'Abû 'Aiyûb went up to the Prophet, worried and afraid saying: O Prophet, you used to send me back the food, and I would find the traces of your fingers so I would eat from the same place, until you sent that food. When I looked I couldn't find the traces of your fingers. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"Yes, it contained garlic, so I*

refrained from eating for the Angel's sake, but you all can eat"¹.

That is 'Abû 'Aiyûb Al 'Ansârî who witnessed *Bai'at*²-*ul-'Aqabah* (the solemn pledge of *Al-'Aqabah*) and the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, established the bond of brotherhood between him and Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair. Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair was the first ambassador in Islam, and the first to immigrate to *Al-Madînah* to enlighten the people and teach them the Qur'ân.

As much as 'Abû 'Aiyûb loved the Qur'ân, he also loved invading and fighting in the Cause of **Allah**. He took part in all the conquests of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and also during the reign of the *Khulafâ*³ (successors). He never declined from any invasion, even in his old age, and he would say to that: **Allah** says:

March forth, whether you are light (being healthy, young and wealthy) or heavy (being ill, old and poor), and strive hard with your wealth and your lives in the Cause of Allâh. This is better for you, if you but knew ﴿*At-Taubah* "The Repentance",41)

¹ Sirat Ibn Kathîr.

² *Bai'at*: A pledge given by the citizens to their *Imâm* (Muslim ruler) to be obedient him according to the Islamic religion.

³ *Khulafâ*: (single *Khalifah*) Caliph, a successor, an Islamic term used for the first four rulers after the death of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him..

For I only find myself light (young), or heavy (old).. That is how he understood the verse.

He only stayed back from one battle during the reign of one successors, for he had objected that a young man had lead the army while he was an old man, and although he had witnessed many battles and wars. He always regretted that time and said: I shouldn't have bothered who was the leader upon me.

He was, may Allah be pleased with him, loving to the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, family, and to 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib, he joined him in the battle of *Al Jamal* and *Siffin*¹ and in all his battles until the reign of Mu'âwiyah Ibn 'Abî Sufyân, so he joined Yazîd Ibn Mu'âwiyah's army to fight *Ar-Rûm* (Romans), there he feels seriously ill. Yazîd Ibn Mu'âwiyah went to visit him so he told him: O Yazîd, if I die, carry me, then go into the enemy's land, and go deep into it as much as you can, then bury me and then go back. His soul, may Allah be pleased with him, returned to its Creator and Yazîd carried out his will. He took the best of his knights and went deep in the enemy's land where they buried him. He then ordered the knights to go back and forth on their

¹ *Siffin* battle: A battle took place between 'Ali's followers and Mu'âwiyah's followers at the river of *Euphrates* in *Iraq*.

horses on the grave until there was no trace of the burial, and then they returned to their positions.

When it was dawn, some of *Ar-Rûm* (Romans) tried to know what happened during the evening?, and what those Muslim knights were doing... So, Yazîd sent someone to tell them: This is a man from the most respected companions of our Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and one of the earliest Muslims, we have buried him where you've seen, and by **Allah** if his tomb would be touched, we will not even allow you to ring your bells in the *Arab* land as long as we have our kingdoms.

Yazîd Ibn Mu'âwiyah's army was victorious (by **Allah**'s help). The tomb of 'Abû 'Aiyûb Al 'Ansârî, may Allah be pleased with him, was now in Islamic land after it was in the enemy's land.

It has been said by some of the wise men that when people from different religions suffered from drought, they went to his tomb, may Allah be pleased with him, and moved some of its dust, and this caused abundant rain.

May **Allah** be pleased with you.. 'Abû 'Aiyûb..

The Most Honest In Speech

'Abû Dhar Al Ghifârî

May Allah be pleased with him

Jundab Ibn Gunâdah known as 'Abû Dhar Al Ghifârî was from the tribe of *Ghifâr* which was known for stealing the caravans, yet he believed that there was only One **God** worthy of worship and obedience... He did not bow in worship to any idol nor worship one, and when he received the news of the advent of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, he said to his brother: Ride to this valley (of *Makkah*), and try to find out the truth of the person who claims to be a prophet who is informed of the news of Heaven. Listen to what he says and come back to me... So his brother set out and came to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and listened to some of his talks, and returned to 'Abû Dhar and said to him: I have seen him enjoining virtuous behaviour and saying something that is not poetry. 'Abû Dhar said: You have not satisfied me as to what I wanted... He himself left and set out for *Makkah* disguised, looking for this man claiming to be a prophet... Whenever he met a crowd of people, he sat near them, hearing their words until he was noticed by 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib who tried to find out who he was, and what he wanted.. When 'Abû Dhar felt reassured towards him, he

told him what he was looking for.. ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib took him to the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,.. So, ‘Abû Dhar told him: Recite what you say.. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *“It is not poetry, how can I recite, it is Qur’ân”*. ‘Abû Dhar said: Then read it to me.. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, read from the Qur’ân so ‘Abû Dhar said: I testify that there is none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah**, and you are the Messenger of **Allah**.. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, asked him: *“Where are you from?”*.. He replied: From *Ghifâr*.. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, looked at him in astonishment repeatedly and then said: *“Allah guides whom He wills”*.. Yes, **Allah** guides whom He wills, for there is a man from the most hateful tribe, who invades and steals caravans... and the most famous for that invasion and stealing... He himself becomes a believer, and becomes a Muslim before he leaves his seat, for he was the fifth to become a Muslim.. ‘Abû Dhar said: By what do you order me, O Prophet of **Allah**?.. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *“Go back to your people and inform them (about it), till you receive my order”*.. ‘Abû Dhar said: By Him Who sent you with the Truth, I will proclaim my conversion to Islam publicly amongst them (i.e. the infidels).

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him: "*Do not expose yourself to their hurting you*". But 'Abû Dhar insisted on announcing it while *Quraish* were already gathered around the *Ka'bah*, he said: I testify that there is none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah**, and that Muhammad is the Messenger of **Allah**..

They got up to him and beat him until he became unconscious. No body could save him from their hands except Al 'Abbâs Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib who told them: *Waihakom*¹, he is from the tribe of *Ghifâr*, and if they hear of it, they would not allow your goods or merchandise or caravans to pass through.. So they left him.. He went back to them the following day and started again, so they started beating him again, and Al 'Abbâs saved him once more... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, ordered him to return to his tribe to invite them to Islam, he did not invite his tribe only but he extended to *'Aslam* tribe, and they all responded well to his logic, wisdom, and influence...

Time and days pass, and the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, immigrates to *Al-Madînah* and the Muslim's affairs are quite settled there. One day, the people of *Al-Madînah* were surprised by crowds of people, some walking, some

¹ *Waihakom*: May **Allah** be merciful to you.

riding, elderly people, young people, men, women, blocking the roads, and if it is not for their crying (*Allah-u Akbar*).. **Allah** is the Most Great.. The people of *Al-Madînah* would have thought that an army was invading them... The crowds approach the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, mosque. He comes out to greet them and finds out that 'Abû Dhar is their leader. 'Abû Dhar greets the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, then he points to the right saying: *Ghifâr* tribe O **Allah**'s Prophet. So the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, says: "*Ghifâr, may Allah forgive them*". Then 'Abû Dhar points to the left saying: '*Aslam* tribe O **Allah**'s Prophet.. So the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, says: "*Aslam, may Allah protect them*".

So, 'Abû Dhar was the reason behind the two tribes (*Ghifâr* and '*Aslam*); men, women, all becoming Muslims. 'Abû Dhar Al Ghifârî, may Allah be pleased with him, secludes himself totally to the companionship of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and being with him inside the country and in traveling. He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, grants him a precious saying: "*Nowhere on earth, desert or in green land, has there been a man more honest in speech than 'Abû Dhar Al Ghifârî*"¹.

¹ As At-Tirmidhi narrated that Abdullah Ibn 'Amr (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

And in the battle of *Tabûk*¹ -also known as *Al-'Usrah*- which were in days of severe heat and drought. This was one of the furthest conquests that the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, made, and that's why many men did not go with him in battle, and who joined had little supply... Every ten men were using one camel to ride as there were very few camels to supply all men... Some of the men retreated during the way because of the severe heat, and long distance.

The companions would say to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,: That man stayed back... He would say: "*Let him be... for if his presence is for the best, Allah will send him back to you... and if not, then Allah has done what is better for you and relieved you of him*".

The army marches for twenty four hours then they stop for rest. 'Abû Dhar was one of the people who stayed back because his camel couldn't continue so he left it and carried his belongings on his back. He kept walking trying to catch up with the rest. The companions were watching out for the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, words: "*If his presence is for the best, Allah will send him back to you*".

¹ *Tabûk*: A well-known town about 700 kilometers north of *Al-Madînah*.

A man appears from a far distance trying with great effort to remove his legs from the sand, carrying his belongings on his back.. They cried: O **Allah**'s Prophet, here is a man coming from far away walking alone.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, says: "*Be 'Abû Dhar*".. They all watch out carefully for that man approaching slowly and with difficulty, almost falling towards the ground and he is 'Abû Dhar Al Ghifârî!! All the crowd cry in one voice: It is by **Allah** 'Abû Dhar.

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, meets him happily and says: "*May Allah have mercy on 'Abû Dhar, he lives alone, dies alone, and will be raised alone on the Judgment Day*"¹.

The days pass by and the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, dies and 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq became *Khalifah* (caliph) then followed by 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb's *Khilafat* (caliphate), both followed the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, rules. 'Abû Dhar is devoted to worship and praying, living like an ascetic not caring for worldly pleasures, remembering the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, words to him. He relates what the Prophet told him, he says: The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, advised me to seven matters... To love the poor, to be close to them, to tell the

¹ Sirat Ibn Hishâm.

truth even if it was hard and bitter, not to worry about people blaming me if I speak of truth, to repeat frequently: There is no might or power except with **Allah** the Most Great and the Most High... and to see only who is less than me, not to see who is higher than me¹.

‘Uthmân Ibn ‘Affân became *Khalifah* (caliph) while ‘Abû Dhar is in *Shâ’m* witnessing what he doesn’t like, for the houses made of mud have become castles, the guards around the powerful people have increased in number, money has become abundant, people lived in exaggerated luxury and wealth... ‘Abû Dhar goes to Mu‘âwiyah Ibn ‘Abî Sufyân the ruler of *Shâ’m*, while he is amongst his friends and tells him: Are you the people who were with the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, when he received the Qur’ân:?! Yes you are they.. Haven’t you read in **Allah’s** Book: **﴿..And those who hoard up gold and silver [Al-Kanz: the money, the Zakât of which has not been paid] and spend them not in the Way of Allâh, announce unto them a painful torment﴾**. (*Ar-Taubah* “The Repentance”,³⁴)

Mu‘âwiyah answers him gently: O ‘Abû Dhar, this verse was sent to the people who believed in the previous books (religions), haven’t you read its beginning words where **Allah** says: **﴿..Verily, there are many of the (Jewish)**

¹ Osd Al-Ghabah fi Maarifat Al-Sahabah.

rabbis and the (Christian) monks who devour the wealth of mankind in falsehood, and hinder (them) from the Way of Allâh (i.e. Allâh's religion of Islâmic Monotheism).. ﴿*At-Taubah* "The Repentance",34)

'Abû Dhar replies: It has been sent to us and to them... and for us and for them...

'Abû Dhar leaves Mu'âwiyah saying: Warn the people who are savers of money by the fire of hell that will burn their foreheads, and their bodies (backs and sides) on the Day of Judgment.. He walks amongst people saying: I am amazed at one who does not find in his home his daily food, then he does not go out to the people by his sword. (i.e. asking for his right?).

Then he remembers the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying to him: "*O 'Abû Dhar. How will you feel when you find the rich keeping the shade of life to themselves?*"

He replied: By Him who sent you with the Truth, I will hit them by my sword.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells him: "*Shall I not lead you to what is better than that?*" .. He says: Yes.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, replies: "*Be patient till you meet me*"¹.

So 'Abû Dhar waits patiently. He then goes to the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companions and orders

¹ Osd Al-Ghabah fi Maarifat Al-Sahabah.

them to let go of their great wealth, to be satisfied by the little that they need, and to live the way the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and his companions 'Abû Bakr and 'Umar had lived.

Mu'âwiyah sends for help from 'Uthmân saying: O Ruler of the believers... Help us... 'Abû Dhar shattered the people and turned them against us.

'Uthmân calls upon him to *Al-Madînah*. When he came to him, 'Uthmân told him: O 'Abû Dhar... Stay with me and I shall give you from *Bayt-ul-Mal* (the people's house of treasury)..

So 'Abû Dhar says: O Ruler of the believers, I do not need what you would give me, but do allow me to go to *Al-Rabadhâh*¹ so I can be alone and away from people.

'Uthmân granted him his need... For it is not true what some writers have claimed that 'Uthmân Ibn 'Affân had exiled 'Abû Dhar to *Al-Rabadhâh*... For the truth was that 'Abû Dhar himself asked and chose to be secluded. He chose *Al-Rabadhâh* in particular so that the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying would fit him when he said: “'Abû Dhar in my people is like 'Îsah Ibn Maryam (*Jesus the son of Marry*) in his indifference to life”².

¹ *Al-Rabadhâh*: A place in the desert three stages away from *Madînah*

² Al-Estiaab and Gandâb.

Also ‘Uthmân was not the man to exile a companion of the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, for saying the truth and fearing of **Allah** only regardless of people’s blaming. ‘Abû Dhar goes to *Al-Rabadhâh* only with his wife and his little girl... Some people from *Kûfah* know where he is. They go to him and try to encourage him to revolt against ‘Uthmân. He tells them: I have to obey ‘Uthmân, and by **Allah**, if he crucifies me on the longest piece of wood, I would still listen to him and obey him, be patient with him, and ask for **Allah**’s reward knowing that this would be better for me.

That made the people who were trying to make him revolt leave in despair.

Days go... and ‘Abû Dhar falls sick, very sick. his wife weeps but he tells her: Why do you weep... Death is a fact and reality?!.. She says: I do not weep for you dying, I weep because I cannot provide a shroud to wind you with, and I do not know what to do and we are alone, without people.. ‘Abû Dhar says: Do not cry... A group of believers will come with my shroud and they will take care of me.. She replies: How is that, and there are no more pilgrims?!.. And we are in barren land where there is no trace of any human being.. He replies: One day I was sitting amongst the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, and his companions and he said: “*One of you men will die on*

barren land, but witnessing that, will be a group of believers". All who were present then have died amongst people and not alone. I only am left and I'm dying in barren land, so watch out for the direction where people come and you will see what I tell you, for by **Allah** I have not lied nor being accused of being a liar.. The woman is surprised by a group of people approaching towards them and asking: Who is it?!.. The woman cries and says: 'Abû Dhar, the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companion.. The group quickly approaches crying, and leading them is 'Abdullah Ibn Mas'ûd, may Allah be pleased with him, who leans very closely on 'Abû Dhar and says: To **Allah** we belong and to Him we shall return.. 'Abû Dhar tells them: Rejoice... rejoice... you are the ones that the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said about you: "*A group of believers*". You are they.. Then he said: I am now where you see and find me, and if I had a garment that would fit me, I would be winded in it. I plead to you by **Allah**, no man of you who has any position on the ruling state, to wind me in my shroud.. A young man from *Ansâr* (supporters) said: By **Allah**, I am the one who was never a ruler, nor a man who collected money out of any position, nor ever carried any messages (i.e. between rulers), and I have two new garments my mother has woven to me by her own hands from lawful money.. 'Abû Dhar was pleased and said: You are

my friend... Do wind me.. His soul departs to its Creator happy and content... The group of believers wind him.. His honourable friend ‘Abdullah Ibn Mas‘ûd leads the funeral prayer.. He was buried in *Al-Rabadhâh* and so the prophecy of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, comes true which was: “*May Allah will have mercy on ‘Abû Dhar, he walks and goes through life alone, he dies alone, and will be raised alone on the Judgment Day*”.

The *Sheikh* Of All Narrators 'Abû Hurairah Ad-Dausî

May Allah be pleased with him

'Abû Hurairah Ad-Dausî became a Muslim in the seventh year of *Hijrah*. He immigrated to *Al-Madînah Al Munawwarrah* before the battle of *Khaibar*¹ which he had attended together with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and he stayed with him until he died. He was with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, for only four years, yet many *Hadîth* were related later on his behalf by more than eight hundred men between companions and followers..

In addition to that, every Muslim knows him, every scholar learns of his knowledge and every narrator relates on his behalf.

'Abû Hurairah relates how he and his mother became Muslims... He says: I immigrated to **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and I said on my way: O what a long tedious tiresome night; nevertheless, it has rescued me from the place of heathenism.

¹ *Khaibar*: An oasis and date-growing village, about 100 kilo-meters from *Al-Madînah*. During the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, time, it was inhabited by a Jewish tribe called *Banî Nadîr*. It was conquered by the Muslims in 5H.

A slave of mine ran away on the way, when I reached the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, I give him the oath of allegiance (for Islam), and while I was sitting with him, suddenly the slave appeared. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said to me: "*O 'Abû Hurairah! Here is your slave*". I said: O Prophet of **Allah**, he (i.e. the slave) is free, for **Allah**'s Sake, and manumitted him.

'Abû Hurairah reported: I invited my mother, who was a polytheist, to Islam. I invited her one day and she said to me something about **Allah**'s Messenger, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, which I hated. I came to **Allah**'s Messenger, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, weeping and said: O **Allah**'s Messenger, I invited my mother to Islam but she did not accept (my invitation). I invited her today but she said to me something which I did not like. (Kindly) supplicate **Allah** that He may set the mother of 'Abû Hurairah right. Thereupon **Allah**'s Messenger, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Oh Allah, set the mother of 'Abû Hurairah on the right path*". I came out quite pleased with the supplication of **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and when I came near the door it was closed from within. My mother heard the noise of my footsteps and she said: O 'Abû Hurairah, just wait, and I heard the noise of falling of water. She took a bath and put on the shirt and quickly covered her head with a headdress and opened the door

and then said: O 'Abû Hurairah, I bear witness to the fact that there is none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah**, and Muhammad is His bondsman and His Messenger. 'Abû Hurairah said: I went back to **Allah**'s Messenger, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and (this time) I was shedding the tears of joy. I said: O **Allah**'s Messenger, be happy, for **Allah** has responded to your supplication and He has set on the right path the mother of 'Abû Hurairah. He (the Holy Prophet) praised **Allah**, and extolled Him and uttered good words. I said: O **Allah**'s Messenger, supplicate to **Allah** so that He may instill love of mine and that of my mother too in the believing servants and let our hearts be filled with their love, whereupon **Allah**'s Messenger, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*O Allah... Let there be love of these servants of Yours,(i.e. 'Abû Hurairah and his mother) in the hearts of the believing servants and let their hearts be filled with the love of the believing servants.*"¹.

When the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, died and 'Abû Hurairah was sitting in the mosque narrating the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, *Hadîth* (words), the people said: 'Abû Hurairah spoke too often of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, until 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb asked him to stop doing that. 'Abû Hurairah defended himself

¹ Narrated by *Imâm* Muslim.

saying: You used to say: 'Abû Hurairah narrates too many narrations, **Allah** shall judge about that, I was a poor man serving **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, just to be fed in return, and the immigrants used to worry about their business deals in the markets, and *Ansâr* (supporters) used to worry about taking care of their money, and the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Whoever lays down his cloak (garment), will never forget what he heard of me*". So, I lay down my cloak until he finished speaking, and then I held him tight to myself, and after that I never forgot any of his words, and by **Allah**, if it were not for a verse in **Allah**'s book, I would have not related to you anything:

﴿Verily, those who conceal the clear proofs, evidences and the guidance, which We have sent down, after We have made it clear for the people in the Book, they are the ones cursed by Allâh and cursed by the cursers﴾.^{(Al-}

Baqarah "The Cow",159).

'Abû Hurairah was completely dedicated to learning the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, *Hadîth* and relating it later to others. He was a poor man, he often used to press his belly against gravel because of hunger.

He became a ruler to *Bahrain*, and this post was given to him by 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb. 'Abû Hurairah starts having some more money. 'Umar hears that, so he sends for him,

and 'Abû Hurairah comes to him at once. 'Umar, the leader of the believers, surprises him by his words: O, enemy to **Allah**, and enemy to His book, you stole **Allah**'s money?. 'Abû Hurairah replied: I am not an enemy to **Allah** or His book; I am not the one who would steal **Allah**'s money. So, 'Umar said: Then how did you get hold of all this money?.. 'Abû Hurairah said: My horses increased in number through giving birth to new horses, and my wealth increased.. 'Umar replied: Then give it to *Bayt -ul- Mal* (The public treasury).

So, 'Abû Hurairah paid all his money to the public treasury, then he held his hands up to pray and said: O **Allah**... Forgive the leader of the believers.

As days go by, 'Umar sends to 'Abû Hurairah once more to become a ruler to a region, but 'Abû Hurairah refuses. 'Umar asks him: Why?.. He replies: O leader of the believers, so I would not be insulted and hit at my back, and I would fear to judge without knowledge, and to speak without patience... 'Umar leaves him, and 'Abû Hurairah devotes himself to relating the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, *Hadîths* applying the Prophet's words: "**Allah** will help a man who had heard of us and related what he heard as he heard it. It is probable that a person who receives a piece of information indirectly may comprehend

it better than he who has heard it directly from its source”¹.

He says about himself: The Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, companions have known that I am the best narrator among them to the Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, *Hadîth* except for ‘Abdullah Ibn ‘Umar... For he used to write and I do not write...

Then he speaks of **Allah**’s blessing on him saying: I grew up as an orphan. I immigrated as a poor man, and I was working for Busrah Bint Ghazwân just to be supplied by food. I would serve them when they landed somewhere, and help them while riding... And here I am, **Allah** has helped me to marry her, so praise be to **Allah** who has given power to religion and has made ‘Abû Hurairah an *Imâm* (leader).

When he was asked why he was called as ‘Abû Hurairah, he said: I used to be a shepherd for my family, and I had a small cat². At night I used to put her in a tree to rest and during the day, I took her along with me, played with her, so they called me ‘Abû Hurairah.

‘Abû Hurairah related from the Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, words: *“Whoever helps a believer out of a*

¹ As At-Tirmidhi narrated that Ibn Mas‘ûd (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

² Small cat: In Arabic is called Hurairah.

hardship in this life, Allah will help him out of a hardship on the Day of Judgment, and whoever makes matters easier for any Muslim, Allah will ease matters for him in this life and in the afterlife, and who shields a Muslim, Allah will shield him in this life and in the afterlife, for Allah will help a man who helps his fellowman, and who seeks a way to knowledge, Allah will help him find his way to Paradise. Whenever a group of people gather at a house to read from Allah's book and study it amongst them, peace will surround them, mercy will devour them, the angels will stay close to them, and Allah will speak of them to who is with Him. And who has little good deeds to offer, shall not be saved by his name (or family's name)"¹. It is now the 58th year of Hijrah, and 'Abû Hurairah is seventy two years old, getting ready to meeting Allah, Praise and Glory be to Him, by saying: O Allah, I am longing and loving to meeting you... please love meeting me...

His soul rises to its Creator, and he is buried in *Baqî*² beside the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companions,

¹ Narrated by *Imâm Muslim*.

² *Baqî*: The cemetery of the people of *Madînah*, many of the companions of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, are buried in it.

and his book of good deeds remains opened for every narrator or scholar who relates a *Hadīth* that starts by:

As narrated by 'Abû Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him,•

The Honest Of The Nation 'Abû 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh

May Allah be pleased with him

'Âmir Ibn Al Jarrâh, known as 'Abû 'Ubaidah, became a Muslim when he was seventeen years old. He immigrated twice to *Ethiopia*, then he emigrated to *Al-Madînah*. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, established the bond of brotherhood between him and 'Abû Talha Al 'Ansârî. He witnessed the battles of *Badr* and *'Uhud* and all the conquests with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,. He sent him as a strong help to 'Amr Ibn Al-'Âs in the battle of *Dhât-as-Salâsil* with 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq and 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb.. as their leader.

When they reached the place where he was, 'Amr told them: I am your ruler.. So 'Abû Bakr and 'Umar said: Our leader is 'Abû 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh, and you are to rule who is with you.. 'Abû 'Ubaidah said: O 'Amr, I have come as a help to you, and the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, has asked me that we both be obedient to one another, for if you disobey me, I will obey you. And with this honorable companion's wisdom, matters were settled.

He was one of the ten men who had been promised to go to Paradise, and he was one of the most well known leaders in Islam, who by them and their courage, many

regions were opened to Islam. That was a time when Islam flourished due to these men's efforts.

One of his conquests was *Al Khabt* which was in the direction of the seacoast... Three hundred men were with him... They had no food except some dates. Every day, he distributed some until they became very few. So, he had to give each soldier one date daily. The soldier would suck it thoroughly. After it was all gone, they would hit the trees (a thorny desert tree) by their sticks, in order to make the leaves fall, so they would take the leaves, grind them, then swallow them well by using water, then drink water after them. That's the reason why the battle was called *Al Khabt*.. They were then rewarded from **Allah** by a huge whale that was thrown to the coast by the sea-water. They fed on it for fourteen days and had enough of its meat to keep for their trip back.

When some men representing *Najrân* came to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, asking for a preacher and a judge. He told them: "*Tomorrow, I will send an honest man who is really trustworthy*".

Every one of the companions of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was looking forward (to be that person).. Even 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb says: I never wished a ruling post as much as I wished it that time.. They all spent the night hoping for this position. In the morning, the Prophet, Allah's

Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *“Where is ‘Abû ‘Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh?”*

‘Abû ‘Ubaidah replied: Here I am, O Prophet of **Allah**.. He, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *“O ‘Abû ‘Ubaidah, go with them and rule amongst them... Every nation has an Amîn (i.e the most honest man),... and the Amîn of this nation is ‘Abû ‘Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh”¹.*

‘Abû Bakr As-Siddîq relates an incident concerning ‘Abû ‘Ubaidah, he says: When **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, was hurt in the battle of ‘Uhud, we ran towards him. I saw a man coming from the east, almost flying quickly.. I looked at him and said: May **Allah** let him be for a good cause.. We met near the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,, and he reached him first. He was ‘Abû ‘Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh trying to redeem the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, by himself, protect him by sheltering his body by his own. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, started bleeding, blood covered his face and said: *“How can a nation who injured their Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, face be successful?, While he is inviting them to believe in **Allah**,”*.. But then two metal rings of the Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, war head-cover pierced his cheek from a hard blow and broke his lower (fourth)

¹ As Al-Bukhâri narrated that Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

tooth, 'Abû 'Ubaidah told me: I pray you 'Abû Bakr by **Allah**, let me remove the metal rings from the Prophet's cheek. I let him do it. He held the first metal ring by his teeth and removed it. This caused him to lose his power and fall on the ground, his front tooth also fell due to that. He then held the second metal ring, pulled it out, and with it he lost his other front tooth... He became toothless (of his two front teeth), and I realized I had never seen a man becoming more beautiful by losing his teeth as that man.

'Abû Bakr almost offered him to become *khalîfah* (caliph) after the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,. When *Ansâr* (supporters) were assembled in *Saqîfah* (shed) of *Banî Sâ'idah* and after the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, died, they told 'Abû Bakr and 'Umar: There must be a ruler from us and a ruler from you.. 'Umar said: Two swords in one sheath would not do.. So 'Abû Bakr said: O *Ansâr* (supporters), you should elect either 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, or 'Abû 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh as your ruler.. So 'Umar took 'Abû Bakr's hand and gave the pledge of allegiance and the people too gave the pledge of allegiance to 'Abû Bakr.. They were already convinced by 'Umar's words when he said: The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, has consented to 'Abû Bakr to lead us in our religion when he ordered him as *Imâm* (leader in prayer), so wouldn't we take him also as our leader in our earthly matters?!

'Abû 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh served during the reign of *Al-khalîfah* (caliph) 'Abû Bakr just as he did at the time of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, a soldier to Islam, fighting for the cause of truth, spreading Islam all over the land, still indifferent to the worldly pleasures, a good worshiper, humble, pious, acting with dignity, honest, and if you saw him amongst his soldiers, you would see him only as one of them.

'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb's ruling time follows, and he sends the army to surround *Damascus* led by Khâlid Ibn Al Walîd to teach *Ar-Rûm* (Romans) a lesson, and to spread the power and pride of Islam and the Muslim. He noticed that the people were becoming too fond of Khâlid Ibn Al Walîd because of his vast victories, so he sends a letter to 'Abû 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh who was then a leader in Khâlid's army asking him to become a leader to all the armies, and choosing him as a ruler of all the other rulers, so that the people would realize that victory is only from **Allah**. 'Abû 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh keeps that news only to himself, and still fights under the leadership of Khâlid Ibn Al Walîd until the battle, and the surrounding of the country end in victory. Then he goes humbly and politely and presents the letter of the leader of the believers to Khâlid who reads the letter concerning deposing him from his post, and that 'Abû 'Ubaidah taking it over. He tells

him: May **Allah** mercy you... What has prevented you from telling me about this letter once you received it?!. He said: O Khâlid, I heard the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying: "*Khâlid is a sword amongst the Swords of Allah*", and I did not wish to interrupt your fighting (war), for we do not seek the power of this life, nor do we work for the reward of this life... We are all brothers in the kingdom of **Allah**.

He -the honest of the nation- becomes the leader of the armies in *Shâ'm*, and during his reign, and with **Allah**'s help, many countries were conquered by Muslims. He becomes famous for that, and is spoken of everywhere as a legend. He becomes very disturbed of that. He calls among the people and speaks: People... I am but a Muslim man from *Quraish*, and if there be any one of you, red or black in color, more devoted to **Allah** than me, I would rather be a small hair in his skin (meaning I would rather be a follower to him)..

When 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb went to *Shâ'm* inspecting his armies and his ruler's conditions, all the rulers met with him, he said: Where is my brother?.. They said: Who is your brother?.. He said: 'Abû 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh.

So, they sent to fetch him and he came. 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb hugged him and told the people who came to meet him: Leave us alone, and he stayed alone with him.

He preferred to stay in his house. When he entered 'Abû 'Ubaidah's house, he looked around, but he could not see anything except the sword, the armor, the saddle of the horse, and the covering of the camel on which he used to sleep.. He told him: 'Abû 'Ubaidah, haven't you kept anything for yourself the way people do?.. 'Abû 'Ubaidah answered: O leader of the believers, this will do for the purpose which is going through this life, and departing at any unknown moment.

So 'Umar said: This life has changed us all except you 'Abû 'Ubaidah.

A plague known as *'Amwâs* had spread in *Shâ'm*, but 'Abû 'Ubaidah and his family had not taken the plague, so he said: O **Allah**... I accept mine and my family's share of it... His small finger got the infection of the plague, but when he was told that it was nothing, he looked and gazed at it and said: I hope that **Allah** blesses it, for if he blesses anything, it increases in number.

Allah accepted his wish, and so he caught the plague. It is granted to him and it makes him a martyr as the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*(Death from) plague is martyrdom for every Muslim*"¹. He asked that Mu'âdh Ibn

¹ Narrated by Al-Bukhâri and Muslim.

Jabal to lead his funeral's prayer, and takes over ruling the people until the ruler of the believers gave his orders.

When 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb is on his death bed, he remembers him and says -when the people ask him to nominate a new *khalîfah* (caliph): If 'Abû 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh was alive, I would have nominated him, and if my Lord will then ask me who I nominated, I would say I nominated **Allah**'s and the Prophet's honest man.

May **Allah** be pleased with you, honest of the nation, and ruler of the rulers, and May **Allah** grant you credit on behalf of all the Muslims.

A Believer Amongst Two *Khalîl*¹
Al ‘Abbâs Ibn ‘Abdul Muttalib

May Allah be pleased with him,

O people of *Khazraj*, Muhammad is one of us as you know, and we have protected him from our people, for he is highly esteemed and protected amongst his people. Therefore, if you will be committed to what you say to him, and shall protect him against whoever disobeys him, then you must carry out what you have promised. Yet, if you intend to give him up, and let him down after he joins you, then he shall refuse to be one of you or amongst you, and therefore you’d better refrain now.

That was Al ‘Abbâs Ibn ‘Abdul Muttalib’s saying to the group of *Ansâr* (supporters) that was composed of seventy three men and two women who came to give the pledge of allegiance to the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, in the second solemn pledge of *Al-‘Aqabah* ... The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, had gone out to them secretly, the only man with him was Al ‘Abbâs Ibn ‘Abdul Muttalib who had not become a Muslim at that time... And when the *Ansâr* (supporters) insisted on receiving the Prophet,

¹ *Khalîl*: The one whose love is mixed with one’s heart and it is superior to a friend or beloved. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, had only one *khalîl*, (i.e. **Allah**), but he had many friends.

Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, in *Al-Madînah*, and protecting him the same way they protected their women and children, they informed Al 'Abbâs with their intentions, Al 'Abbâs told them: Let us know what kind of men are you in war?, trying to insinuate to them that the *Arabs* will strike them in one blow, and they will not allow the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, to settle down in *Al-Madînah*, nor spread his religion all over the *Arabian* Peninsula, so that they would realize what they are in for by receiving the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, at their homes...

'Abdullah Ibn 'Amr Ibn Harâm, may Allah be pleased with him, stood up to answer Al 'Abbâs to his inquiry saying: By **Allah** we are men of war, we have been brought up knowing it, and trained on it... We inherited it from our grand parents through the generations... We strike with our arrows until there is no more, then we stab with our spears until they are broken... And finally we use our swords until we either kill or be killed...

Al 'Abbâs said: Do you have any armour?.. They said: Yes, all kinds of armour.. He said: Then you are war people.. The second solemn pledge of *Al-'Aqabah* took place, and the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, got ready for the immigration to *Al-Madînah*...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, immigrated and Al 'Abbâs stayed in *Makkah*. The week Muslims sought

power through him... He, may Allah be pleased with him, was a chief in *Quraish* and he was responsible for the maintenance of *Al Masjid Al Harâm*¹, and was responsible for providing water for drinking... (He was responsible for *Zamzam*² water, responsible for keeping the respect of the Holy Mosque, and assuring the safety of its visitors), taking care of the kin of *Quraish*, and being kind to them... He was a man of wise opinion and good logic... His mother was the first *Arab* woman to clothe the *Ka'bah* with fine silk material... She provided many kinds of coverings to the *Ka'bah*... That was as a result of a vow she had taken when she had lost Al 'Abbâs when he was a little boy and had found him again... Ever since, she had kept her vow in return for that!...

When it was time for the battle of *Badr*, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, called upon his companions and said: "*Whoever meets with Al 'Abbâs, do not kill him, for he has been forced to go out fighting*"³... The non-believers lost the battle, and **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, was behind the victory of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and the believers... Al 'Abbâs Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib was

¹ *Al Masjid Al Harâm*: The most Sacred Mosque in *Makkah*. The *Ka'bah* is situated in it.

² *Zamzam*: The Sacred well inside the *Haram* (the grand mosque) at *Makkah*.

³ As Ibn Ishaq narrated that Ibn 'Abbâs (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

taken in as captive amongst others, and tied down... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, stayed up that night and could not sleep... Some of his companions told him: What is keeping you up, O Prophet of **Allah**?...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"I am up for Al 'Abbâs' whining"*.. (On account of these words), a man from the group got up and untied Al 'Abbâs.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"Why do I not hear Al 'Abbâs' whining?"*.. The man said: I have untied him.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"Then do that to all the other captives"*...

Morning dawns, Al 'Abbâs is brought in. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells him: *"O 'Abbâs... Redeem yourself and your two nephews, 'Aqîl Ibn 'Abî Tâlib and Nufal Ibn Al Hârith"*¹... Al 'Abbâs tries to weasel by claiming that he had been forced to go out fighting... But the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, refuses anything but redemption, and **Allah**'s words are sent:

﴿O Prophet (Muhammad, Allâh's Prayers and Peace be upon him), Say to the captives that are in your hands! "If Allâh knows any good in your hearts, He will give you something better than what has been taken from

¹ As Ahmad narrated that Ibn 'Abbâs (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

you, and He will forgive you, and Allâh is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.”﴾. (Al-Anfâl “The Spoils of War”,70).

Al ‘Abbâs returns to *Makkah* with the captives of *Badr*... He thinks seriously of immigrating... He asks for permission from the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, to do that, but he, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells him: “*O uncle... Stay where you are, for Allah will make you the last of the immigrants, as I am the last of the Prophets*”...

The Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, prophecy comes true, and Al ‘Abbâs immigrates just before the opening of *Makkah*... By his immigration, may Allah be pleased with him, the immigration is ended...

Al ‘Abbâs witnesses the opening of *Makkah* with the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, . . . The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, enters the *Ka’bah* and prays inside... Al ‘Abbâs waits for him at the door of the *Ka’bah* hoping to receive its key, and by that he is granted the honor of being its custodian... The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, comes out of *Ka’bah*, Al ‘Abbâs speaks instantly saying: O Prophet of **Allah**... Give me the key and grant me the two responsibilities; guarding *Ka’bah*, and providing drinking water for the people... *Jibrîl* comes down to the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, with **Allah**’s Holy words: **﴿Verily! Allâh commands that you should render back the trusts to those to whom they are due; and that when**

you judge between men, you judge with justice. Verily, how excellent is the teaching which He (Allâh) gives you! Truly, Allâh is Ever All-Hearer, All-Seer ﴿An-Nisâ' "The

Women",58).

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, calls upon 'Uthmân Ibn Talhah the custodian of *Ka'bah* and gives him the key saying: "*Take it... For the Ka'bah is everlasting, it shall not be snatched from you, except by an oppressor*"¹.

Then comes the battle of *Hunain*²; the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, goes out accompanied by twelve thousand fighters... Ten thousand came from *Madînah* and witnessed the opening of *Makkah*, and two thousand from *Makkah*'s people who had become Muslims on the day *Makkah* was opened...

The non-believers hide, ready to attack in the valley of *Tihâmah*, they had gathered the tribes from *Thaqîf* and *Ghatafân*, went out with their money and their women to prepare for that decisive battle... For *Makkah* had been opened to the Muslims, and the people of *Quraish* had become Muslims, and the rest of the *Arabs* would follow unless the Muslims would be humiliated and taught a

¹ Narrated by Ibn Sa'd in Et-Tabaqat.

² *Hunain*: A valley between *Makkah* and *Ta'if* where the battle took place between the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and *Quraish* pagans.

lesson in that battle. The non-believers were ready to go through that or they would perish; men, women, children, all to the last of their race... For there was no way out.. The confrontation happens... And some of the Muslims esteemed themselves highly and said: We shall not be overtaken by a minority... But things turn out against them and they do not win the battle. By that they realize that victory is from **Allah**, and not from the number or amount of men and armour... The men runaway, and the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, is left on his own... Only a few men stay by him, and one of them is Al 'Abbâs Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib who held the leash of the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, camel... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, calls the people and says: "*O people, I am the Prophet, undoubtedly, I am the son of 'Abdul Muttalib*"¹... Al 'Abbâs calls upon the people -and he had a sonorous voice- he says: O tribe of *Ansâr* (supporters)... O you who carried out the *Bai'ah* (treaty).. His voice echoes all over the valley, and so the Muslims are awakened by that and they return to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and victory is achieved by **Allah**'s help... To that **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, says:

¹ Al-Rahiq Al-Makhtum.

﴿Truly Allâh has given you victory on many battlefields, and on the Day of Hunain (battle) when you rejoiced at your great number, but it availed you naught and the earth, vast as it is, was straitened for you, then you turned back in flight. Then Allâh did send down His Sakînah (calmness, tranquillity and reassurance) on the Messenger (Muhammad, Allâh's Prayers and Peace be upon him), and on the believers, and sent down forces (angels) which you saw not, and punished the disbelievers. Such is the recompense of disbelievers﴾. (At-

Taubah "The Repentance",25-26).

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, returns to *Al-Madînah* accompanied by the immigrants and the supporters to constitute the first Islamic country on earth... Al 'Abbâs Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib stays close to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and does not leave him at all.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, clarifies to the people Al 'Abbâs' special and honorable rank saying: *"That is Al 'Abbâs Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib, the uncle to your Prophet the most generous of men in Quraish, and the most kind to its kin... He is the rest of my fathers"*¹... Indeed Al 'Abbâs was the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon

¹ Narrated by *Imâm Ahmad*.

him, uncle and his father's equivalent... He was two or three years older than the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him. One day, Al 'Abbâs goes to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, while he seems very angry... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, asks him: "*What made you angry?*"... He said: O Prophet of **Allah**... I see some people from *Quraish*, when they meet each other, they are happy and joyful, but when they meet us, they seem otherwise... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was so angry until his face turned red and he said: "*By Him in Whose Hand my soul is, no man is a true believer until his love for you is based for his love for Allah and his Prophet*"... And then he said: "*O you people, who hurts my uncle hurts me, for a man's uncle is his father's equivalent*"¹...

Again the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, clarifies Al 'Abbâs Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib's special and honorable rank saying: "**Allah** has regarded me as a *khalîl* just as he regarded 'Ibrâhîm as a *khalîl*... My house and 'Ibrâhîm's house in heaven are beside each other, and the house of Al 'Abbâs is between them... A believer amongst two *khalîls*"²...

¹ As Ahmad narrated that 'Abdul Muttalib Ibn Rabiaah (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

² As Ibn Maggah narrated that Abdullah Ibn 'Amr (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

Days pass, and the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, dies and Al 'Abbâs receives condolences for his death... He gains the respect of the *Sahâbah* (companions), may Allah be pleased with them,... They rank him highly and respectfully and they regard his opinion above theirs...

It is *Ramâdah* year during the *khalifah* (Ruling time) of 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, may Allah be pleased with him,... Poverty spreads out, and drought covers the land, and there is no rainfall... 'Umar goes out for *salât 'Istisqâ'* (Prayer to ask Allah for rainfall)... He takes Al 'Abbâs with him, then he prays to Allah saying: O Allah! We used to request our Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, to ask You for rain, and You would give us... Now we request the uncle of our Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, to ask You for rain, so give us rain...

No time had passed and no one had moved from his place, and suddenly there was heavy rain, so 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb said: By Allah, this is the way and the means to Allah... The Muslims gather around Al 'Abbâs, kissing him, and rubbing themselves against him for blessings and saying: Rejoice, for you are the cause of quenching the thirst of the people of the two Holy Mosques... Rejoice, for you are the cause of quenching the thirst of the people of the two Holy Mosques... And ever since he was called by the title (The quencher of the two Holy Mosques)...

Hassân Ibn Thâbit -the Prophet's poet- is moved by that,
so he says in verse:

The leader has asked for rain..

While our dryness had been recurrent..

So the rain poured by Al 'Abbâs' presence..

The Prophet's uncle and his father's equivalent..

Who inherited the Prophet's esteem?..

While no one else did..

Allah has revived the land through him..

So it turned to green all over after being dry!.

The days pass by, and 'Uthmân Ibn 'Affân becomes

Khalîfah (Ruler), and everyone knows the importance of

Al 'Abbâs Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib's rank... Al 'Abbâs grows

older, and his eyesight also grows weaker until he loses

his eyesight completely... He reaches the age eighty eight

years old...

On one Friday morning, a man cries: May **Allah** mercy

whoever has known Al 'Abbâs Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib... The

people knew that Al 'Abbâs had died... All the people of

Al-Madînah went out led by 'Uthmân Ibn 'Affân for his

funeral prayer... He was buried, may Allah be pleased with him, in *Al*

Baqî' beside the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,

blessed family...

The Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, uncle's soul returns to its Creator... To an incomparable rank... A believer amongst two *khalils* ...

He left behind him 10 (Ten) boys; apart from the girls... Amongst them 'Abdullah Ibn 'Abbâs (The nation's reliable narrator), and Al Fadl, Qathm, and 'Ubaidullah... He, may Allah be pleased with him, was tall, handsome and blonde (fair), with two braids...

Peace be on you... You... The Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, uncle and his father's equivalent... Peace be on you... You... the supplier of water to the two Holy Mosques... Peace be on you... Father of Al Fadl... You who related what the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*He savors the taste of faith the one who is satisfied to have Allah as God, Islam as religion, and Muhammad as a Messenger (of Allah)*"¹ ...

¹ Narrated by *Imâm Ahmad*.

The Kind One Who Was Made Kind By Allah 'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir

May Allah be Pleased with him

'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir went to Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, while he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was in Al Arqam's house... He was weeping his heart out, he couldn't speak, he almost choked... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, asked him: "*What is the matter?!*"... 'Ammâr said: It's evil, O Prophet of Allah!... They (the non-believers) would not let go of me until I spoke bad about you, and spoke well of their gods!!.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*How do you feel in your heart?*".. 'Ammâr said: I feel satisfied with my *Imân* (belief).. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*If they get back to you again, tell them the same thing again*"¹...

And that was permission given to who cannot endure torture and is forced to speak the word of *Kufr* (non-believing), on the condition that his heart be at peace with deep *Imân* (belief)... The reason for that is what had happened to 'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir and his mother and father... Allah's words came down: **﴿Whoever disbelieved**

¹ Narrated by Ibn Jarîr and Al Bayhaqi.

in Allâh after his belief, except him who is forced thereto and whose heart is at rest with Faith; but such as open their breasts to disbelief, on them is wrath from Allâh, and theirs will be a great torment﴾. (An-Nahl "The Bees",106).

When Summayah the mother of ‘Ammâr, may Allah be pleased with them, knew about that permission, she said: By **Allah**, I would never speak the word of *Kufr* (non-believing) after **Allah** has saved me from it... She continued enduring torture, until the men who tortured her lost their patience and one of them stabbed her in her privates and she died... She became the first woman martyr in Islam... And it was an honour to her son ‘Ammâr to be called Summayah’s son...

That young man had no money or power... He was one of the first seven who announced their Islam in *Makkah* with **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, they were: ‘Abû Bakr, Bilâl, Suhaib, ‘Ammâr, Yâsir, Summayah and Khabbâb... ‘Ammâr and Suhaib became Muslims at the same moment... They had met at the entrance of Al Arqam Ibn ‘Abî Al Arqam’s house when **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, was hiding inside... That was during the early period of Islam... They entered together, and became Muslims at the same time...

The people of Banî Al Mughîrah Ibn Makhzûm tortured ‘Ammâr, his father and his mother viciously and beyond

what any human being can endure, trying to persuade them to give up Islam... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, could not help them except by saying: "*Be patient 'Ala Yâsir (Yâsir's family), for your promise is to go to Paradise*"¹... 'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir manages to immigrate to *Al Madînah Al Munawwarah* and joins Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair... He supervises building *Masjid (Mosque) Qubâ*², which was the first mosque to be built in Islam... 'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir builds it in *Banû 'Amr Ibn 'Auf*'s district in *Qubâ*' to be ready for **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, arrival... The first *Jumu'ah* (Friday) prayer in Islam was prayed in that mosque... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said about that mosque: "*Whoever makes Wudû' (Ablution) at his home, and does it well, then prays two Rak'ahs in Qubâ' Mosque is regarded as equal in reward to the performance of 'Umrah*"^{3,4}...

'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir waits for **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, in *Al Madînah*... When he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be

¹ As At Tabarâni narrated that Jabir (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

² *Qubâ'*: A place at outskirts of *Medînah*. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, established a mosque there which bears the same name.

³ *'Umrah*: A religion journey to *Makkah* during which one performs the *Tawâf* around the *Ka'bah* and *Sa'y* between *As-Safâ* and *Al-Marwah*. It is also called lesser *Hajj*.

⁴ As Nasâ'i, Ahmad, and Al Hâkim narrated that Sahl Ibn Honaif (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

upon him, arrives, ‘Ammâr does not leave him for one second... He witnessed with him all the conquests, starting from the battle of *Badr*, then the battle of *’Uhud*, then *Ghazwat-ul-Khandaq*¹.. ‘Ammâr works in digging the trench with great enthusiasm and effort... The dust covers his beard... The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, passed by ‘Ammâr and removed the dust off his beard with his own sacred hands, He, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: “*Rejoice ‘Ammâr, for you shall be killed by a rebellious aggressive group*”².. The *Sahâbah* (companions), memorise that omen, but they do not know when it is due... ‘Ammâr fights for the sake of **Allah** and attends all the battles with **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,... He does not stay behind in any of them... He witnessed with him *Al-Ridwân* pledge... He becomes a good example to the nation, as the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, says about him: “*follow ‘Ammâr’s guidance*”³... That guidance that - ‘*Um Al-Mu’minûn- ‘Â’ishah*, may Allah be pleased with her, (the mother of the believers) points to, explaining some of its signs in relating **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,

¹ *Ghazwat-ul-Khandaq*: The name of a battle between the early Muslims and the infidels in which the Muslims dug a *khandaq* (trench) round *Al-Madînah* to prevent any advance by the enemies.

² Tohfât Al Ahwazi.

³ Narrated by *Imâm Ahmad*.

Hadîth about ‘Ammâr saying: “Whenever ‘Ammâr was asked to choose, he always chose the wisest”¹...

One day, Khâlid Ibn Al Walîd and ‘Ammâr Ibn Yâsir disagree... Khâlid speaks harshly to ‘Ammâr... ‘Ammâr leaves him, and goes to **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,... Khâlid follows him and keeps on speaking harshly to him, while **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, is listening... and keeping silent... ‘Ammâr weeps and says: O **Allah**’s Prophet... Don’t you see what he’s doing?!.. **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, held his head up and said: “Whoever regards ‘Ammâr as an enemy, will be regarded by **Allah** as an enemy ... And whoever hates ‘Ammâr will be hated by **Allah**”²... Khâlid Ibn Al Walîd says: I went out after ‘Ammâr, for nothing has become dearer to me than ‘Ammâr’s satisfaction... And I kept reconciling with him until he accepted my reconciliation... The *Sahâbah* (companions) were very careful in satisfying ‘Ammâr Ibn Yâsir, and tried to guarantee his blessings after they heard what **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, had said about him... In addition to that, whenever he asked permission to enter where **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, was, The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon

¹ Tohfât Al Ahwazi.

² Narrated by *Imâm* Ahmad.

him, said: “*Welcome to the kind one, who was made kind by Allah*”¹ ...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, dies, but ‘Ammâr is keeping the promise, obedient to ‘Abû Bakr As-Siddîq carrying out his orders... He goes out to fight Musaylamah Al Kadhdhâb who claimed to be a prophet... The fight is a fierce one, there were many men surrounding Musaylamah, that some of the Muslims almost escaped from the battlefield, but ‘Ammâr Ibn Yâsir calls upon them saying: O Muslim people... Is it Paradise that you are escaping from?!... I am ‘Ammâr Ibn Yâsir... Come to me... He waves and hits back and forth with his sword... He receives a blow that cuts off his ear, which remains hanging to his face by a thin skin, but he does not give notice to that... He keeps on fighting, till **Allah** grants victory to the Muslims, and Musaylamah Al Kadhdhâb is murdered in a drastic manner... The rest of Musaylamah's army are dispersed, each trying to save himself...

Days pass by, and ‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb becomes a *Khalifah* (caliph), then ‘Uthmân Ibn ‘Affân, then ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abû Tâlib... And ‘Ammâr Ibn Yâsir remains as an example of a courageous warrior, fighting in the Cause of

¹ Narrated by *Imâm* Ahmad and At Tirmidhi.

Allah in all the channels of *Jihâd*¹... A knight during the day, and a monk at night, although he had reached the age of 93 (Ninety three)...

The clash takes place between ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib and Mu‘âwiyah Ibn ‘Abî Sufyân... ‘Ammâr joins ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib’s army... He fights with him in the battle of *Al Jamal*, then in *Siffîn*... He says: By **Allah**... If they hit us till we reach the palm trees of *Hajar* (a town), I would still be sure that we are right, and they are wrong...

Some of the *Sahâbah* (companions) do not join either groups; ‘Alî or Mu‘âwiyah, trying to stay away from that strife amongst the society... One of these men is Khuzaymah Ibn Thâbit Al ‘Ansârî that the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said about him that if he testified, his testimony is worth the testimony of two men... The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: “*When Khuzaymah testifies for a man, this man shall be protected, and will find support through him*”²...

Khuzaymah carries his sword, but he does not take part in the battle... He is just a spectator... When he is asked about his attitude, and why he does not take sides, he says: I am

¹ *Jihâd*: Holy fighting in the Cause of **Allah** or any other kind of effort to make **Allah**’s Word (i.e. Islam) superior. *Jihâd* is regarded as one of the fundamentals of Islam.

² Narrated by ‘Abû Dawûd.

waiting for ‘Ammâr Ibn Yâsir to be killed, then I shall see who will kill him... For I heard **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying: “*May Allah be merciful to ‘Ammâr, he will be killed by a rebellious aggressive group*”¹. When that happens, I can join the other group.

‘Ammâr Ibn Yâsir -who is now 93 (Ninety three) years-fights happily with his sword... He is optimistic and cries: Today I meet my loved ones... Muhammad and his companions... He rests a little, he is tired from the effort of the battle... He asks for a drink, so they give him some milk... When he sees it, joy appears on his face and he says: **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, told me: “*O ‘Ammâr... The last drink you shall have in this world is milk*”²...

He tells the men around him: Bury me in my clothes, for I am a fighter... He takes his sword and rushes to the battlefield... He falls as a martyr...

It is then, and only then, that Khuzaymah Ibn Thâbit Al ’Ansârî, may Allah be pleased with him, joins ‘Alî Ibn ’Abî Tâlib’s, may Allah be pleased with him, army, while he is saying: Now, truth has

¹ As Al Bukhâri narrated that ‘Amr Ibn Maimoun (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

² As At Tirmidhi narrated that ’Abû Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

prevailed... Now I know who a rebellious aggressive group is!!...

Mu'âwiyah Ibn 'Abî Sufyân and 'Amr Ibn Al-'Âs are astonished when two men go to them, telling them that 'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir has been killed, while each of them claims to be the murderer, and they are fighting over that... 'Amr Ibn Al-'Âs bursts out crying and says: By **Allah**... they shall fight in Hell... By **Allah**, I wish I had died twenty years before witnessing that day!!.

The Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, Servant
'Anas Ibn Mâlik Ibn An-Nadir
May Allah be pleased with him

When 'Um Sulaym Bint Milhân knew that the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was arriving to *Al Madînah*, she ran to him, taking her son with her; 'Anas Ibn Mâlik who had not been ten yet, and she said: O Prophet of **Allah**, that is my son 'Anas, a boy who knows how to write, so take him to serve you... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, accepted him for the signs of intelligence, cleverness, and good origin that had foreseen in him... He jokingly called him "*You who has two ears*"¹...

'Anas Ibn Mâlik became one of the lucky ones who had won the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companionship and his service... He went out with him to the battle of *Badr* to serve him, he then stayed with him weather he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was travelling or staying, serving him, and fighting in the Cause of **Allah** with him. He was one of the very skilful archers.. 'Anas speaks of the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, good manners and greatness saying: I have never touched a fine material; or silk that feels softer than the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be

¹ Al-Esabah by Ibn Hagar.

upon him, palm, and I have never smelt a better odor than his... I have served the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, for ten years, he had never told me *Uff* (a word of contempt)... Nor ever told me about something I have done: "*Why did you do it?*", and he never told me about something I haven't done: "*Would you do that?*"¹... But he used to commend the saying: "*Allah destined, and Allah's destiny be done!*"². He also explained how the *Sahâbah* (companions) quickly responded to **Allah's** and the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, orders... He says: I used to offer water in 'Abî Talhah's house (His father in law), so we heard a man calling: Liquor has been prohibited... So 'Abî Talhah told me: O 'Anas, look what we have of liquor and get rid of it... And by **Allah**, it was as if the roads of the city seemed like rivers of spilt liquor. Indeed.. Everyone responded and spilt the liquor without hesitation, and without even waiting till the next day, or until they asked the man who announced the prohibition of liquor: Who said that?.. Or when was it prohibited?.. Or let us drink today and refrain tomorrow.. And that is how Islam had awakened their consciousness. They were men not to be feared of, or worried about. They have been

¹ Narrated by Al Bukhâri and Muslim.

² As Muslim narrated that 'Abû Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

brought up in the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, moral school. For he was the best living example to them in being pious and obedient to **Allah**. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, used to go a lot to the house of 'Anas' mother to eat and pray *Nâfilah* (supererogatory prayer), so that she may later pray in his blessed place... She also used to join the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, in his conquests... During the conquest of *Hunain*, she was remarkably courageous. She was pregnant, but when she saw the people running away and not protecting the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, she tied around her stomach for support and protection, took her sword, and stood by him, defending him and saying: Let my parents be sacrificed for you, O **Allah**'s Prophet. One day, she asked **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, to pray for her son 'Anas that **Allah** would bless and increase his money and his children, so he prayed for him... **Allah** accepted his prayer, and 'Anas Ibn Mâlik -who used to love and was proud of being called the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, servant- became one of the richest men amongst *Ansâr* (supporters), and **Allah** granted him a lot of children... When he died, he left behind him 120 (One hundred and twenty) children and grandchild.

During the later part of the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, life, he told 'Anas trying to reward him for his serving

him: “O ‘Anas... Ask me what you like”... ‘Anas said: I ask for your *shafâ‘ah* (Support me on the day of judgment), O Prophet of **Allah**.. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: “Ask me for one of your needs of this world”.. ‘Anas said: O Prophet of **Allah**... By **Allah**, I ask of you nothing else.. So, the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him: “Then allow me to help you by your *prostrating a lot*”¹ (in prayer). He, may Allah be pleased with him, prayed and prostrated a lot until he died in *Al Basrah* and was buried there... He was the last of the *Sahâbah* (companions) to die in *Al Basrah*... He had kept a small cane which he had taken from the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, and he had asked that it would be buried with him... It was buried between his body and his shirt... He was 103 (One hundred and three) years old when he died... He, may Allah be pleased with him, was one of the men who related many of the Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, sayings... For a lot of *Hadîth* were related by him... It was then related through others like Humayd Al Tawîl, Thâbit Al Bunânî, Qatâdah, Al Hassan Al Basrî, Az-Zuhrî, and many of the men who learnt and related *Hadîth*.

¹ Narrated by *Imâm* Muslim.

The One Who Was Protected By The Wasps 'Âsim Ibn Thâbit

May Allah be pleased with him

When Islam was spread in *Al Madînah Al Munawwarah*, the youth of *Al 'Aws* and *Al Khazraj* -who were enemies previously- rushed into that religion... For previously, their main interest was to gain worldly benefits, and to fight each other... After **Allah** joined their hearts together, their only interest became to compete in the Cause of **Allah**.. 'Âsim Ibn Thâbit Al 'Ansârî was one of *Al 'Aws* most courageous, well bred young men... He was from *Banî 'Amr Ibn 'Auf* (The tribe of 'Amr Ibn 'Auf)... That young man who was keen on learning the Qur'ân from Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair, who was sent by the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, to *Al-Madînah* after the first solemn pledge of *Al-'Aqabah* to enlighten and teach its people... 'Âsim was also keen on learning and following 'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir's teachings, who had built *Qubâ'* Mosque where the first *Jumm'ah* (Friday) prayer in Islam took place.

The immigrants continued moving to *Al-Madînah* ... They shared *Ansâr* people (supporters) their homes, their food, their meetings, and taught them what they had learnt from **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him., and what they

have received from the Qur'ân, which had been sent in Holy *Makkah*... This continued until **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq arrived and stayed with *Banî 'Amr Ibn 'Auf*, the tribe of 'Âsim Ibn Thâbit in *Qubâ'* ...

Allah's Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, light, lights all *Al Madînah Al Munawwarah*.. He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, established the bond of brotherhood between the immigrants and *Ansâr* (supporters).. By that, the first step is taken to form the proper Islamic nation on a firm ground...

Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, receives the news that a large caravan is arriving from *Shâ'm* to *Makkah*... It is carrying the merchandise of *Quraish*, and led by 'Abû Sufyân Ibn Harb... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, finds this caravan, and all its goods -if it could be taken by the immigrants- a chance to compensate them for all their money which they had left behind in *Makkah*, and was taken by the non-believers of *Quraish*... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, consults the people about going out to meet the caravan and conquer it... The *Ansâr* (supporters) insist on helping the immigrants to regain their lost rights...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, goes out in an army of almost three hundred men, immigrants and *Ansâr*

(supporters), carrying nothing but swords... They were accompanied by only two knights, Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awwâm and Al Miqdâd Ibn 'Amr, for they were not really expecting a war...

'Abû Sufyân gets to know about the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and his companions going out for the caravan... He then changes his route... He goes by the direction of the seacoast, avoiding the usual way, and thus trying to save his caravan... He sends a man to warn the people in *Makkah* to save their caravan and their money from the Muslims...

All *Quraish*, fully equipped, goes out to war... Its strong men are waving and fighting with their swords, their horses and their spears... They act sarcastically and mockingly, as the Muslims are few in number and in armour... But it is **Allah's**, Praise and Glory be to Him, wish that truth prevails, and vice is conquered... The two groups meet without any previous agreement near *Badr* well, on the way between *Makkah* and *Al-Madînah* ... The battle starts, and the non-believers starts collapsing, one after the other, just like falling leaves... Seventy are killed, and another seventy are taken as captives... Some of the killed men, were amongst the strongest men of *Quraish*, and the most vicious like: 'Utbah Ibn Rabi'âh, Shaibah Ibn Rabi'âh, Al Walîd Ibn 'Utbah, 'Abû Jahl and

'Umaiyaḥ Ibn Khalaf... These men used to torture the Muslims severely in *Makkah*...

It was 'Āsim Ibn Thâbit who killed 'Uqbah Ibn 'Abî Moa'it, one of the strongest non-believers... 'Āsim Ibn Thâbit was one of *Ansâr* youth, who had nothing but his sword, and his belief in **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, and His Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,... Both Musâfih Ibn Talhah and Kilâb Ibn Talhah -two brothers from *Makkah*- attack 'Āsim, trying to tear him apart with their swords... But 'Āsim Ibn Thâbit fights courageously, clinging to his strong faith, and confidence in **Allah**'s might... He hits Musâfih with his sword and kills him... He also attacks his brother Kilâb causing him serious injury, and leaving him between life and death...

The battle ends by the Muslims winning, and achieving victory... **Allah**'s word prevails... Kilâb and Musâfih's mother comes looking for her two sons amongst the bodies... She finds Kilâb while he is taking his last breaths... She asks him: Who has done that to you?!... He says: I heard the man who hit me with his sword saying: Take my blow, and I am Al 'Aflah's son... She does not rest until she finds who Ibn Al 'Aflah is... It turns out that he is 'Āsim Ibn Thâbit, the adornment of *Ansâr* youth...

The woman bows with many oblations to her idols, asking their help, one after the other... She also promises a

precious reward to whoever gets her ‘Âsim Ibn Thâbit’s head, so she would drink liquor in that head, trying to quench her anger...

As time passes by, the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, sends a squadron, composed of ten men, to bring back the news of *Quraish*... He, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, appoints ‘Âsim Ibn Thâbit -the courageous man- as their leader... The squadron goes on its way, trying to trace any news, until they reached a place between ‘*Usfân* and *Makkah*... *Banî Lihyân* knew about them, and sent out one hundred of their most skilful archers after them... They got to them, and surrounded them on one of the mountains... They called upon them saying: You have a covenant and a promise that if you come down to us, we will not kill anyone of you...

The men in the squadron watch out for ‘Âsim Ibn Thâbit’s instructions to them... ‘Âsim said: As for me, I will never come down on the security of an infidel... Since I became a Muslim, I have made a vow, never to touch or be touched by a non-believer... O **Allah**, inform Your Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, about us... The battle starts... The archers start throwing their arrows at the men of the squadron, trying to get their leader, who is keeping them strong and solid... They kill him amongst seven others... And three remained Khubaib Ibn ‘Adiy, Zaid Ibn

Al Dathinah and ‘Abdullah Ibn Tarîq... They tie them down, and take them to sell them in *Makkah*... ‘Abdullah Ibn Tarîq resists them, so they kill him...

The non-believers were anxious to get the reward that Musâfih and Kilâb’s mother had promised in return for ‘Âsim Ibn Thâbit’s head... They wanted to cut his head off, and take it to *Makkah*... They all went out, looking for his body, but **Allah** sent a cloud of wasps which protected ‘Âsim’s body; surrounding it from all sides, so that nobody could even approach... When they gave up getting near, some of them said: These wasps shall disappear when it’s dark... Let us wait for the evening to come, then we could get hold of the body... But when it was night time, a vast flood carried ‘Âsim Ibn Thâbit’s body away, where no one could touch or find it...

‘Âsim Ibn Thâbit’s prayer is accepted by **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, when he prayed saying: O **Allah**... Inform Your Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, about us... Jibrîl comes down to **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, informing him about what happened... He, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, became extremely sad... **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said *Qunût*¹ for one month in the morning prayer, invoking evil upon *Banî*

¹ *Qunût*: An invocation in the *Salât* (prayer).

Lihyân... Those people who had been blinded, even to see the truth... Their greed led them to kill -with no motive or reason- men who had not started the fighting, and were not even their enemies, nor there was any previous grudge between them...

Hassân Ibn Thâbit -the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, poet- writes verses about that saying (in meaning):

By my life, *Hudhayl* has disgraced Ibn Mudrik, Khubaib and 'Âsim, for they were men of fine reputation...

But *Lihyân* have done ugly things,
and were known for their vicious crimes...

It is worth considering that the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, prayed against 'Âsim Ibn Thâbit's killers for one whole month... That had not happened before with the other non-believers who had killed the Muslims in battlefields, like during the battle of 'Uhud and other battles... On the contrary, some of them who had become Muslims became like brothers to the real Muslims applying Allah's, Praise and Glory be to Him, words:

﴿But if they repent, perform As-Salât (Iqâmat-as-Salât) and give Zakât, then they are your brethren in religion. (In this way) We explain the Ayât (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) in detail for a people who know﴾. (At-Taubah "The Repentance",11).

This clarifies how dearly **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, regarded 'Âsim Ibn Thâbit, may Allah be pleased with him, how much he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, grieved for him, and how terrible was the crime of *Banî Lihyân*...

After that, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, knew from Jibrîl what had happened, he Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sent Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awwâm and Al Miqdâd Ibn 'Amr on their horses to where 'Âsim Ibn Thâbit was killed, so that they would bury him... When they reached the spot of the battle, as the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, had directed them, they found no trace of 'Âsim Ibn Thâbit, may Allah be pleased with him, . . .

The *Sahâbah* (Companions) called 'Âsim Ibn Thâbit as (The one who was protected by the wasps)... For **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, had protected him against the enemy's intrigue, and had not allowed the non-believers to lay hands on him, alive or dead... The flood had carried him away to **Allah**'s shelter and protection... He had fulfilled his commitment towards **Allah**, so **Allah** in return, fulfilled His commitment towards him also... For who fulfils his commitments more truthfully than **Allah**... for **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, says: *«Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with Allâh [i.e. they have gone out for Jihâd (holy fighting), and showed not their backs to the disbelievers];*

of them some have fulfilled their obligations (i.e. have been martyred); and some of them are still waiting, but they have never changed [i.e. they never proved treacherous to their covenant which they concluded with Allâh] in the least﴾. (Al-Ahzâb “The Confederates”,23).

**The (*Hawârî*) Disciple of Allah's Prophet
Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awwâm**

May Allah be pleased with him

Az-Zubair became a Muslim when he was fifteen years old, and yet he was a strong believer, fully convinced, for he had suffered in the Cause of **Allah** in spite of his well known family name and his honor... His uncle used to wrap him in a burning straw mat until the smoke came out of it and he almost suffocated... He would tell him: Say you do not believe in Muhammad's **God**...

Az-Zubair would say: By **Allah** no... I would never return to *Kufr* (non believing).. He had immigrated in the two immigrations, to *Ethiopia*, then to *Al-Madînah*... He was the first one to use a sword to fight in the Cause of **Allah** and that was in *Makkah* before the Muslims were ordered to fight... There had been a rumor that the non-believers had captured the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, so he held his sword and went out assaulting, and walking through *Makkah*, wishing to kill *Makkah's* masters, and its non-believers from *Quraish*... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, saw him, and told him: "*What is wrong with*

*you Zubair?!"*¹.. He said: I was told that you were captured.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, prayed that he be granted peace and blessings, and prayed for him and his mighty sword...

Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awwâm is the nephew of 'Um Al-Mu'minûn (the mother of the believers) Khadîja Bint Khuwaylid, may Allah be pleased with her, and the son of Safiyâh the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, aunt, and the husband of 'Asmâ' the daughter of 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq... He is one of the first five men to become a Muslim. He is also one of the ten men promised to go to paradise, and one of the six *Shûrah* (consultation) men that 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb recommended as *Khalîfah* (Caliph)... He said about them: Before the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, died, he was pleased with them.

Az-Zubair witnessed all the battles with **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,. He never stayed behind in any of the conquests... During the battle of *Badr*, it was said that he tied around his head a yellow head cover, and that the angels came down from heaven looking like him...

¹ As narrated Heshâm Ibn 'Urwah that his father (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

And in the *Ghazwat-ul-Khandaq*¹ (*Al-Ahzâb*)², when the non-believers sieged *Al-Madînah*, the believers were extremely shaken, the hearts reached to the throats, and you were harbouring doubts about **Allah** ... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, called his companions and said: "*Who will bring us the news of the people in Al-Madînah?!*"... Az-Zubair said: I, O Prophet of **Allah**... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, asked the same question three times, and every time Az-Zubair would rise and say: I... So the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Every Prophet used to have a Hawârî*³ (i.e. disciple), and my Hawârî is Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awwâm"⁴.

And when the Muslims sieged the fortress of *Qurayzah*, they could not force the people to give up... So, Az-Zubair and 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib forced their way together inside saying: By **Allah**... We would rather go through what Hamzah went through, or they'd better open up the

¹ *Ghazwat-ul-Khandaq* which is called *Al-Ahzâb* battle. (This battle took place) in the month of *Shawwâl* in the fourth year of Islamic calendar.

² *Al-Ahzâb*: The Confederates. The term *Ahzâb* is used for the disbelievers of *Quraish* and the Jews residing at *Al-Madînah* and some other *Arab* tribes who invaded the Muslims of *Al-Madînah* but were forced to withdraw.

³ *Hawârî*: (plural *Hawârîyûn*): were called so because of the whiteness of their clothes.

⁴ As Al Bukhâri and Muslim narrated that Jabir (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

fortress... It was by **Allah**'s will opened, and the Muslims entered the fortress...

Az-Zubair had nothing to occupy him except fighting in the Cause of **Allah**, and taking part in the conquests... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said about him: "*Al Zubair and Talhah are my neighbors in paradise*"¹...

When he was seen during the *Hajj* (pilgrimage time) and he was dressed in the *'Ithrâm* (pilgrimage costume). Someone saw how his body was all badly hurt from the strikes of swords... He also saw in his chest what seemed like heavy deep scars from arrows and spears, so he told him: By **Allah**, I have never seen a body like your body.. So Az-Zubair said: Not any of these wounds have happened except when I was in the company of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, fighting in the Cause of **Allah**...

And during the battle of *Yarmûk*², the enemies almost won the battle, so Az-Zubair called aloud *Allah-u-Akbar* (**Allah** is Great) and went through the enemy lines on his horse, riding through them all, and on his way back, he was cutting off their heads, overthrowing them on both sides (right and left), so the Muslims were encouraged and

¹ As At-Tirmidhi narrated that 'Alî (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

² *Yarmûk*: A place in *Shâ'm*.

attacked together in one man's power, and they won the battle by **Allah**'s help...

After 'Uthmân Ibn 'Affân's murder, a lot of afflictions appears. The people chose 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib to become *Khalîfah* (Caliph)... Az-Zubair refuses to join in *Al Bay'ah* (pledge of allegiance) until 'Alî takes revenge from 'Uthmân's murderers... He agrees with 'Â'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, in her attitude towards 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib... 'Alî asks to meet him... When they meet, he tells him: O Zubair... Do you remember when you and I were with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and he looked at me, and he laughed, and I laughed, and you said: 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib does not forget his sense of humor ... So the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*It is not that, and you shall fight him, but you will be unfair to him*"¹... Az-Zubair remembered that, and gave up the fighting and returned to *Al-Madînah*... On his way, he stopped at *Wâdî Al Sibâ'* (Valley of Lions) and started praying.. Ibn Jarmûz took this chance, stabbed him from the back, and killed him... He took with him Az-Zubair's sword as a proof that he had killed him, as Az-Zubair would have never left his sword... He went to 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib thinking that he is bringing to him good news... 'Alî takes the sword, kisses

¹ Al Esabah.

it, and cries... He says: This sword has at many times kept distress and hardship away from the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, . . . Tell the murderer of Safiyah's son that he will end up in hell...

Ibn Jarmûz leaves saying: We tell them we have killed their enemy, and they tell us you will end up in hell... He feels closed within himself, becomes desperate, and that leads him to commit suicide... So, the prophecy comes true: Tell the murderer of Safiyah's son that he will end up in hell...

Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awwâm dies treacherously as a martyr in the 33rd year of *Hijrah*... The non-believers could not get to him and kill him during the conquests... Even the Persians and *Al-Rûm* (Romans) in their fights with the Muslims could not get to him... The one who killed him was one who claimed to be a Muslim... Indeed (There is no might, or power except with **Allah**) ...

Az-Zubair had one thousand slaves... They paid him taxes... He never took from it any to his own home, but he gave it all in the Cause of **Allah**... Seven from the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companions asked him to take care of their children, two of them were 'Uthmân Ibn 'Affân and Al Miqdâd Ibn 'Amr... He used to provide for the children from his own money, and save all their

money for them.. May **Allah** be pleased with him, and honored him..

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was true in his saying:

“Every Prophet used to have a Hawârî (i.e. disciple), and my Hawârî is Az-Zubair Ibn Al ‘Awwâm”.

By What Have You Preceded Me To Paradise Bilâl Ibn Rabâh

May Allah be pleased with him

'*Ahad... 'Ahad... 'Ahad...* Cries echoed by the seven mountains of *Makkah*... Cries coming from the depths of a believer's heart, a weak thin body of an *Ethiopian* slave who had insisted on announcing his becoming a Muslim... He announces it publicly amongst seven other men led by the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, of Islam. Bilâl was a slave to 'Umayyah Ibn Khalaf, one of the very strong men of *Quraish*, and one of the most powerful non-believers in *Makkah* who was shocked as much as he was disturbed that his slave would disobey him by announcing his becoming a Muslim, and his believing in Muhammad's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, one and only **Allah**... It was necessary that Bilâl would be taught a lesson so that the rest of the slaves would not do the same.. His master used to make him lie down under the hot sun on lighted stone... He would put big stones on his back one time, and on his chest another time, until he was totally burnt by the sun and almost died of thirst... He would then sprinkle cold water around him to be absorbed by the sand, but he would not get one drop to wet his cut and dry lips. He would tell him: Say that you do not

believe in Muhammad's **God**, and I will relieve you from your suffering.. Bilâl would answer from the depths of his heart to that: '*Ahad.. 'Ahad.. 'Ahad..* (meaning **Allah** is One).. His master on hearing that, would increase the amount of torturing, and Bilâl would also increase his stubbornness... He would then take him, tie him from his neck by a *loof* rope (rope made of vegetable sponge), and give him to the boys to play with him in *Makkah*'s roads... They would hit him with stones until they got bored of him, then they would leave him in the sun, while his hands and feet were still tied down...

Waraqah Ibn Nawfal -A monk who became a Christian during *Jâhiliya*¹- passes beside him... He sees him in his torment and tells him: Yes Bilâl... '*Ahad.. 'Ahad.. 'Ahad...* By **Allah** Bilâl, if you die, I will regard your grave as a blessed place, and I will pray to **Allah** to accept me and my prayer when I'm there...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, feels pity for Bilâl's condition from that torturing and pain that cannot be endured even by mountains, so he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq: "*If we had money, we would*

¹ *Jâhiliya*: Ignorance belonging to the period before the advent of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him.. Un-Islamic practices which either existed or were inherited from the era before the advent of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him..

*have bought Bilâl and set him free”.. ’Abû Bakr understands the Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, insinuation and goes to ’Umaiya Ibn Khalaf asking him to buy Bilâl from him... He also tries to make ’Umaiya lose interest in Bilâl, so he sells him for five ounces of silver and tells ’Abû Bakr: By **Allah**, even if you would offer only one ounce’s worth, I would still sell him to you... ’Abû Bakr answers him saying: By **Allah**, if you refused to take anything less than one hundred, I would still buy him.. ’Abû Bakr bought him and set him free for **Allah**’s sake.. ’Umar Ibn Al Khattâb says: ’Abû Bakr is our chief, and he manumitted our chief. (Meaning Bilâl).*

Days pass, and Bilâl stays close to the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, and becomes the first *Mu’adhdhin*¹ in Islam... He is *Mu’adhdhin* during all the Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, traveling and inside the country... He never stays behind in any of the conquests or trips, carrying his food which the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said about it one day: “*A whole month would pass, and Bilâl and I had no food except a very little amount that could be carried in Bilâl’s under-arm.*”.. During the battle of *Badr*, Bilâl goes out to fight with the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers

¹ *Mu’adhdhin*: A call-maker who pronounces the *’Adhân* loudly calling people to come and perform the *Salât* (prayer).

and Peace be upon him, he sees 'Umayyah Ibn Khalaf amongst the non-believers; that ferocious man who used to torture him... Bilâl screams saying: 'Umayyah Ibn Khalaf!!.. Woe to me if 'Umayyah remains safe (i.e. alive)... He attacks him like a hurt lion, and by **Allah**'s help, he kills him with the same hands that used to be tied down... **Allah** comforts Bilâl's heart, and his deep anger calms down... The Muslims cry aloud in *Badr*: 'Ahad .. 'Ahad .. 'Ahad... Days pass by, and *Makkah* is widely opened to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and his companion... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, enters the *Ka'bah*, he takes with him Bilâl and 'Usâmah Ibn Zaid... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, prays two *Rak'ahs* and breaks the idols, -they were 360 idols- and saying: "*Truth (i.e. Islamic Monotheism or this Qur'an or Jihad against polytheists) has come and Bâtil (falsehood, i.e. Satan or polytheism) has vanished. Surly Bâtil is ever bound to vanish*"¹...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, orders Bilâl to rise on top of the *Ka'bah* and announce the first *'Adhân* (call for prayer) in *Makkah*... **Allahu-Akbar**.. **Allahu-Akbar** (**Allah** is the Most Great.. **Allah** is the Most Great)...*Makkah*'s mountains echoes the word of truth

¹ As At Tirmidhi narrated that Ibn Masûd (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

from Bilâl's voice as it had repeated before his suffering words '*Ahad .. 'Ahad...*

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, acknowledges Bilâl that he had been promised to go to paradise saying: "*O Bilâl... By what have you preceded me to paradise?!.. I heard the sound of your shoes in Paradise just in front of me!!*"... Bilâl said: O Prophet of **Allah**... Whenever I break my *Wudû'* (Ablution) I would make ablution again, I found that I owed **Allah** two *Rak'ahs* of prayer by this ablution¹..

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, dies, and Bilâl goes to 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq saying: O *Khalifah* (Caliph) of **Allah**'s Prophet... I heard the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying: "*The best deeds of my people is fighting in the Cause of Allah*"²... And I want to dedicate myself to **Allah** until I die, so please allow me to move to *Shâ'm*.. So 'Abû Bakr says: O Bilâl... I ask you by **Allah**'s sake... Bilâl, by my honourable status and by my right... I have grown older in age, and my time is near... Stay with me, and don't leave me.. Bilâl stayed with 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq as his *Mu'adhdhin* until 'Abû Bakr died and 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb became *Khalîfah* (Caliph)... Bilâl went to

¹ As Al-Sheikhain narrated that 'Abû Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

² Narrated by *Imâm* Muslim.

‘Umar and told him what he had told ‘Abû Bakr before...
‘Umar tried to convince him to stay, but he refused and went to *Shâ’m* with a brother (in Islam) called ‘Abû Ruwayhah... They both went to ask two sisters to marry them... Bilâl told the girls’ parents: We have come to you proposing to your daughters... We were non-believers, but **Allah** guided us to the Right Path... We were slaves, but **Allah** set us free, and we were poor, but **Allah** made us rich... If you let us get married, our gratitude will be to **Allah**... And if you refuse us, we believe that there is no might or power except with **Allah**... They wed them their daughters, thanks be to **Allah**... Bilâl was settled in *Shâ’m* until ‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb arrived there... Bilâl announced ‘*Adhân* in *Bait-ul-Maqdis*¹ (Jerusalem), which made him highly emotional and he wept until he performed ‘*Adhân*, and ever since, he stopped performing ‘*Adhân*...

One day, Bilâl sees in his sleep the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, telling him: “*Why are you so harsh on me Bilâl?!.. Is it not time yet for you to visit me?!?*”... Bilâl woke up from his sleep feeling very sad, and he took off

¹ *Bait-ul-Maqdis*: The famous mosque in *Jerusalem* which is regarded as the third sacred mosque in Islam; the first and second being *Al-Masjid-Al-Harâm* at *Makkah* and the mosque of the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, at *Al-Madînah*, respectively.

directly to the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, Holy Mosque in *Al Madînah*... He approached the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, grave and kept on weeping and wallowing himself against it...Al Hasan and Al Husain, may Allah be pleased with them, saw him and approached him... When he saw them, he cried, kissed and hugged them... They told him: O Bilâl... We wish that you announce '*Adhân*' during *Sahar* (late night) time... He could not refuse that particular request in that particular time and place.. At *Sahar* time, he went on top of the mosque and announced: **Allahu-Akbar.. Allahu-Akbar...** *Al Madînah* was shaken... And when he said: *Lâ ilâhâ illallâh*, (I testify that there is none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah**), it shook even more... And when he said: *Muhammadan-Rasûl-Allâh*, (I testify that Muhammad is the Messenger of **Allah**), all the men and women came out to the streets... And there has never been since then, more crying and weeping men and women than that day; for his '*Adhân*' and deep voice had touched people's sorrows and deep longing for the master of all people, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,•

After that special night, Bilâl took off returning to *Shâ'm* and stayed there, optimistically rejoicing the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, words to him: "*The men who*

declare 'Adhân are the men with the longest necks on the Day of Judgment''¹ ...

It is the moment of departure, and Bilâl is over sixty years old... He dies and is buried in *Shâ'm*... He joins with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, in paradise, offering himself to the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, service in paradise, as he used to do in his previous life.. And the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, would hear the sound of his shoes in front of him.

¹ As Muslim narrated that Mu'âwiyah (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

The Master Of All Martyrs Hamzah Ibn ‘Abdul Muttalib

May Allah be pleased with him

Hamzah Ibn ‘Abdul Muttalib was a master amongst *Quraish* masters and an adornment to its youth... He was known for his courage, knighthood, and his love for hunting... When the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, was announced as Messenger, he was neither supporting nor objecting to this new religion... He only kept observing that great event, without any interference, for the Messenger was a foster brother to him... It was Thûwaybah the slave of ‘Abû Lahab who had nursed both of them... Hamzah was two years older than the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, ... He is also his uncle (brother of his father)... Hamzah’s mother was the cousin of the Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, mother... Therefore he was related to him from both sides; father and mother..

It was a three-sided of relationship which made the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, one of the closest men to Hamzah’s heart... For that reason, he was very furious when he knew -after he came back from a hunting trip- that ‘Abû Jahl had spoken harshly to the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, and insulted him with what he hated most of insults, while the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, had

not even answered back... Hamzah went to *Ka'bah* where 'Abû Jahl was sitting amongst the people of *Quraish*... He hit him hard with his bow on his head and said: How can you insult Muhammad while I am a believer to his religion and I say what he says?!... Everyone was shocked to that hard blow that injured their chief's face and to what Hamzah said... They were rather astonished and asked him: O Hamzah... Have you turned against your beliefs..

Hamzah replied: Yes, I say what Muhammad says, and I testify that he speaks the truth... So if 'Abû Jahl has the courage to repeat to me what he told Muhammad, let him do that, and he shall see what I shall do to him...

With these words, everybody was silent... For that was the last thing they expected, that Hamzahh Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib - being the mighty knight of *Quraish* and the symbol of its courage - would support his nephew...

Hamzah leaves, and he leaves behind his anger... He is calm again and finds that he had rushed in announcing what he announced, which was out of anger and fury, and not out of true belief and conviction...

Hamzah returns home and stays up all night in deep doubt about this serious matter... He heads to *Ka'bah* and makes *Tawâf* (going around *Ka'bah* seven times)... He asks for **Allah**'s help to enlighten him to the truth... As soon as he finishes *Tawâf*, he feels that his love to Islam has been put

by **Allah** in his heart... He goes right away to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and tells him... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, prays to **Allah** that Hamzah's faith becomes forever solid...

And because Hamzah became a Muslim, *Quraish* had to reduce the hurt they caused the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, . . . He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was now protected. . .

During the *Hijrah*, Hamzah immigrates too along with the people who did... He was honoured by being the first man to lead a Muslim squadron, and the first man to carry the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, banner... It is **Allah**'s will that the Muslims and the non-believers meet in the battle of *Badr* without previous planning... The very strong men of *Quraish* went out, fully equipped to save their caravan... Three of their strongest fighters Shaybah Ibn Rabî'ah, 'Utbah Ibn Rabî'ah and Al Walîd Ibn 'Utbah who speak up saying: Is any of you ready to fight a duel?.. Some of *Ansâr* (supporters) show themselves up, but they tell them: Indeed you are worthy of respect, but we need to see our equal competitors from *Quraish* to fight us... Hamzah Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib appears from the midst of the army lines... His chest was decorated with ostrich feathers, he held a sword in each hand... With him appear 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlîb and 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Hârîth Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib.. The duel takes place, and Hamzah kills Shaybah

Ibn Rabî'ah, and 'Alî kills Al Walîd Ibn 'Utbah... 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Hârîth and 'Utbah Ibn Rabî'ah fight... Hamzah joins them and he kills 'Utbah Ibn Rabî'ah... The battle starts, and Hamzah starts assaulting and fighting with his sword... He kills Tu'aymah Ibn 'Adî, Al Mut'îm Ibn 'Adî's brother... The Muslims -though few in number and armour- win the battle by **Allah's** help... The Muslims killed seventy of the non-believers and captured another seventy... Amongst the men who were killed were 'Uqbah Ibn 'Abî Moa'ayt, 'Umaiah Ibn Khalaf , 'Abû Jahl,.. Those were strong men from *Quraish* and most cruel they were to the Muslims in *Makkah*... The defeated men from *Quraish* return to *Makkah* degraded and humiliated, determined to take revenge, especially from that fighter who fought with two swords and caused them all that injury, known as the lion of **Allah** and His Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, Hamzahn Ibn 'Abdul Muttalib... Jubair Ibn Mut'îm calls upon his *Ethiopian* slave Wahshî and tells him: If you kill Hamzah in revenge for my uncle, Tu'aimah Ibn 'Adî, then you will be set free... Hind Bint 'Utbah's father, uncle and brother were also killed by Hamzah in a duel, so she calls upon Wahshî and tells him: All what I own of gold is yours if you kill Hamzah... *Quraish* starts getting ready for the battle of '*Uhud*... Wahshî joins them, but all what he is determined to do is

getting Hamzah... The non-believers are attacked severely, and Hamzah starts assaulting and fighting with his sword... He kills thirty one men of the non-believers... The Muslims almost win the battle, had it not been that some of the archers disobeyed the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, orders and left their places, and so the Muslims started losing the battle... During that time, Wahshî was keeping an eye on Hamzah... He kept away from taking part in the battle for that reason... Hamzah fell on his back and so the armour fell off his stomach... Wahshî took this chance and killed him... The Muslims were defeated and escaped helplessly...

The non-believing women approached the battlefield... Every one of them -filled with revenge- was cutting apart the Muslim bodies, tearing off their ears and cutting apart their stomachs... Hind Bint 'Utbah found Hamzah's body amongst the Muslims slaughtered men... She cut his stomach apart and took out his liver... She bit it with her teeth but she was disgusted, so she spit it out... On that, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, commented: *"If Hamzah's liver would have entered her stomach, she would have not been touched by the fire of Hell"*¹ ..

¹ Al-Estiaab.

The non-believers return full of joy with their victory, and their revenge, while 'Abû Sufyân announces happily: This is a day of (revenge) for the day of *Badr* and the issue of war is undecided, and you shall find in your people how they have been torn and cut, but that does not please nor upset me...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, goes inspecting the killed men... When he sees his uncle Hamzah, he weeps... And when he sees what Hind has done to his body, he whooped, then said: "*May Allah mercy you my uncle, for you were kind to your kin, and a man of good deeds*"...

He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, continued: "*If Safiyah - Hamzah's sister- would not grieve, I would have left him here... For he shall be risen (on the Day of Judgment) from the stomachs of the birds and the beasts*"... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, then continued: "*If I would revenge, I would take seventy men in return for Hamzah*"...

Allah's verses followed: ***﴿And if you punish (your enemy, O you believers in the Oneness of Allâh), then punish them with the like of that with which you were afflicted. But if you endure patiently, verily, it is better for As-Sâbirûn (the patient). And endure you patiently (O Muhammad, Allâh's Prayers and Peace be upon him), your patience is not but from Allâh. And grieve not over***

them (polytheists and pagans), and be not distressed because of what they plot﴾. (An-Nahl "The Bees", 126-127).

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, prayed to Hamzah's soul, and prayed for the other killed men.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, used to shroud two martyrs of 'Uhud in one sheet and then say: "*Which of them knew Qur'ân more?!*"...When one of the two was singled out, he would put him first in the grave.. Then he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*I will be a witness for them on the Day of Resurrection*"¹ He ordered them to be buried with their blood (on their bodies). They were not washed..

When the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, returned to *Al Madînah*, he heard the sobbing and weeping for the murdered *Ansâr* (supporters)... He said: "*How about Hamzah, there is no one weeping for him*"²...

The *Ansâr* (supporters) on hearing that, ordered their women to lament for Hamzah, even before crying for their own victims, so the women did that... Ka'b Ibn Mâlik and Hassân Ibn Thâbit composed verses of lament and pity for Hamzah. All the women of *Al Madînah* cry for Hamzah's death. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, comes out to them saying: "*Refrain from what you're doing, may Allah*

¹ As Al Bukhâri narrated that Jabir (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

² As 'Abû Ya'liy narrated that Anas Ibn Mâlik and Ibn 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

mercy you... There should be no weeping after this day”...

Forty years later, and during the *Kalifah* (Caliph) of Mu‘âwiyah Ibn ‘Abû Sufyân, a flood swept away some of the graves of ‘Uhud... The people panic, and rush to cover the messed up graves... When they touched the martyrs, they could feel their flesh still warm and flexible that it could be bent (not stiff)... When the shovel touched Hamzah Ibn ‘Abdul Muttalib’s leg, blood burst out of it...

For **Allah**’s words are the truth: **﴿Think not of those who are killed in the Way of Allâh as dead. Nay, they are alive, with their Lord, and they have provision﴾** (Âl-‘Imrân “The

Family of Imran”,169).

As for Wahshî, the *Ethiopian* slave, he returned to *Makkah* and was set free... When the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, opened *Makkah*, he escaped to *Tâ’if*^d... When *Tâ’if* was opened, and its people became Muslims, he was left helpless... He thought of escaping to *Shâ’m* or *Yemen*... A man told him: *Waihaka* O Wahshî... By **Allah**, the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, would not kill a man who has become a Muslim... Wahshî went to the Prophet, Allah’s

¹ *Al Tâ’if*: A well-known town near *Makkah*.

Prayers and Peace be upon him, announcing *Ash-Shahâdah*¹ to become a Muslim... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him: "*Are you Wahshî?!*".. He said: Yes, O Prophet of **Allah**.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Tell me, how did you kill Hamzah?!*"... So Wahshî told him... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Waihaka... Can you hide your face from me?*"..

Wahshî avoided to come across the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, way, so He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, would not see him... Wahshî did that till the Prophet Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, died..

When the Muslims fought Musailamah Al Kadhdhâb (the Liar) during the ruling time of 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq, Wahshî went out with them... He used the same spear -by which he had killed Hamzah- and killed Musailamah Al Kadhdhâb with it... He kept saying: If I had killed the best of all men by my spear, I pray that **Allah** would forgive me if I kill the worst of all men by the same spear.. It is from the greatness of Islam that it wipes off what preceded... For whatever sin a man commits before convert to Islam, by starting as a Muslim, he is starting a new phase in his life...It is as if he is reborn... On the

¹ *Ash-Shahâdah*: Testimony of Faith, "None has the right to be worshipped but **Allah**, and Muhammad, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, is the Messenger of **Allah**".

other hand, if a man does good deeds before becoming a Muslim, he is rewarded for these good deeds after becoming a Muslim..

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was asked by a man about some good deeds this man had done, in *Jâhilia*, before becoming a Muslim by saying: How about the good deeds that I have done during my pre-Islamic days?!.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, replies: *“Although you have become a Muslim lately, yet you shall be granted the reward for the good deeds you have done before Islam”*¹.

¹ As Muslim narrated that Hakîm Ibn Hâzâm (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

The Secret Keeper **Hudhaifah Ibn Al Yamân**

May Allah be pleased with him

Hudhaifah Ibn Al Yamân went to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, at the mosque with his father Husayl Ibn Jâbir and his brother Safwân to give the pledge of allegiance to him, and announce that they have become Muslims... They were not originally from *Al-Madînah*, but Husayl Ibn Jâbir had gone to *Al-Madînah* to support *Banî 'Ashhal*, who were originally from *Yemen*, and so he was called Al Yamân... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, had given Hudhaifah the choice between the immigration and becoming an immigrant, or to become one of *Ansâr* (supporters)... He was the only one of the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companions who was given that choice... He chose to be from *Ansâr* (supporters), and became one of them...

During the battle of *Badr*, Hudhaifah went to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and told him: We had promised *Quraish* -before coming to you- that we would not fight them, so by what do you order me, O Prophet of **Allah**?!.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*We keep our promise, and by Allah's support we shall overcome them*".. He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, allowed him to stay

back from the battle of *Badr*. But in the battle of '*Uhud*, he joined in while the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, ordered his father to stay back with the women and children in *Al-Madīnah* for he was an old man, but he did not stay back, he carried his sword and went and joined the Muslims to fight with them. He feared that he would die without joining in the *Jihād* (Fighting in the Cause of **Allah**). He slipped himself amongst the lines of the Muslims without anyone's knowledge, to fight with them, but he was killed -by mistake- by the Muslims... Hudhaifah caught glimpse of him and tried to save him, he screamed at the Muslims: My father... My father. But his screaming was dispersed... He said: May **Allah** forgive you for he is most merciful... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, offered Hudhaifah *Dîyya*¹, but he gave it away as *Sadaqah* (charity) to the Muslims... That made the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, love him even more... Hudhaifah Ibn Al Yamân was very cautious to know evil and avoid it... He said: The people used to ask the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, about the good, but I used to ask him about the evil lest I should be overtaken by them... So I said: O Prophet of **Allah**... We were living in

¹ *Dîyya*: Compensation paid by the killer to the relatives of the victim, (in unintentional cases).

ignorance and in an (extremely) worst atmosphere, then **Allah** brought to us this good (i.e. Islam); will there be any evil after this good?!... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "Yes", I said: O Prophet of **Allah**... Will there be any good after that evil?.. He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, replied: "Yes, but it will be tainted (not pure)"... I asked: O Prophet of **Allah**... What is its taint?!... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, replied: "*(There will be) some people who will guide others not according to my tradition; you will approve of some of their deeds and disapprove of some others*". ... I asked: O Prophet of **Allah**, will there be any evil after that good?!... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, replied: "Yes, *(there will be) some people calling at the gates of the (Hell) Fire, and whoever will respond to their call, will be thrown by them into the (Hell) Fire*"... I said: O Prophet of **Allah**... Will you describe them to us?... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*They will be from our own people and will speak our language*"... I said: What do you order me to do if such a state should take place in my life?.. He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Stick to the group of Muslims and their Imâm (ruler)*"... I said: If there is neither a group of Muslims nor an *Imâm* (ruler)?!"... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Then turn away from all those sects even if you were to*

bite (eat) the roots of a tree till death overtakes you while you are in that state”¹...

Because of Hudhaifah’s great eagerness to learn about evil, the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him the names of the *Munâfiqîn* (Hypocrites)... He was the only one of the Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, companions to know the hypocrites by their names, and family names... For that he was called: The keeper of the Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, secret.

‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb was keen on searching for Hudhaifah in funerals... If he saw him praying in the funeral prayer, he would too... If not, he would not.. One day, when ‘Umar was *Khalîfah* (Caliph), he called Hudhaifah and told him: By **Allah** Hudhaifah... Is there amongst my working men any hypocrites?!... Hudhaifah said: Yes... Just one... ‘Umar said: And who is he?!... But Hudhaifah refused to tell him so that he would not let out the secret... The next day, ‘Umar had dismissed that man from his post, it was as if **Allah** had led him to know him.

One day, ‘Umar asks the men around him, and amongst them was Hudhaifah Ibn Al Yamân: who among you

¹ As ‘Abû Ny‘aim narrated that ‘Abû Al-Tofail (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

remembers the statement of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, about the afflictions?!... Hudhaifah said: I do, ruler of the believers, and as it was said by the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, . . . 'Umar said: You are daring to say that... So what is it?!... Hudhaifah said: The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*The affliction of a man in his family, his property, his children and his neighbours are expiated by his prayers, Zakat (and alms).*"... 'Umar said: I do not ask you about these afflictions, but about those afflictions which will wave like the waves of the sea... So Hudhaifah said: Do not worry about it, O chief of the believers... for there is a closed door between you and them... 'Umar said: will that door be broken or opened?... I said: No it will be broken.. 'Umar said: Then it will never be closed..

The people left 'Umar wondering what is that door that shall be broken.. And did 'Umar know about it, and that's why he did not ask more about it?!... They feared to ask Hudhaifah for; he was highly regarded amongst his friends... They asked a man called Masrûk to ask him... He went to him and said: O Hudhaifah... What is that door?!... Hudhaifah said: 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb is that door... The man said: Does 'Umar know that he is that door?... Hudhaifah said: Yes, just as you know that yesterday was before that night... It was as if Hudhaifah

knew that ‘Umar would get killed and that affliction would start after his death and that the Muslims’ conditions would become unstable after a period of settlement...

‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb sends the armies to all the countries -to spread *Tauhid* (Islamic Monotheism)- lead by the knights at the day and the monks at night... One of the leaders is Hudhaifah Ibn Al Yamân in the battle of *Hamdhân*... ‘Umar sends orders saying: The leader of the armies is Al Nu‘mân Ibn Muqarran, if he is killed, then it is Hudhaifah Ibn Al Yamân... Al Nu‘mân is killed and Hudhaifah Ibn Al Yamân becomes the leader.. **Allah** grants the Muslims victory through him in the battle of *Hamdhân*.. He continues his victories in the battle of *Ar-Rayy* then in the battle of *Ad-Deynawer*.. Hudhaifah calls aloud amongst the soldiers saying: O Muhammad’s companions, O people of *Badr*, O people of *’Uhud*, O people of *Al-Khandaq*.. There are the Heavens of **Allah**, it is longing for you, and ready to meeting you.. So do not let it wait for long.. *Allahu-Akbar* (**Allah** is the Most Great), His promise is the truth.. *Allahu-Akbar* (**Allah** is the Most Great) He has triumphed his fighters... The Persians who were five times as much in number as the Muslims run away... For they were one hundred and fifty thousand, while the Muslims were only thirty thousand...

Hudhaifah continues his victories in *Al Jazîrah* (Arabian Peninsula) and *Nassîbîn*...

‘Umar appoints him as a leader to *Al Madâ’in*... He writes to its people: Listen to him, obey him and give him what he asks for... Contrary to what he used to write to others: I have appointed (a particular person) and have ordered him to do this and that... So obey him as long as he obeys **Allah**’s rules in treating you... Hudhaifah reaches *Al Madâ’in*... Its chiefs come down to meet him... They used to see rulers surrounded by guards riding shielded horses...etc. But they found their ruler otherwise... When he read them the words of the ruler of the believers, they said: Ask us what you wish... Hudhaifah said: I ask of you food for myself, and forage for my donkey as long as I am amongst you... He lived with them, following the Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, path and his *Sunnah*, giving them his knowledge and wisdom... From those wise sayings was: The best of you is not one who gives up this life for the afterlife, or gives up the afterlife for this life; the best of you is one who takes from both (this life and the afterlife)...

A man asks him: Which affliction is the strongest?!.. He says: That good and bad would be offered to you, and you would not know which to choose... He warns the people saying: Beware of affliction situations... They said: And

what are the affliction situations?!... He said: At the doors of the rulers... When one of you would go to the ruler, then he would believe his lying and praise him for what he does not deserve...

Hudhaifah explains the kinds of hearts saying: The hearts are four kinds... A sealed heart, and that's the heart of the non-believer... And a plated or shielded heart, and that's the hypocrite's heart... And a plain bare heart that shines and blossoms, and that's the believers heart... And a heart filled with belief and hypocrisy; the belief in this heart is like a good healthy tree, fed by good water and good wind, while hypocrisy is like a bad tree fed by puss... Whichever, dominates, fills the heart...

Time passes, and 'Umar sends for Hudhaifah to come from *Al Madâ'in*... When 'Umar knew Hudhaifah was coming, he went out to meet him on the road... He found that Hudhaifah seemed just like he had left him... He hugged him and said: You are a brother to me, and I a brother to you... Indeed, the keeper of the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, secret would not be infatuated by this life, or dedicate himself to it... He would not get out of it more than what he needs just to keep him surviving... He meant what he said in his saying to the people of *Al Madâ'in*: I ask you food for myself, and forage for my donkey as long as I am amongst you...

Hudhaifah remains cautious in avoiding evil in order not to fall into it, remembering all the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, commandments and applying them until he falls sick and death is near... His friends go to visit him; they find him weeping... They are bewildered and they say: You are the keeper of the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, secret, and you have fought in *Al 'Ahzâb* battle, and crossed *Al Khandaq* (The Ditch) to bring back the news of the non-believers by slipping amongst them, while the believer's hearts almost reached their throats... You did not fear or hesitate... How come now you weep!!... Hudhaifah says: How would I not weep when I do not know where I am heading for?.. To **Allah's** content or discontent... By **Allah** I do not cry for leaving this world, for death is more preferable to me...

His time is due... His friends hear him whispering: That is my last hour in this life. O **Allah**... You know that I love you, so bless my meeting with you... Those were his last words (May **Allah** be pleased with him)... He died and joined with the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, previous companions, May Allah be pleased with them,... That was forty nights after 'Uthmân Ibn 'Affân's, may Allah be pleased with them, murder...

**You Resemble Me
Both In Appearance And Character
Ja‘far Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib**

May Allah be pleased with him

‘Abû Tâlib went to the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, and found him praying... On his right was ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib, so he told his son Ja‘far: Stand close to your cousin and pray on his left... Ja‘far was ‘Alî’s brother, and ten years older than him... He had become a Muslim not long after ‘Alî... It was said that thirty men only had become Muslims before him...

When the non-believers’ torture to the men who had become Muslim became excessive, the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, gave the able and wealthy men of them permission to immigrate to *Ethiopia*, where there was a just king who was never unfair to anyone... Ja‘far Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib immigrated to *Ethiopia* with the men who immigrated... The king there An-Najâshî¹ was very kind and generous to them...

Quraish was furious because of these men who fled to *Ethiopia* to protect their religion, and were living peacefully under the protection of this just king who was a

¹ An-Najâshî: (Title for the) king of *Ethiopia* (Abyssinia) Negus.

Christian and was faithful to his religion... So, the chiefs of *Quraish* decided to send a delegation led by 'Amr Ibn Al 'Âs to bring back those men who had left their religion and revolted and disobeyed their fathers...

The delegation arrived to *Ethiopia* carrying many valuable gifts for An-Najâshî.. 'Amr Ibn Al 'Âs the tactful speaker spoke on their behalf, accusing the immigrants of being disobedient, exaggerating in explaining the grief of the families and people of the immigrants back home for their children who were believed to be deceived and misled by a new religion...

The king refused to accept 'Amr's request to take the immigrants back until he heard from the immigrants themselves... For falsehood would not overcome justice...

The immigrants spoke.. They explained to An-Najâshî how they were living in the *Jâhiliâ* (Pre-Islamic time) in treachery, invasion, mistreatment to mother, burial of baby girls, abusing neighbours' rights, and worshipping idols...

While on the other hand, Islam orders them to honesty, to keeping good relations with family and kin, chastity, being kind to parents and neighbours, and worshipping the One and Only **God**.. On hearing these words, An-Najâshî was touched noticing the unity in all religions, and how they were all based on good manners... This effect showed clearly on his face...

When ‘Amr Ibn Al ‘Âs noticed that, he thought of a wicked plan to make An-Najâshî angry... He told him: O king, they say what is seriously bad about *‘Îsâ Ibn Maryam*, (Jesus), they claim that he is a slave...

The wicked plan worked and An-Najâshî was very angry... He turned to Ja‘far Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib who was a representative to the immigrants, asking him what saying did they have about *‘Îsâ Ibn Maryam* (Jesus)... Ja‘far said: We say about him what our Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, was told about him by **Allah**. He read by his deep faithful voice the *Sûrah* from the Qur’ân (*Maryam*, “Mary”)... On hearing that, An-Najâshî cried; his tears covered his face... He then pointed with his stick on the ground as if drawing a line and said: There is no difference between Islam and Christianity except that fine line, for by **Allah** these words and Jesus’ words come from one niche (source)... He ordered that the gifts of *Quraish* delegation be returned to them, and he refused to accept them... He also ordered that the Muslims’ immigrants who travelled to his country be well treated and taken care of... ‘Amr Ibn Al ‘Âs and his companions were disappointed and they returned to *Makkah*... The immigrants lived peacefully and safely under the ruling of that just king...

As the days pass by, matters are settled in *Al Madînah Al Munawwarah* after the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, immigrated there... Ja'far Ibn 'Abî Tâlib immigrates to *Al- Madînah* to join with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and his companions... It is the same day when he arrives that the Muslims open *Khaibar*... When he arrives there, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, is very happy when he sees him... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, hugs him and kisses him between his eyes and says: "*I do not know whether I'm happier for Ja'far's arrival more, or for the opening of Khaibar more*"¹..

Ja'far Ibn 'Abî Tâlib stays close to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and accompanies him in all of his battles... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, praises him saying: "*As for you Ja'far, you resemble me in appearance and character, and you are from my own strain*"²... The poor immigrants surround Ja'far and cling to him, for his kindness towards them, and their sharing with him his food (be it little or much)... This made the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, call him "*The father of the poor*"³.

¹ Zad Al-Maad.

² As Al Bukhâri and At-Tirmidhi narrated that Al Baraâ' (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

³ As At Tirmidhi narrated that 'Abû Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

In the battle of *Mu'tah* (in the land of *Shâ'm*), **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, orders Zaid Ibn Hârithah to lead the army and says: *"If Zaid is killed, then the leader is Ja'far Ibn 'Abî Tâlib, if Ja'far is killed, then the leader is 'Abdullah Ibn Rawâhah"*¹... The army goes out to the battle in the eighth year of *Hijrah* to fight *Ar-Rûm* (Romans) in a place named *Mu'tah* near *Shâ'm*... It is a very fierce battle... Zaid Ibn Hârithah is killed and the banner almost falls off his hand, Ja'far quickly takes hold of it... He courageously leads the lines of the army riding on his fair horse, and discloses terror to the enemies who want to get him at any cost... He slaughters his horse and fights the enemy on his feet... By that, he means to tell the enemy that there is no way out, no escape no retreat... For he had slaughtered his horse which could help him to escape, therefore he is either a winner or he will be killed... He was the first man in Islam to slaughter his horse... He became an example of courage to the men who do not fear death in the Cause of **Allah**...

The soldiers of the enemy gather around him... The army was two hundred thousand fighters... They cut off his hand that held the banner... He quickly holds it with his

¹ As Ibn Heshâm narrated that Urwah Ibn Az-Zubair (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

other hand so they cut his other hand off also... He embraces the banner by his upper arm so it would not fall on the ground... Before he gets the fatal blow, he gives the banner to ‘Abdullah Ibn Rawâhah... And found over seventy wounds over his body, caused by stabs or shots (of arrows)...

Jibrîl informs the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, that the three leaders have been killed, and that Khâlid Ibn Al Walîd has taken over, and that the Muslim army has won the battle... The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, rushes to Ja‘far Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib’s house and asks to see his children... ‘Asmâ’ Bint ‘Umayy (Ja‘far’s wife) brings him the children after she washed, bathed, and perfumed them... The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, started kissing and smelling them while his tears were falling down... ‘Asmâ’ asks him: Let my parents be sacrificed for you, O Allah’s Prophet,... Have you heard anything about Ja‘far and his friends?!... The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, says: *“Yes, they have been hurt today”*..

He, Allah Prayers and Peace be upon him, speaks about Ja‘far saying: *“By Allah, Allah has given him two wings to fly with in Paradise instead of his arms”*¹.. ‘Asmâ’ breaks out crying, while Fâtimah -The Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,

¹ Al-Estiaab.

daughter- comes in screaming and saying: O My uncle...
The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, says: *"For men like Ja'far, let the weeping ones weep"*¹... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, goes out to his companions while he is still weeping and says: *"O my brothers, my intimate companions, the men I enjoyed talking to!!"* ... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, then returns home and tells his women: *"Prepare for Ja'far's family some food... For they have what is keeping them busy"*²...

It is since then, that making food for the deceased person's family is from the *Sunnah*, for the family is in grief, and has no time for that.. It was true what 'Abû Hurayrah, may Allah be pleased with him, says: No shoes have been worn, nor animals have been ridden by a man (After the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,) better than Ja'far Ibn 'Abî Tâlib.

¹ Narrated by Ibn 'Abbâs (may Allah be pleased with them).

² As At Tirmidhi narrated that 'Abdullah Ibn Ja'far (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

O Allah.. Grant Khabbâb Victory Khabbâb Ibn Al 'Arat

May Allah be pleased with him

When the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was sent, Khabbâb Ibn Al 'Arat was one of the first to believe in this new religion... For he was the sixth man to become a Muslim... The men who became Muslims preferred to keep their Islam as a secret as they feared they would be tortured for that... Only seven of them announced it: 'Abû Bakr As- Siddîq, Suhaib Ibn Sinân, Bilâl Ibn Rabâh, Yâsir Ibn 'Ammâr Al-Anasy, Sumayah 'Um (mother) 'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir, 'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir and Khabbâb Ibn Al 'Arat... As for **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, he was protected by **Allah** through his uncle 'Abû Tâlib... 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq was protected by **Allah** through his people... As for the rest, they dressed them in steel armor and then they left them to burn in the sun and taste real torture...

Khabbâb was from one of the most elite *Arab* families... He was taken though as a slave in *Jâhiliâ* (Pre-Islamic time). A woman called 'Um 'Anmâr bought him... He was a sword and armour maker, he used a forge for melting iron... When 'Um 'Anmâr knew that he had

become a Muslim, she used to burn his head with the hot melted iron to persuade him to announce *Kufr* (non-believing) again... He would refuse and insist on his deep faith... The more determined and positive he was, the more torture she forced on him...

Khabbâb said: I came to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, while he was leaning against his sheet cloak in the shade of the *Ka'bah*. Then we were suffering greatly from the pagans.. I said (to him): O Prophet of **Allah**... Will you invoke **Allah** (to help us)?.. The Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sat down with a red face and said: "*(A believer among) those who were before you was really combed with iron combs so that nothing of his flesh or nerves would remain on his bones; yet that would never make him desert his religion.... A saw might be put over the parting of his head which would be split into two parts, yet all that would never make him abandon his religion. Allah will surely complete this religion (i.e. Islam) so that a traveler from San'â' to Hadra-maut will not be afraid of anybody except Allah or the wolf, lest it should harm his sheep... But you do not wait, you are in a hurry to end that*"¹ ...

¹ Narrated by *Imâm Al-Bukhâri*

Khabbâb is patient to the unbearable torture... For the non-believers would go to 'Um 'Anmâr, heat the stones in the forge till it became red, then they would lay it on the ground and drag Khabbâb on it... Nothing would quench it but the flesh of his back... One day, **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, passes by and finds that Khabbâb has been tied down and chained by 'Um 'Anmâr and she stood there at his head cauterizing him with the hot melted iron while he says: There is no god but **Allah**... There is no god but **Allah**... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sympathized with Khabbâb and held his hands up and prayed: "*Oh Allah... Grant Khabbâb victory*"...

It is only a few days later that 'Um 'Anmâr is sick in her head with severe pain and a headache that makes her howl like dogs do... She finds no cure, and the doctors failed to help her, except by telling her she must be burned in her head... She goes willingly, on her own, to Khabbâb and asks him to heat the iron and burn her head... as she used to burn his!!...

Khabbâb is set free at last... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, brings Khabbâb and Sa'îd Ibn Zaid -Fâtimah Bint Al Khattâb's husband, and one of the ten men promised to go to Paradise- together... Khabbâb shares with them their food, he teaches them the Qur'ân and reads with them... 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb hears about his sister

and her husband becoming Muslims... He goes to them feeling very angry, but when he hears the Qur'ân from Khabbâb, **Allah** enlightens his heart to Islam and he says: Lead me to Muhammad.. On hearing that, Khabbâb rejoices and says: *Allahu-Akbar... Allah.. Allah... O 'Umar, I pray to Allah that you be part of the Prophet's,* Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, prayer, for I have heard him yesterday saying: *"O Allah... Support Islam by the one you love more of these two, 'Abû Al Hakam Ibn Hishâm and 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb"*¹...

Time passes, Khabbâb Ibn Al 'Arat immigrates to *Al-Madînah* and becomes from *As-Suffah*² people... They are the poor people who used to stay in Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, mosque, doing nothing except learning and reading the Qur'ân, praying with Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and going with him wherever he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, went...

Jibrîl - the honest angel - brings from Heaven these verses: ***﴿And keep yourself (O Muhammad, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,) patiently with those who call on their Lord (i.e. your companions who remember their***

¹ As 'Abû Ny'aim narrated that Â'ishah and 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

² *As-Suffah*: A shaded place in the Mosque of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, at *Al-Madînah* in which poor people (emigrants) used to take shelter.

Lord with glorification, praising in prayers, and other righteous deeds) morning and afternoon, seeking His Face; and let not your eyes overlook them, desiring the pomp and glitter of the life of the world..﴾ (Al-Khaf, "The Cave,28).

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, wonders about that matter... Whenever he comes out of his room, he Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sees *As-Suffah* people dedicated to *Al Qur'ân Al Karîm*, studying it attentively... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, looks at them and says: "*Praise be to Allah who has specified some of Muhammad's nation for Muhammad to find patience with and amongst them*"¹... From that time, whenever Khabbâb and his friends -from *As-Suffah*- were seen by Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, he was welcoming and happy to see them... He would lay down his cloak for them to sit on, and tell them: "*Welcome to those that Allah has asked me to be good to*"...

Khabbâb was amongst the poor slaves who were mocked by the non-believers... They had asked Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, to stay away from them or to specify for them a particular day and another day for the rich and elite people only... Each group would sit and

¹ As 'Abû Dawûd narrated that 'Abû Sa'id Al Khudrî (may Allah be pleased with him) said

listen to **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, but separately, as they thought it was not eligible for them to sit with them or feel equal to them... These verses came by Jibrîl:

﴿And turn not away those who invoke their Lord, morning and afternoon seeking His Face. You are accountable for them in nothing, and they are accountable for you in nothing, that you may turn them away, and thus become of the Zâlimûn (unjust). Thus We have tried some of them with others, that they might say: "Is it these (poor believers) whom Allâh has favoured from amongst us?" Does not Allâh know best those who are grateful?﴾. (Al-An'âm, "The Cattle",52-53).

Time passes, Khabbâb never stays behind in any of the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, conquests... He attended *Badr*, and stood well during *'Uhud*... He went through all the conquests ...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, dies, but Khabbâb continues to be a knight during the day and a monk at night during the *Khilafah* (ruling time) of 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq then during the *Khilafah* (ruling time) of 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb... One day, 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb tells him: O Khabbâb, tell me how did the non-believers torture you in *Makkah* ...Khabbâb shows 'Umar his back and says: O ruler of the believers... Look at my back... When 'Umar

looked, he was astonished and said: I have never seen a man's back like yours till this day -for on his back, there was no flesh-... Khabbâb said: Fire was lit and I was dragged on it, nothing put out the fire except the flesh of my back...

Khabbâb falls seriously ill... He remains sick for days and months... He used to say: If **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, had not forbidden us to want to die, I would have prayed for it... His friends go to visit him they find him weeping... They would tell him: Rejoice 'Abû 'Abdullah... You shall meet with your friends at *Al Hawd*¹ (the basin -pure drinking water in heaven).. He cries even more to hear that and says: By **Allah**, I do not weep because I hate death, nor for my love to this life... But you have mentioned some of our deceased brethren who have passed away without receiving any worldly reward... I have been here in this life until I received some worldly reward and I fear that is my reward, but that will not help me when I am laid down in the dust...(He refers to his house which he built in *Kûfah*)... He then refers to some money that he had kept aside saying: By **Allah**... I have never been too cautious towards this money, as I have

¹ *Al Hawd*: Lake-Fount (*Kauthar*).

never refrained from giving away any of it to a needing man...

Khabbâb is about to meet **Allah** with a fleshless back, and a body without a spot free from burnt scars, even on his head, yet he continues weeping... He asked that he be buried in *Kûfah* borders when he dies...

He dies when he is 73 (seventy three) years old in the year 37 (thirty seven) of *Hijrah*... He had started a good habit for the people; that they would bury their lost ones away from their homes...

Zaid Ibn Wahb relates about that: We walked with ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib when he returned back from *Siffin* battle... When we reached *Kûfah*’s gate, we saw seven graves on our right... ‘Alî said: What are these graves?... They replied: O ruler of the believers... Khabbâb Ibn Al ‘Arat died after you have left to *Siffin* and asked to be buried in the borders of *Kûfah*... Before that, people used to bury their lost ones in their yards, and near their entrance doors... When they found that Khabbâb had ordered to be buried near the borders, they buried the other people there too... ‘Alî, may Allah be pleased with him, said: May **Allah** have mercy on Khabbâb, he became a Muslim willingly, immigrated obediently, and lived as a fighter... His faith was tested by his body injuries and his long illness, but **Allah** does not deprive a good doer from his reward...

He, may Allah be pleased with him, approached their graves and said: *Al Salâm 'Alaykum* (Peace on you), O inhabitants of the graves of believers and Muslims... You have preceded us, and we shall follow you -soon-..., O **Allah**... Forgive them, and trespass our sins and theirs by your forgiveness... For he is lucky who remembers he is returning to **Allah**, works for the Day of Judgment, is happy with little (that is enough), and regards **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, in all his life...

The Crucified Who Flew Khubaib Ibn ‘Adîy

May Allah be pleased with him

Khubaib Ibn ‘Adîy was an adornment to the youth of *Al ‘Aws* tribe... He was from the earliest men to become a Muslim... He was from the most courageous of *Ansâr* (supporters), and the strongest in fighting for truth... When he joined the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, in the battle of *Badr*, he performs very well in that battle and he killed one of the most powerful men of *Quraish* called Al Hârith Ibn ‘Amir Ibn Nawfal... The news got to *Makkah*... *Banî Al Hârith* (Al Hârith people) heard about that... They kept the killer’s name in their mind and were determined to get to him to revenge their father’s murder...

It is **Allah**’s wish that **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, sent out ten spies under the command of ‘Âsim Ibn Thâbit Al-Ansâri, the grand-father of ‘Âsim Ibn ‘Umar Ibn Al-Khattâb. When they reached (a place called) *Al-Hadah* between *‘Usfân* and *Makkah*, their presence was made known to a sub-tribe of *Hudhail* called *Banû Lihyân*. So they sent about one-hundred archers after them... The archers traced the footsteps (of the Muslims) till they

found the traces of dates which they had eaten at one of their camping places. The archers said: These dates are of *Yathrib* (i.e. *Al Madīnah*)... And went on tracing the Muslims' footsteps.... When 'Āsim and his companions became aware of them, they look refuge in a (high) place. But the enemy encircled them and said: Come down and surrender. We give you a solemn promise and covenant that we will not kill anyone of you... 'Āsim Ibn Thâbit the leader of the squadron said: O people! As for myself, I will never get down to be under the protection of an infidel.. O **Allah**, inform your Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, about us... So the archers threw their arrows at them and martyred 'Āsim Ibn Thâbit. Three of them came down and surrendered to them, accepting their promise and covenant and they were: Khubaib Ibn 'Adîy, Zaid Ibn Ad-Dathinah and 'Abdullah Ibn Tariq... When the archers got hold of them, they untied the strings of the arrowbows and tied their captives with them ... 'Abdullah Ibn Tariq said: That is the first proof of treachery!... By **Allah**, I will not go with you for I follow the example of these (he meant the martyred companions). The archers dragged him and struggled with him (till they martyred him)... Then Khubaib Ibn 'Adîy and Zaid Ibn Ad-Dathinah were taken away by them and later on they sold them as slaves in *Makkah*... They sold Khubaib to *Banî Al Hârith* to take

their revenge... And sold Zaid Ibn Ad-Dathinah to the people of *'Uqbah Ibn 'Abi Moa'it*...

People of *Banî Al Hârith* took Khubaib, tied him down, and put him in prison... They tortured him severely trying to persuade him to give up his religion, but they did not succeed... They told him that his companion Zaid Ibn Ad-Dathinah was murdered, so he would stop resisting... That which made him only more persistent and keen on his religion and his belief... Finally, they decided to kill him and get rid of him... One day Khubaib borrowed from a daughter of Al Hârith a razor for shaving his pubic hair, and she lent it to him... By chance, while she was inattentive, a little son of hers went to him (i.e. Khubaib) and she saw that Khubaib had seated him on his thigh while the razor was in his hand.... She was so much terrified that Khubaib noticed her fear and said: Are you afraid that I will kill him?!... Never would I do such a thing!!...

Glory be to **Allah**, indeed Khubaib could have never done that, for he was **Allah's Prophet's**, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companion; the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, who was a perfect example to his companions of faithfulness, good manners, who would never betray anybody or frighten women and children... If Khubaib wanted, he would have taken revenge for himself by killing the boy, or even

keeping him as a hostage in return for asking for his freedom, and for a horse and a sword to escape to *Al Madînah*, and save himself... But if he had done that, he would have been a murderer or a terrorist, unworthy of being a companion to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, who was sent for the purpose of accomplishing good morals and manners... Indeed, the greatness of Islam is in what it invites to concerning justice, forgiveness, and not punishing anyone for anyone else's sin... It is worth knowing what the boy's mother said: By **Allah**, I had never seen a better captive than Khubaib... By **Allah**... One day, I saw him eating from a bunch of grapes in his hand while he was fettered with iron chains and (at that time) there was no fruit in *Makkah*. She used to say: It was food **Allah** had provided Khubaib with.

When they took him to *Al-Hil (Al Tan'îm)* out of *Makkah* sanctuary to martyr him, Khubaib requested them: Allow me to offer a two *Rak'âs* prayer. They allowed him and he prayed two *Rak'âs* and then said: By **Allah**... Had I not been afraid that you would think I were worried, I would have prayed more... By that, Khubaib was the first man to introduce the *Sunnah* of a man praying two *Rak'âs* while he is waiting to be executed for a good cause...

'Abû Sufyân goes to Khubaib and tells him: O Khubaib... Wouldn't you like to be safe amongst your family and

children, and Muhammad would be in your place?!...
Khubaib shivered to these words replying: By **Allah**, no...
I would not choose to be safe in my home, even if I
possessed the whole world, while Muhammad would be
hurt, even by a little thorn..

'Abû Sufyân wonders, and says: By **Allah**... I have never
seen anyone loving another, as much as Muhammad's
companions love Muhammad!!...

Banî Al Hârith prepare a cross made out of a palm tree
trunk to crucify Khubaib on... He looks at them and says:
O **Allah**... Count them one by one, and kill them all of
them, till the last man of them... He then says in verse
(meaning):

All those tribes have united against me,
And put their forces together to hurt me...
They have even been helped by their children and
women...

To prepare a long tree trunk as a cross to crucify me...
I could feel their hatred, but I am in a helpless situation...
Being tied down as I am...

To **Allah** I express my humility and my pain... After what
they have done to me, and decided to kill me...

Allah I pray you grant me the patience, for my body has
been tormented...

And all I seek is **Allah**'s acceptance...

If **Allah** wishes, he could compensate me...
For every hurt in my flesh by his mercy and acceptance...
They let me choose between dying, or living... As a non-believer, but I have chosen death..
My eyes wept, but they did not see my tears...
For I do not fear death, for I must die someday...
What I fear is hell's burning fire...
That burns the skin and the bodies...
Khubaib was killed by 'Uqbah Ibn Al Hârith who killed him by throwing his arrow at him.. 'Âsim Ibn Thâbit's (the leader of the squadron) wish was accepted, for **Allah** sent Jibrîl to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, with the news... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sent Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awwâm and Al Miqdâd Ibn 'Amr on their horses to bury 'Âsim Ibn Thâbit where he was killed... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, also sent 'Amr Ibn 'Ummayah Ad-Damary to where Khubaib Ibn 'Adîy was crucified to bury him, so he would not be left crucified on a cross... 'Amr goes disguised, and tries to carry out **Allah**'s Prophet's Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, order... He relates what happened: I approached the wooden cross where Khubaib was crucified... I read Qur'ân upon his soul, and I feared to be seen... I let him down, and he fell on the ground... When I reached to him,

I looked around and back again, but it was as if the ground had swallowed him up... There was no sign of Khubaib body anymore...

And so, Khubaib Ibn 'Adîy was the first man to be crucified in Islam, In the Cause of **Allah** ... Nobody knows where his pure dead body is... It is as if the ground has cracked, and swallowed him up, or he had flown to the sky...

The *Imâm* (Leader) To All Scholars Mu‘âdh Ibn Jabal

May Allah be pleased with him

A man, when spoken of, the hearts longed for him, and the eyes wept for him... ‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, may Allah be pleased with him, -on his deathbed- said about him: If he was alive, I would have chosen him as a *Khalifah* (caliph)... If I were asked by **Allah**, why have you made him a *Khalifah* (caliph)? I would have said: I heard **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying: “*If the scholars are sent forth on the Judgment Day, Mu‘âdh Ibn Jabal would be ahead of them by the distance, twice the distance of a thrown away spear*”¹ ...

A man that wisdom came out of his mouth... He used to say: Beware the wise man’s sword, and acknowledge truth by Truth, for Truth has light... And he would say: Fast, but break your fasting... Pray, but also sleep... Earn your living, but do not be sad... Do not sleep unless you are a Muslim... And beware the prayer of the oppressed...

And when he prayed the *Tahajjud*², he said: The eyes have slept, the stars have subsided, and You are Ever Living,

¹ As At- Tabarâni narrated that Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

² *Tahajjud*: Night optional prayer offered at any time after ‘*Ishâ*’ prayer and before the *Fajr* prayer.

and Self Subsisting... O **Allah**, my work for Paradise is slow (Little), and my escape from hellfire is weak (By my few good deeds)... O **Allah**, let there be for me a guidance that You would give me back till the Day of Judgment ... For Your promises are fulfilled...

He became a Muslim when he was 18 (Eighteen) years old... He was amongst the seventy who have attended the solemn pledge of *Al-'Aqabah* with the *Ansâr* (supporters)... He witnessed the battles of *Badr* and *'Uhud* and witnessed all the conquests with **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, ... He never stayed behind from joining **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, ... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, established the bond of brotherhood between him and 'Abdullah Ibn Mas'ûd...

He was amongst the four men who were recommended by **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, that the Qur'ân would be taken from... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Learn the recitation of Qur'ân from four persons; 'Abdullah Ibn Mas'ûd, 'Ubay Ibn Ka'b, Mu'âdh Ibn Jabal, and Sâlim -Mawwlah (the freed slave)- of 'Abî Hudhaifah*"¹ ... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,

¹ Narrated by *Imâm Ahmad*.

said about him: “*The most knowledgeable to Halâl and Harâm (Lawful and unlawful) is Mu‘âdh Ibn Jabal*”¹...

He was one of the six men who were given permission by **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, to give *Fatwah* (giving advice in Islamic matters) in *Al-Madînah*... Three of them were from the immigrants; ‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, ‘Uthmân Ibn ‘Affân, and ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib... While the other three were from *Ansâr* (supporters); Mu‘âdh Ibn Jabal, ‘Ubay Ibn Ka‘b and Zaid Ibn Thâbit, may Allah be pleased with them, . . .

He was dark in color, but he was beaming with light... His front teeth were shining white... He was often silent... When he spoke, all who were present were longing to hear his words... His words were like a beam of light, and full of serenity... He was one of the best in manners and good looks... He was also one of the most generous, to the extent that he became indebted with large amounts of money... The debtors chased him, so he was secluded in his home... They went complaining to **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, . . . **He**, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, sent for him and asked the debtors to attend also...

¹ As At-Tirmidhi narrated that Anas Ibn Mâlik (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

They said: O Prophet of **Allah**... Take us our rights... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*May Allah have mercy on who shall regard their debts as Sadaqah (Charity)*"... Some people decided to consider the money he owed them as *Sadaqah*, and some others refused... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, took away what's left of his money and divided it amongst them... They received only 5/7 (Five seventh) of their rights... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told them: "*That's all you could take*". For that had been the way any debt money was divided according to **Allah**'s Prophet's Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, *Sunnah*... It is still applicable till nowadays...

After that, **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sent him to *Yemen* to teach its people... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him: "*May Allah help you out and pay off your debts for you*".. **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, asked him: "*How will you judge people?*".. Mu'adh said: I shall judge according to **Allah**'s Book.. He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*And if you don't have that?!*".. Mu'adh said: Then by the *Sunnah* (Rules) of **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,.. **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*And if you don't have that?!*".. Mu'adh said: I shall seek the best of what I know without hesitation... Joy showed on **Allah**'s Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,

face and he said: *“Praise be to **Allah** who led the messenger of the Messenger of **Allah** to whatever satisfies **Allah** and His Messenger”*¹...

One day, **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, met Mu'âdh and told him: *“How are you with your belief Mu'âdh?”*.. Mu'âdh said: I am now a true believer... O Prophet of **Allah**.. **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *“O Mu'âdh, to every truth, there is a core... So, what is the core of your belief?!”*.. Mu'âdh said: O **Allah**'s Prophet, every morning when I wake up, I fear I might not last till evening... When evening comes, I also fear I might not last till morning... Whenever I take one step, I think I shall not take the next... And it is as if I am looking at each nation, bent and looking down at its book of deeds... And it is like I am seeing the people in Paradise enjoying what they have won and the people in Hell being tortured.. **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *“O Mu'âdh... Now that you have known that, abide by it”*²...

'Anas Ibn Mâlik, may Allah be pleased with him, says: Mu'âdh Ibn Jabal came after he had been with **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying: Whoever testifies that there is

¹ Narrated by Al Bukhâri and Muslim.

² As 'Abû Ny'aim narrated that Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah**, faithfully and from the bottom of his heart, shall go to Paradise... So I went to **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and I said: O Prophet of **Allah**, Mu'adh told me that you said: *"Whoever testifies that there is none has the right to be worshipped but Allah, faithfully, and from the bottom of his heart, shall go to Paradise"*¹... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"Mu'adh said the truth... Mu'adh said the truth... Mu'adh said the truth"*...

'Abdullah Ibn Mas'ud, may Allah be pleased with him, tells his friends: Mu'adh was indeed a model devoutly obedient to **Allah**, and true in faith, and he joined no gods with **Allah**...

A man told him: O Ibn Mas'ud,... **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, says: *﴿Verily, Ibrâhîm (Abraham) was an Ummah (a leader having all the good righteous qualities), or a nation, obedient to Allâh, Hanîf (i.e. to worship none but Allâh), and he was not one of those who were Al-Mushrikûn (polytheists, idolaters, disbelievers in the Oneness of Allâh), and those who joined partners with Allâh﴾*. (An-Nahl "The Bees", 120).

Ibn Mas'ud said: Mu'adh Ibn Jabal was indeed a model devoutly obedient to **Allah**, and true in faith, and he associated no gods with **Allah**... The man repeated his

¹ Narrated by Ahmad.

comment again... So, Ibn Mas‘ûd said: Do you know what is a model devoutly obedient to **Allah**?.. The man said: Only **Allah** and His Prophet know.. Ibn Mas‘ûd said: The model is the man who teaches good and follows it... And the devoutly obedient is the obedient one to **Allah** and His Messenger... And Mu‘âdh Ibn Jabal taught good, followed it, and was obedient to **Allah** and His Prophet..

Mu‘âdh Ibn Jabal, may Allah be pleased with him, stayed in *Yemen*, teaching its people the Qur’ân and teaching them their religion.. He also judged amongst them their disputes, until **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, died... During the *Khilafat* (caliphate) of ‘Abû Bakr As-Siddîq, may Allah be pleased with him, Mu‘âdh became richer due to **Allah**’s Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, prayer to him with blessings when he told him: “*May Allah help you out and pay off your debts for you*”.. ‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, may Allah be pleased with him, tells him: O Mu‘âdh... Give up half your money to *Bayt-ul-Mal* (the People’s house of treasury)... Mu‘âdh refuses to do that... ‘Umar goes to ‘Abû Bakr and tells him: O successor to **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,... Share with Mu‘âdh Ibn Jabal his money... But ‘Abû Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, refuses.. In the morning, ‘Umar is surprised to find Mu‘âdh Ibn Jabal, rushing to him, weeping and saying: O ‘Umar... Tonight during my sleep, I dreamed that I was struggling to pass in water, that

I feared I might drown, but you have come, O 'Umar and saved me... Here is half of my money... I donate it to *Bayt-ul-Mal* (the people's house of treasury)... 'Umar rushes with Mu'âdh to 'Abû Bakr to offer him half his money... However, 'Abû Bakr refuses to take it -for he had known that Mu'âdh's money is from pure *Halâl* (Lawful)-... 'Umar looks at Mu'âdh and says: Now Mu'âdh, we know your money is good and pure, and is *Halâl* (Lawful) for you... Mu'âdh Ibn Jabal stays in *Al Madînah Al Munawwarah* until the *Khalifah* (caliph) sends him to *Shâ'm* to teach people there the religion, and how to read the Qur'ân..

'Abû Muslim Al Khawlanî says: I entered *Hims* mosque to find 30 (Thirty) men and some speaking of **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,... They were all *Sheikhs* (*Imâms* in religion)... I saw a beaming man with white bright front teeth, sitting still and silent... The *Sheikhs* were looking at him with respect and solemnity... If they disagreed about any *Hadîth*, they would ask him, and he would give *Fatwah* (Advise them).. I asked a man attending, sitting beside me: Who is that man?... I feel I love him from my heart.. The man said: That is Mu'âdh Ibn Jabal, the companion of **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and the master of all scholars... *Al Badrî, Al 'Aqabî, Al Khazrajî, Al Ansârî* [Meaning, he comes from

the desert, he attended the solemn pledge of *Al-'Aqabah*, he comes from the *Khazraj* tribe and is a man from the *Ansâr* (Helpers)]...

The Days pass by, and Mu'âdh Ibn Jabal, may Allah be pleased with him, becomes a ruler upon *Shâ'm*, after the death of its ruler 'Abû 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh... That was during the *khilâfah* (Ruling time) of 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, may Allah be pleased with him,... Mu'âdh's ruling time did not last for long and it was only a few months later that a plague called '*Amwâs* spread around... Mu'âdh Ibn Jabal turns to **Allah** praying: O **Allah**... Please give 'Âl Mu'âdh (Mu'âdh's family) their share of that... For he had known that (Death from) plague is martyrdom for every Muslim -from Muhammad's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, nation.

Allah accepts his prayer... His two wives die of the plague... Then, his only son 'Abdur Rahmân also falls sick and dies of the plague... Mu'âdh is left waiting for his share of it... It is not long before he gets his share of it... During his illness, he faints, then wakes up again... When he wakes up, he says: O **Allah**, keep me under that stress... For by your Might, you do know that I love you.. His illness becomes severe... His friends go visiting him... They find him crying, they ask him: O Mu'âdh... You weep while you are **Allah**'s Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and

Peace be upon him, companion, and you are promised to be a master of all scholars on the Day of Judgment!!...

Mu‘âdh, may Allah be pleased with him, says: By **Allah**, I do not weep out of fear of death if it comes, nor do I weep for a world I leave behind... But it’s the two handfuls that I fear, for I do not know, into which handful I shall be?!...

Referring to the *Hadîth* of **Allah**’s Prophet: “**Allah** has captured two handfuls, then said: [This is for Paradise, and I do not give heed... And that is for Hell, and I do not give heed]”¹

Mu‘âdh becomes very sick and asks: Is it morning?.. He is told: It is not morning yet..

Mu‘âdh says: O **Allah**... I seek refuge with You from a night that leads to a morning in Hell...

His friends hear him saying: O **Allah**, I always feared You... But today I plead... O **Allah**, You know that I didn’t love this life, or longed to live longer, just to dig rivers or plant trees (Meaning, not for worldly benefits)... But to get through its hardships, conquer its hours, and be amidst its scholars when they gathered to speak of You.

His voice weakens, and he whispers: Welcome to death... Welcome to a beloved visitor, who comes when he is much needed.

¹ Narrated by At Tabarâni.

His soul rises to its Creator... He was 38 years old...
Kind, and was made kind by **Allah**... Pure and purified...
May **Allah** be pleased with him... And may **Allah**
assemble us with him on the Day of Judgment.

The Carrier Of The Banner **Mus‘ab Ibn ‘Umair**

May Allah be pleased with him

Who is that young man who is almost twenty four, walking along *Makkah*'s roads, preceded by his charming odor?!!...

He is the best of *Makkah*'s young men, most wealthy and most handsome... He is the beloved one amongst his parents who clothed him in the best, most fine, most expensive and beautiful clothes... His beauty was both external and internal...For he looked handsome and attractive, but he was also kind -hearted and good inside... For as soon as he heard about **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, he rushed to him in Al 'Arqam Ibn 'Abî Al 'Arqam's house to give him the pledge of allegiance... He becomes a Muslim in the presence of **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, with the early men who became Muslims... He keeps it as a secret from his parents... He visits **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, secretly... He listens and learns from him...

One day, 'Uthmân Ibn Talhah -one of *Quraish*'s men from Mus‘ab's tribe *Banî 'Abdul Dâr* sees him praying... He rushes to his parents to inform them... They are furious, they lock him up and tie him down... They also prevent

him from eating... His people gather and try to convince him to give up Islam... They try persuading him in different ways, by tempting him, and by scaring him... The young man is strong, and continues clinging to his Islam, not caring about the suffering and deprivation, until he gets the chance and runs away immigrating to *Ethiopia* with the early immigrants...

Mus‘ab Ibn ‘Umair, may Allah be pleased with him, returns from *Ethiopia* with the men who had immigrated there, when they heard the rumor that the people in *Makkah* had become Muslims... But everyone is surprised to find that it was not true... On the contrary, the non-believers in *Makkah* increase their torture to the Muslims... Mus‘ab Ibn ‘Umair in particular is badly tortured and hurt... Sa‘d Ibn ‘Abî Waqqâs says: We were a tribe who suffered with **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, from a harsh life in *Makkah*... When we couldn’t take it anymore, we had to claim to be non-believers and suffer for that... But we were patient... Mus‘ab Ibn ‘Umair was the finest of young men in *Makkah* and was living in great comfort amongst his parents... Yet when he became a Muslim, I saw that he suffered a lot... I have seen his skin peeling off, just like the serpent’s skin...

‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib, may Allah be pleased with him, says: while we were sitting with **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,

in his mosque, Mus‘ab Ibn ‘Umair came wearing a cloak that was torn and botched with fur... When **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, saw him, he cried because he knew how Mus‘ab was in luxury previously in his life, and how he was degraded now... **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *“What would you say if one of you would come wearing a garment, and goes wearing another... And a tray is being put in front of him, while another is being taken away... And you have clothed your houses like the Ka‘bah is being clothed?!”*... They said: O Prophet of **Allah**... We would be better off then, than today, at least we would devote our time for worshipping and not worry about our provision... **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *“No... Now you are better off than how you would be then”*¹...

But **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, relieves the Muslims, when some of the people of *Al-Madīnah* come to *Makkah* during one of the high seasons... **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, talks to them about Islam... **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, opens their hearts to Islam and the first solemn pledge of *Al-‘Aqabah* takes place... Twelve men from *Al-Madīnah* witness that pledge... **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, sends Mus‘ab Ibn

¹ Tohfah Al-Ahwazi.

‘Umair with them as a scholar and a guide... Mus‘ab reads them the Qur’ân and enlightens them to understand their religion... He was the first ambassador in Islam... Mus‘ab Ibn ‘Umair stays at ‘As‘ad Ibn Zurârah’s house... He shares with him his clothes... He walks in *Al-Madînah* roads, reading the Qur’ân to the people and asking them to worship the One and Only **Allah**... The news spreads, it even reaches the rulers and elite people in *Al-Madînah*... ‘Usaid Ibn Hudair dashes angrily to ‘As‘ad Ibn Zurârah’s house carrying his spear... He finds Mus‘ab Ibn ‘Umair sitting and the men are surrounding him while he is reading them from the Qur’ân...

‘Usaid tells him: What do you want from us: You have come to us ridiculing our beliefs, and keeping away the people from our gods... Stay away from us if you want to stay alive.

The men surrounding Mus‘ab Ibn ‘Umair are frightened, and they consider moving away from him... Mus‘ab wisely, peacefully, and counting on his deep belief, tells ‘Usaid Ibn Hudair: Sit down and listen... If you accept any of it, take it... And if you dislike it, do not take what you will dislike.. ‘Usaid Ibn Hudair said: Fair enough ... He put down his spear, and sat listening to Mus‘ab who was explaining the creed of Islam and reading from the Qur’ân with his deep voice... ‘Usaid Ibn Hudair finds himself

unable to do anything except cry from the bottom of his heart the words of monotheism: There is none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah**... All the men present cry *Allahu-Akbar*.. (**Allah** is the Most Great).

The same thing happens with Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh who is keen in quickly announcing his becoming a Muslim, which makes his tribe also become Muslims... Then Sa'd Ibn 'Ubadah becomes a Muslim too... The two tribes; *Al-'Aws* and *Al-Khazraj* compete in entering that new religion that has lightened and brightened all the corners of *Al-Madînah Al Munawwarah*... There was no house left in *Al-Madînah* without good talk about **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,... It is time for the *Hajj*¹ in the following year... Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair, may Allah be pleased with him, comes to *Makkah* accompanied by 73 (Seventy three) men and 2 (Two) women, coming to give the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, the second solemn pledge of *Al-'Aqabah*...

Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair, may Allah be pleased with him, returns to *Al-Madînah* to teach its people Islam and the Qur'an... He prays as *Imâm* to them in the first *Jumm'ah* (Friday) prayer in Islam... Later, other men join him: 'Abdullah Ibn 'Um Maktûm, 'Ammâr Ibn Yâsir, Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs, 'Abdullah Ibn Mas'ûd and Bilâl Ibn 'Abî Rabâh... Then

¹ *Hajj*: Pilgrimage to *Makkah*.

‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb joined with forty other weak Muslims on their horses, may Allah be pleased with them,.

All the people of *Al-Madînah* are waiting anxiously for the arrival of **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, after Mus‘ab Ibn ‘Umair has overwhelmed its people, its families, even its mountains and valleys with the Qur’ân, his wisdom, and his guidance... When **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, arrives to *Al Madînah Al Munawwarah*, all its people -young and old- cry in one voice:

The full moon has come to us...

From *Thaniyyâtil Wadâ*¹...

We owe gratitude and thanks...

Whenever someone invites to the way of **Allah**...

Oh you who has been sent to us...

You have come with what must be obeyed...

Your arrival is an honour to *Al-Madînah*...

Welcome to the best of all who invite to **Allah**...

It is time for the battle of *Badr*, in the second year of *Hijrah*... Just as **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, has chosen Mus‘ab to be the first ambassador of Islam in *Al-Madînah*, He, Allah’s Prayers

¹ *Thaniyyâtil Wadâ*: A place in *Al-Madînah*.

and Peace be upon him, also chose him to carry the banner of the battle that they were granted victory in...

Quraish comes back once more insisting to take revenge for its men who were killed in *Badr*... The two parties meet in *'Uhud*... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, gives the banner to Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair who fights with great courage... The Muslims almost win the battle, had it not been for the disobedience of some of the archers who leave their positions, presuming that the battle is over, and rushing to take their share of the booty... Things would have turned against the Muslims... The people turn away from **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, each trying to save himself and not caring for anything else... A rumor spreads amongst the Muslims' lines in war that the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, has been killed... This increases the anguish and panic amongst them...

Only a few men stay solid around the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, they are from the early Muslims... Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair fights with one hand and carries **Allah's** Prophet's Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, banner with the other hand... Ibn Qami'ah Al Laithi hits him with his sword on the hand that is carrying the banner... He cuts off his hand... Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair carries the banner with his other hand and before falling on the ground... He says: [**Muhammad**, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, **is no more than a Messenger**,

and indeed (many) Messengers have passed away before him] ... This *Ayah* (Verse) was not revealed yet... Ibn Qami'ah Al Laithî still hitting him cuts off his other hand... Mus'ab holds the banner with his upper arms... Then, he finally digs it into the ground... He receives the final blow in his chest and falls on his face to the ground... His sacred blood spreads on the sand of 'Uhud, and the battle is over.... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, goes out inspecting the dead bodies of his companions... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, stands beside Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair, lowering his face and relating **Allah's** words: *«Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with Allâh [i.e. they have gone out for Jihâd (holy fighting), and showed not their backs to the disbelievers]; of them some have fulfilled their obligations (i.e. have been martyred); and some of them are still waiting, but they have never changed [i.e. they never proved treacherous to their covenant which they concluded with Allâh] in the least»*. (Al-Ahzâb "The Confederates",23). He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, says: "**Allah's** Prophet, shall be your witness -on the Judgment Day- that you are martyrs in the sake of **Allah**"... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, then approaches the people and says: "*O you people... Later on, come and visit them and greet them... For I swear, by Him in Whose Hands my soul is, whenever any*

man will greet them, from now onwards, till the Day of Judgment, they will answer back his greeting”...

Days pass by, and Khabbâb Ibn Al 'Arat, may Allah be pleased with him, relates to us saying: We migrated with **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, for **Allah's** Cause, so our reward became due with **Allah**... Some of us passed away (i.e. died) without enjoying anything from their reward, but some amongst us have got the fruits of their labour ripened, and they are collecting them... Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair who was killed (i.e. martyred) on the day of 'Uhud. He did not leave behind except a sheet of striped woolen cloth. If we covered his head with it, his feet became naked, and if we covered his feet with it, his head became naked...

Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said to us:

“Cover his head with it and put Idhkhir¹ over his feet”²...

Peace be on you, you who carried **Allah's** Prophet's Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, banner...

Peace on you, O Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair...

¹ *Idhkhir*: It is a kind of grass which is used in the process of melting of the metals. The same is laid down on the roofs and floors of houses, and is also used in spreading in the graves.

² Narrated by Al Bukhâri

**Let My Father And Mother
Be Sacrificed For You**
Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs

May Allah be pleased with him

In my dream, I have seen complete darkness; I could not see anything... But a moon shone for me, so I followed it... I could almost see who had preceded me to that moon... I could see Zaid Ibn Hârithah, 'Alî Ibn 'Abî Tâlib and 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq... I was like asking them: When did you get here?!... They said: Now, the Prophet Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, had been sent as a Messenger... I went to him and I became a Muslim... Nobody had preceded me to that except those three...

That was how Sa'd Ibn Mâlik Ibn Wahîb Al Qurashî known as Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs became a Muslim... He was the cousin of 'Amînah Bint Wahb the Prophet's Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him mother, so he was considered as one of his uncles...

His daughter 'Â'ishah relates on his behalf saying: Sa'd became a Muslim when he was seventeen years old... He was a very good and obedient son to his mother... When she saw he had become a Muslim, she tried to change his mind... When she failed, she threatened him that she

would refrain from eating and drinking till she would die, and people would blame him for that... The mother started carrying out her threat, she started losing her energy and falling sick... Some people of his family went to Sa'd asking him to go and see his mother before she died, hoping that he will sympathise with her condition and give up that religion... When he went to her she was almost dying... He told her: O mother... By **Allah**, everyone knows that I am most kind to my mother... O mother... By **Allah**, if you possessed one hundred souls, and these souls would depart your body one by one, I could not leave that –religion- at all... Therefore, eat or refrain, that is your choice.. When she realised how determined he was about his religion, she ate and drank... Jibrîl came to the Prophet Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, on that incident by

Allah's words:

﴿But if they (both) strive with you to make you join in worship with Me others that of which you have no knowledge, then obey them not; but behave with them in the world kindly, and follow the path of him who turns to Me in repentance and in obedience Then to Me will be your return, and I shall tell you what you used to do﴾. (Luqmân,15).

Sa'd's courage and knighthood is apparent in his early years... For he was seen by a non-believer praying in one

of *Makkah*'s roads... The non-believer tried to attack him, but Sa'd hit him and injured his head... The man started bleeding... By that Sa'd was considered the first to shed blood for **Allah**'s Cause, and the first to shot an arrow for **Allah**'s Cause ...

Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs immigrates to *Al Madînah*... He witnesses the battle of *Badr* with **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and proves himself as a strong fighter in that conquest... He also joins in the battle of '*Uhud*... He stays close to **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, defending him against the non-believers with his arrows that hardly miss... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells him: "*Sa'd... Throw (arrows), let my father and mother be sacrificed for you!*¹ ... *O Allah, strengthen his throw (of the arrows), and accept his prayer*"² ...

Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, never said this saying to anyone except Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was proud of Sa'd, he would point to him and say to his companions: "*That is my uncle... Let any of you show me his uncle*"³.. One day, **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells his companions:

¹ By saying so, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, expressed his satisfaction.

² As Al Sheikhaïn narrated that 'Alî (may Allah be pleased with him) said, At-Tirmidhi.

³ As At Tirmidhi narrated that Jabir (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

“Would you like to see a man who will go to Paradise... See him now entering from that door”... Sa’d Ibn ’Abî Waqqâs enters... ‘Abdullah Ibn ‘Amr Ibn Al ‘Âs tries to inspect about Sa’d, and what he does to deserve that special prophecy... He does not find what contradicts, or is more than what the other companions do... Sa’d explains: I have never gone to sleep having any feeling in my heart of envy, hatred, or spite to anyone!... Indeed, he held no ill feeling to anyone... He had a clean pure heart... He would make sure his food was from *Halâl* (lawful money), and that is why his prayers were accepted... He was highly respected... People honoured him, they considered his non refused prayers cautiously, just as his enemies feared his arrows that never failed or missed... Time passes and Sa’d Ibn ’Abî Waqqâs is totally involved in fighting for **Allah**’s Cause to spread Islam and the monotheistic word... During the *Khilafat*¹ (Caliphate) - ruling time- of ‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, the *Persians* take this chance to take back some of the land taken by the Muslims during the time of ’Abû Bakr As-Siddîq... ‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb is worried and concerned about that matter... He decides to prepare an army -led by himself-

¹ *Khilafat*: succession.

hoping to teach the *Persians* a lesson, and to take back what they have taken from Muslim land... He appoints ‘Aly Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib to take over ruling *Al Madînah* while he is away... As he starts preparing himself to leave, ‘Abdur-Rahmân Ibn ‘Auf accompanied by some of the companions approach him, trying to influence him to change his mind saying: O ruler of the believers... do not hurt us by getting yourself hurt... By that, you shall hurt all the Muslims, so do send out another man in your place to fulfil that matter..

‘Umar says: O people... Advise me... Who would fit for that serious matter?!... Who would bear that great responsibility, while the *Persians* have formed an enormous army led by their vicious ruler; Rustum?!.. The men present wonder... Then ‘Abdur-Rahmân Ibn ‘Auf cries: O ruler of the believers... I have found him.. ‘Umar says: And who is he?.. ‘Abdur-Rahmân replies: He is the one whose arrows never miss the enemy, and whose prayer is never refused by **Allah**, Sa‘d Ibn ‘Abî Waqqâs.. All the men present agree with Ibn ‘Auf on his opinion... Some of them speak of Sa‘d Ibn ‘Abî Waqqâs saying: O ruler of the believers... He is humble in his true self... a real *Arabian* in his appearance (costume), and a lion when he guards his property... He is just and fair... He would travel very far if needed for the sake of war... He is also

as kind to us as a mother to her children... He gives each
one of us his right to the smallest detail...

Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs leads the army... He goes out to
meet the *Persian* army... 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb sends him
a letter saying: O Sa'd... do not be overwhelmed if they
call you the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, uncle, for
between **Allah** and his servants, there is no such thing as
family ties... The only asset to **Allah** is through being
obedient to him... All people, the noblest and lowest, are
basically equal in essence except that they rank differently
according to their purity... They will win **Allah**'s reward,
only through their obedience to him... O Sa'd, regard
what we have learnt from **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace
be upon him, ever since he was sent, until he departed from
us... Stick to that Sa'd, for that is the real issue... O
Sa'd... Write me, telling me how you are, where your
enemies are from you, and where you are to them... When
you write to me, imagine that I am seeing you, and I am
with you...

Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs carries out 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb's
wish... He writes him daily describing the whole situation,
and asking for his opinion and his advice...

The two armies meet at Qadisia... Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs
leads the army lines, from a high place as he was sick..
crying to his soldiers: Come on, you are Muhammad's

companions, welcome to Paradise... He crosses *Tigris*
 (*Degla* River) crying: **Allah** is sufficient for us and He is
 the best Disposer of Affairs ...
 Sa'd reaches *Al Madâ'in*, the largest *Persian* city, and the
 ruling capital... It surrenders completely to Sa'd and the
 Muslim army... The *Persian* Empire ends forever... Sa'd
 sends *Kisra*'s treasure, and all his royal jewellery to 'Umar
 Ibn Al Khattâb in *Al Madînah*...
 Sa'd constructs *Kûfah* and 'Umar appoints him as leader
 upon *Irâq*... He sorts out the people's problems, takes
 care of them, and protects the Muslim homes and
 borders...
 But jealousy and malice emerge in the hearts of some of
 the new believers in Islam... They send repeated
 complaints to 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, accusing Sa'd of a
 weird serious matter; that he did not pray properly...
 'Umar sent for Sa'd to come to *Al Madînah*... He asks
 him, and Sa'd replies: By **Allah**, I was the first amongst
 the *Arabs* who shot an arrow for **Allah**'s Cause... And by
Allah, we used to fight along with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers
and Peace be upon him, while we had nothing to eat except the
 leaves of trees so that one's excreta would look like the
 excreta balls of camel or sheep, containing nothing to mix
 them together. Today *Banû 'Asad* tribe blame me for not
 having understood Islâm. I would be loser if my deeds

were in vain... By **Allah**, ruler of the believers, I used to pray with them a prayer similar to that of **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, . . . And I never reduced anything of it... I used to prolong the first two *Rak'âhs* of '*Ishâ*' prayer and shorten the last two *Rak'âhs*... 'Umar said: O 'Abâ Ishâq.. This was what I thought about you, ... Sa'd returns to *Kûfah*... 'Umar sends some men to *Kûfah*'s mosques to inquire about Sa'd... All the people praise him except one man from *Banû 'Asad*, whose heart was filled with envy and malice named 'Abû Si'dah... He accused him that he never went himself with the army and never distributed (the war booty) equally and never did justice in legal verdicts... 'Umar deposes Sa'd from ruling *Irâq*... Sa'd prays to **Allah** regarding the man who has done him injustice... He says: O **Allah**, If this slave of Yours is a liar and got up for showing off, give him a long life, increase his poverty and put him to trials... Sa'd's prayer is accepted... The man's life is prolonged... He becomes so old, his eyebrows were over-hanging his eyes owing to old age... He becomes extremely poor... People watch him tease and assault the small girls in *Kûfah* roads... When he is blamed for that, he says about himself: I am an old man in trial as the result of Sa'd's curse...

‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb tries to let Sa‘d rule *Kûfah* once more, but he refuses saying: Ruler of the believers... Would I return to the people who claimed that I do not pray well?!...

On his death bed, ‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb orders the *Khilafat* (Caliphate) -ruling authority- to go to one of the six men of the *Shurah* (consultation): ‘Uthmân, ‘Alî, Talhah, Az-Zubair, ‘Abdur-Rahman Ibn ‘Auf and Sa‘d Ibn ‘Abî Waqqâs... Whom **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, had been pleased with before he died... If Sa‘d becomes the ruler, it will be alright; otherwise, whoever becomes the ruler should seek his help, as I have not dismissed him because of disability or dishonesty.

‘Uthmân Ibn ‘Affân becomes *Khalifah* (Caliph)... Sa‘d remains as a Muslim soldier defending Muslim homes, until ‘Uthmân is murdered... ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib becomes *Khalifah* (Caliph)... The clash takes place between ‘Alî and Mu‘âwiyah... The companions worry that the Muslim nation would break down... The dissension takes place...

A group of men go to Sa‘d Ibn ‘Abî Waqqâs led by ‘Abdullah Ibn ‘Umar and Hishâm Ibn ‘Utbah Ibn ‘Abî Waqqâs... They tell him: O uncle... One hundred thousand swords (fighters) find you worthy to take over...

So come and take over... The people have chosen you.. Sa‘d refuses and says: Leave me alone, and do not tell me

any news... When the people insist, he says: I want a sword that would kill a non-believer, and refrain from hitting the believer.. (Meaning staying away from all)... Sa'd stays away from the clashes and disturbances... He joins neither 'Alî nor Mu'âwiyah... As time passes, the immigrants die one after the other, only Sa'd is left in *Al Madînah*... He is eighty years old... He falls into his death illness... His son 'Âmir Ibn Sa'd embraces his father and takes his head on his lap... He weeps, but his father Sa'd tells him: My son... Do not weep, and do not fear anything... By **Allah, Allah** will never torture me... I have been promised by **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, that I will go to Paradise... My son, open that closet, and you will find in it a woollen cloak, use it as my shroud, for I have worn it when I fought the non-believers in *Badr*, and so I have kept it for this day...

Sa'd's pure soul returns to its creator... His will is fulfilled, and he is shrouded in his woollen cloak... Muslim men carry him on their shoulders to the mosque... Marawân Ibn Al Hakam and the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, wives pray in his funeral prayer... He is buried in *Al Baqî'* near **Allah's** Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companions who have preceded him to true satisfaction and accession...

The Throne Shook To His Death Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh

May Allah be pleased with him

Some people hurried to Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh -the master of *Al 'Aws*- informing him that his cousin 'Asa'd Ibn Zurârah had taken in Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair -who had come from *Makkah* to spread Islam in *Al-Madînah*- as a guest in his house... Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh went to him... He found Mus'ab there... He was reading to the people from the Qur'ân, and speaking to them about Islam... As he himself heard the Qur'ân, it reached his heart... He gathered his tribe *Banî 'Abdul 'Ashhal* and said: I forbid myself to even hear from you men and women any words until you become Muslims... So they all became Muslims... Sa'd had a strong effect on people becoming Muslims... *Banî 'Abdul 'Ashhal* opened their houses to the immigrants, and they comforted them by their money, they were most generous to them...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, immigrated to *Al-Madînah*... Islam had spread quickly amongst its people because Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh the *'Aws* master, and Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah, the *Khazraj* master had both become Muslims, and their tribes were the largest two tribes in *Al-Madînah Al Munawwarah*...

Before the battle of *Badr*, **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, gathered his companions from the immigrants and *Ansâr* (Supporters) and told them: "*O People, advise me*"... Al Miqdâd Ibn 'Amr spoke... He spoke well... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, repeated: "*O People, advise me*"... 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq spoke, then 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb spoke also... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said again: "*O people, advise me*".. And he looked at the *Ansâr* (Supporters)... For all the men who had spoken were from the immigrants... Sa'd Ibn Mu'âdh stood up and said: By **Allah**, it seems that you want us to speak, O Prophet of **Allah**!!... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Yes*"... Sa'd spoke saying: We believed in you and believed you, and we testify that what you came with is the Truth... We have given you our vow to be obedient... Therefore, go forth O Prophet of **Allah** to what you see right, for we are with you... By Him Who sent you with the Truth, if you decide to cross that sea with us, we shall go forth with you... Not even one man from us would stay behind... We do not fear meeting our enemy even if it were tomorrow... We are patient during war, and very stable when we confront the enemy... May **Allah** help us to perform in a manner that might please your sight... Therefore, carry on with us, depending on **Allah**'s blessing...**Allah**'s Prophet was delighted to hear those

honest and brave words... He decided to go out to the battle of *Badr* and said: “*Rejoice, for Allah has promised me that we will either gain victory, or die as martyrs... And by Allah, it is as if I’m looking at the non-believers being defeated*”¹...

Allah’s Promise is fulfilled, and the Muslims win the battle of *Badr* with the obvious support from **Allah**... Sa’d Ibn Mu’âdh performs very well in that battle... Then during the battle of *’Uhud*, Sa’d was from the men who stood well with **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,...

Sa’d Ibn Mu’âdh had been an ally to the Jews of *Banî Quraizah* before he became a Muslim, **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, sent Sa’d to ask them if they still kept their agreement with the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, that they would not support anyone against him... - That agreement that he, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, had shared with them after he had immigrated to *Al-Madînah*, and had ensured them safety on their homes and their money-... **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, wanted to find out whether the agreement was still valid, or did the Jews breach the agreement?!... For the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, had heard that some of the leaders of the Jews had

¹ Sirat Ibn Heshâm.

gone out of *Al-Madînah* secretly, met with the leaders of *Quraish*, and motivated them to attack the Muslims in *Al-Madînah*, and that the Jews would breach their agreement with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, go down from their fortress to attack the Muslims, and so they would surround them externally and internally, and so destroy their power completely... They did not stop at that... On their way out, they passed by the tribe of *Ghatfân* -which is one of the biggest *Arab* tribes- and made an agreement with 'Uyaynah Ibn Hisn -their leader- to join *Quraish* in their attack to the Muslims in *Al-Madînah* ... They promised him wealth and fruitage as a reward...

When Sa'd Ibn Mu'âdh went to meet the Jews leaders in *Quraizah* asking them about their agreement with Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, they told him: There is no agreement nor any contact between us and Muhammad... Their treachery was clarified, and their true intentions were obvious...

Then, all of *Quraish* joined by *Ghatfân* tribe, and some *Arab* tribes, come to attack the Muslim in *Al-Madînah* ... Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, orders the Muslims to dig a *Khandaq* (trench) around *Al-Madînah*, and secure the women and children in fortresses to protect them from the enemy... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sends

an offer to the leader of *Ghatfân* tribe offering him to end the war and refrain, in return for one third of the fruitage of *Al-Madînah*... The offer was accepted... Before **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, signed the agreement, he, sent for the leaders of *Al 'Aws* and *Al Khazraj*: Sa'd Ibn Mu'âdh and Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah, consulting them about the agreement... They told him: O Prophet of **Allah**... Is this your own decision, or is it an inspiration that you have received from **Allah**?... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"It is only a matter that I have decided upon for your own sake, for I have seen how the Arabs have all hit you in one blow, and surrounded you from all sides, that's why I wanted to break their spears (Power), and lessen them in manpower against you"*... Sa'd Ibn Mu'âdh said: O Prophet of **Allah**... We were non-believers like these tribes... We worshipped idols... We did not worship nor know **Allah**... But **Allah** enlightened us, and granted us Islam... He leads us to it, and enriched us with you and Islam... Would we now give them one third of the fruitage of *Al-Madînah*?!... By **Allah**, we would not give them except the sword (War), until **Allah** judges between us and them... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was content with these words, and accordingly didn't carry out the agreement with *Ghatfân*... Everyone started getting prepared for

war... 'Ā'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, says: I was in the fortress of *Banî Hârithah* with the mother of Sa'd Ibn Mu'âdh, the veil had not been known yet as *Fard* (Obligatory)... Sa'd passed by wearing an armour that had a small part for his arm to come out of it... He had a spear in his hand... He was expressing in verse saying:

How he was anxious to fight..
 And was not afraid of death...

'Um Sa'd (Sa'd's mother) said: Do not delay my son, go forth... So 'Ā'ishah said: O, 'Um Sa'd... I wish that Sa'd's armour was larger and longer... She feared for him for he was hit by an arrow...

Sa'd Ibn Mu'âdh was hurt in *Al 'Akhal* (A vein in the midst of his arm)... He started bleeding, so **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, ordered that he be transferred to a tent in the mosque, so that he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, would be close to him, and could see him whenever he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, wished...

Allah, Praise and Glory be to Him, sends a strong wind to *Quraish* army and whoever is with them... It blows out their fires, ruin their tents, and spills their pots of food... 'Abû Sufyân calls upon the people saying: I am leaving, whoever wishes, may leave also... The different groups leave, for **Allah** had filled their hearts with terror and

fear... The immigrants and *Ansâr* (Supporters) of *Al-Madînah* return safely and happily to their homes, celebrating the victory that **Allah** had granted them...

Jibrîl comes to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, in his house, while he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was preparing to take off the clothes of war... He tells him: **Allah** orders you to go now to *Banî Quraizah*, who have breached their agreement with you...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, goes out to his companions saying: "*Whosoever believes in Allah and the Day of Judgment, should offer the 'Asr prayer but at Banî Quraizah ('s place)*"¹...

The 'Asr prayer was due for some of them on the way. Some of those said: We will not offer it till we reach it, the place (fortress) of *Banî Quraizah*, while some others said: No, we will pray at this spot, for the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, did not mean that for us. Later on it was mentioned to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and he did not berate any of the two groups...

The Muslims surrounded the fortresses of *Banî Quraizah* for twenty five days until they gave up on one condition, that their previous ally, Sa'd Ibn Mu'âdh, lay judgement on them... He was lying hurt in the tent of the mosque...

¹ As Al-Shikhan narrated that Ibn 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

His bleeding has stopped during the days of the siege, as he had prayed to **Allah** when he was hurt saying: O **Allah!** I think You have put to an end the fight between us and them (i.e. *Quraish* infidels). And if there still remains any fight with the *Quraish* (infidels), then keep me alive till I fight against them Your Sake.. You know that there is nothing more beloved to me than to fight in Your Cause against those who disbelieved Your Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and turned him out (of *Makkah*).... But if You have brought the war to an end, then let this wound burst and cause my death thereby... and do not let me die until I get even with *Banî Quraizah*.

The people of *Banî Quraizah* agreed to accept the verdict of Sa'd Ibn Mu'âdh. So the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sent for Sa'd, and the latter came riding a donkey and when he approaches the Mosque, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said to the *Ansâr*: "*Get up for your chief or for the best among you*"... So they stood up... The Jews tell him: O 'Abû 'Amr, **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, has elected you to judge upon the people... Sa'd said: Then do you abide by **Allah's** law and his doctrine?!... They said: Yes... Sa'd said: Do all the men present here abide by that?... He was looking towards where **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and his companions were sitting, yet Sa'd was avoiding to look directly in **Allah's**

Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, eyes out of respect to him...**Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "Yes"... Sa'd said: If I give my judgement that their warriors should be killed, their women and children should be taken as captives, and their properties distributed.... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*You have judged according to Allah's judgement*" or said: "*according to the King's judgment*" ...

Allah had fulfilled Sa'd's wish, when Sa'd prayed: (O **Allah**, do not let me die until I get even with *Banî Quraizah*)... For the blood burst out of his wound again after it had stopped for twenty-five days... He was carried to his tent in the mosque... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and 'Abû Bakr and 'Umar went to him... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, embraced him, while Sa'd's blood was spilling all over **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, ... 'Abû Bakr came saying: I feel that my back has been broken!! (Meaning a great Muslim has been lost)... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, replied: "*Mah*" (Meaning, keep quiet) ... 'Umar interrupted saying: We belong to **Allah**, and to Him we shall return... Every one started weeping... 'Â'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, says: I swear, by Him Whose Hands my soul is, I could not differentiate between 'Abû Bakr and 'Umar's weeping...

Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, holding Sa'd prays to **Allah** saying: "*O Allah. If Sa'd has fought in Cause of You, he believed Your Prophet, and did what he had to do... O Allah, receive his soul with all the good that you would receive a blessed soul*" ... Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh opens his eyes, looks at **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and says: Peace be on you, O Prophet of **Allah**... I testify that you are the Messenger of **Allah** ... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells him: "*Felicitate 'Abu 'Amr... Felicitate 'Abu 'Amr*"...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, returns home... Jibril comes to him saying: O Prophet of **Allah**... Who is that soul that made the gates of Paradise open, and the Throne of **Allah** shook?!... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, rushed quickly towards Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh's tent to find he had just died... After burying Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh, **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, returns home... As his tears are falling on his beard, he Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells his companions: "*The Throne of the Beneficent shook because of the death of Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh!!... Seventy thousand angels coming to the earth for the first time came from Heaven to share in his funeral... Indeed, Allah has granted him that honour*"¹ ...

¹ As At Tirmidhi narrated that Jabir (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

Sa'd Ibn Mu'adh's mother cries aloud bewailing her son saying:

Woe to 'Um Sa'd for losing Sa'd,

For he was ingenious and smart...

Woe to 'Um Sa'd for losing Sa'd,

For he was stringent and strong...

Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, hears her and says: *"Everyone who bewails is a liar, except Sa'd's mother"*¹...

Sa'd, may Allah be pleased with him, was only thirty seven years old when he died... He was thirty-one when he became a Muslim... That meant that he spent only six years serving Islam, and yet, his effect towards spreading Islam was vast...

"Felicitate 'Abû 'Amr... Felicitate 'Abû 'Amr".

¹ Al-Esabah by Ibn Hagar

I Am But A Man Who Belongs to My People Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah

May Allah be pleased with him

As soon as *Quraish* heard about the group of *Ansâr* (Supporters) who came to give the pledge of allegiance to **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, in *Bai'at-ul-'Aqabah*, they became very furious... They went out to fight those who protected the men who insulted their god, and mocked their ambition... They find only Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah, the master of *Ansâr* (Supporters), and their leader... They tied him down and dragged him to *Makkah*... They hit him severely... No one could save him from their hands except Jubair Ibn Mut'im, the one that Sa'd used to help him manage his trade for him in *Al-Madînah*... Sa'd was the only man from the *Ansâr* (Supporters) who was hurt by the non-believers as much as the early immigrants have been hurt...

Sa'd returns to *Al-Madînah* and Islam starts invading the houses of his tribe of *Al Khazraj* when they knew that their leader and master, and most generous man of them Sa'd has become a Muslim, they became Muslims too...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, immigrates to *Al-Madînah*... He is received by Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah... Every

day Sa'd takes him *Tharîd*¹ wherever he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, went... He provides food, and takes care of eighty of the immigrants... He was the most generous of all the *Ansâr* (Supporters)... He would ask **Allah** for abundance saying: O **Allah**, you know little is not suitable to me, and I do not function well with little money... For he was used to generosity and in his father's house; 'Ubâdah and his grandfather's house Dulaym... He brought up his son Qays the same way... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said about him: "*He comes from a generous house*"².. The *Ansâr* (Supporters) said about him: Qays Ibn Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah is one of the most generous and giving people...

Qays Ibn Sa'd relates how his father was keen on winning **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, blessing, he says: **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, visited us in our home and said: "*Al Salâmu 'Alaykum Wa Rahmatu Allah*" (**Allah**'s peace and mercy be on you)... Qays says: Sa'd replied in a very low voice... I said: Won't you let the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, in.. Sa'd said: Let him repeat his greeting to us... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Al Salâmu 'Alaykum Wa Rahmatu*"

¹ *Tharîd*: A special dish prepared from meat and bread.

² Al-Estiâb.

Allah” and he said it again and again, when there was no reply he, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, left, Sa’d followed him and said: O Prophet of **Allah**... I heard your greetings, but I answered you quietly, so that you would repeat your greetings to us... The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, returned home with him... Sa’d ordered that the bath be prepared for **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, and he, had a bath... Sa’d gave the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, a big towel and he, wrapped himself in it, then he held up his arms praying and said: “O **Allah**, grant your blessings and mercy to ‘*Āla Sa’d Ibn ‘Ubâdah* (Sa’d’s family)”¹...

Sa’d Ibn ‘Ubâdah joins in the battle of *Badr* with **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, ... He proves himself well in it, for he was one of the most skilful archers... He becomes one of **Allah**’s Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, soldiers, and a representative to *Ansâr* (Supporters)... He joins in all the conquests until it is time for *Ghazwat-ul-Khandaq*... The non-believers surround *Al-Madînah* from all sides... **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, sends to Sa’d Ibn ‘Ubâdah the master of *Al Khazraj* tribe and Sa’d Ibn Mu‘âdh the master of *Al-‘Aws* tribe, counselling them whether he should offer ‘Uyaynah Ibn Hisn one third

¹ Narrated by ‘Abû Dawûd.

of the fruitage of *Al-Madînah* in return for evacuating *Ghatfân* tribe completely, in that way, the number of the non-believers surrounding *Al-Madînah* would decrease.

To that they reply: O Prophet of **Allah**... If you have been ordered by **Allah** to do that, then go ahead... But if otherwise... Then by **Allah**, we give them nothing in return except the sword (war)... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*I have not been ordered, that is an opinion... How do you both consider it*"...

They said: O Prophet of **Allah**... They have never taken anything from us during *Jâhilia* (Pre-Islamic time)... How could that happen now after **Allah** has blessed us by having you... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was pleased by their reply and carried out their wish... **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, helped the Muslims by sending severe wind that destroyed the non-believers' tents, causing their food to be spilt... That dispersed them, and so by **Allah**'s help, the Muslims did not have to go through a war...

Time passes, and it is time for the *Ghazwa* of *Al Fath*...The day of the conquest of *Makkah*... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, goes to the battle joined by ten thousand fighters... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, gives the banner of *Ansâr* (Supporters) to Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah... He orders that the battalion be checked by

'Abû Sufyân who had become a Muslim, and had come to negotiate with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, how to avoid blood-shed, and ensuring protection for *Quraish*, in return for the surrender of all the people... When Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah passed by, he saw 'Abû Sufyân, he remembered the torture and humiliation he had experienced during the day of *Bai'at-ul-'Aqabah*.. He also remembered what *Quraish* had done to the early Muslims... Accordingly, he told 'Abû Sufyân: Today is the day of great battle, and today the (what is prohibited in) the *Kabbah* will be permissible... Today **Allah** humiliates *Quraish*... 'Abû Sufyân trembles, and goes to **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying: O Prophet of **Allah**... Have you ordered that your people be killed?... Sa'd claims that he fights us... He related to him Sa'd's saying... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, says: "*O 'Abû Sufyân... Today is the day of mercy... today Allah exalts Quraish*"...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, orders that the flag is taken from Sa'd, and given to his son Qays Ibn Sa'd... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, enters *Makkah* peacefully... He orders a man to announce: "*Whosoever enters the mosque is safe, and whoever enters his house is*

safe, and whoever enters 'Abû Sufyân's house is safe also"¹...

Time passes, and the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, hears that some *Arabian* tribes from *Hawâzin* and *Thaqîf* have decided to fight him, and that they have all gone out taking their money, their women and their children, so that none of them would escape... By doing so, they took a decisive action; for *Makkah* had been opened, and all its citizens had become Muslims and it seemed like all the *Arab* Island was about to follow Muhammad's Message... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, goes out to meet them in the battle of *Hunain*... **Allah** grants the Muslims victory, but they were about to lose the battle when some of the Muslims were deceived in their own power saying: We shall not be overtaken today by a minority... Had it not been that **Allah** had forgiven them, after showing them how they felt weak, and wanted to escape, even when they were many in number...It was only through **Allah**'s support to them that they later felt secure and peaceful... To comfort them, **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, called upon them saying: "*O you people, I am the Prophet*

¹ Tarikh At-Tabary.

*undoubtedly, I am the son of 'Abdul Muttalib'*¹
(Assuring them he is there and safe)...

The attacking tribes fled, leaving behind them: money, children, women, sheep and camel, which were all taken by the Muslims... It was the largest amount of booty that the Muslim had ever laid their hands upon, granted to them from **Allah**...

Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, started distributing the booty... He gave most of it to *Quraish* and the men who had just become Muslims... He did not include *Ansâr* (Supporters)... Some of them said: By **Allah**, the Prophet has found his own people!!.. (Meaning that he has forgotten us to his people)... A rumour spread that the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, would not return with them, after his people had become Muslims, and *Makkah* became his, he would probably settle down in *Makkah* and leave the *Ansâr* (Supporters)... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, heard that rumour... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sent to the supporters master and leader; Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah asking him: "*What do the people say?!*"... Sa'd said: Those people of *Ansâr* (Supporters) say: The Prophet has found his own people!!.. So he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, has given out most of the booty to his

¹ Al-Rahiq Al-Makhtoom.

people, and those chosen ones from *Quraish*, and the men who had just become Muslims, but he has given non to *Ansâr* (Supporters)...**Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him: "*And what do you say about that Sa'd?!*"... Sa'd said: O Prophet of **Allah**... I am but a man who belongs to my people... He was truly honest, courageous and tactful, and above all polite in expressing himself in words... For he wanted to say how he agreed with his people's opinion... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him: "*Then, call upon your people for a meeting*"... Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah arranged for a meeting for *Ansâr* (Supporters) to gather in a *Saqîfah* (shed) prepared for that meeting... Only a few of the immigrants were allowed to attend, from these few were: 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq and 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, may Allah be pleased with them,... **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, entered and spoke saying: "*O the assembly of Ansâr!... What is this talk being informed to me about you; something you have felt within yourselves!.. O the assembly of Ansâr, didn't I find you astray, and then Allah guided you on the Right Path through me?!.. You were divided into groups, and Allah brought you together through me; you were poor and Allah made you rich through me?!*"... Whatever the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said they (i.e. the *Ansâr*) said: **Allah** and His Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, have

more favours to do... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"What stops you from answering the Prophet of Allah?"*.. But whatever he said to them, they replied: **Allah** and His Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, have more favours to do... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"By Allah, if you wish you could say the truth, and I shall believe you... Maybe you would say: Didn't you come to us defeated and we helped you to achieve victory?... Didn't you come to us -and no one believed you- but we believed you?... Didn't you come to us in poverty, and we have made you rich?... Didn't you come to us homeless, and we kept you in?"*... They said: **Allah** and His Prophet have more favours to do...He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"O the assembly of Ansâr... Do you believe that the unity that has made a bond between your hearts was based on any of the world's benefits?... I leave you to your belief to be your conscience?... By Him Who has sent me with the Truth, but for the Migration, I would have been one of Ansâr (Supporters)... The people are Dithâr (i.e. those clothes which are not in direct contact with the body and are worn over other garments), and Ansâr are Shi'âr (i.e.those clothes which are in directed contact with the body and worn inside the other garments)... O the assembly of Ansâr...By Allah, if the people took their way through a valley or a mountain pass; I would select the*

valley or the mountain pass of the Ansâr... O the assembly of Ansâr...wouldn't you be willing to see the people go away with sheep and camels, while you go with the Allah's Prophet to your homes... O Allah... Forgive Ansâr, their children, and their grand children!"¹...

The *Ansâr* people wept until their tears wet their beards... They regretted what they had said and thought, but they were happy and optimistic that Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was returning with them to their country... To *Al-Madînah*, the place that was regarded as a refuge and a fortress to the early Muslims, and it will always reject any malice, just like a forge rejects the clinker of the iron... On the other hand, faith will be attracted to it, just like a serpent is attracted to its burrow... That is how *Al-Madînah* was described by Allah's Prophet Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, . . .

Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was indeed faithful to *Ansâr* people who had believed in him, believed him, taken him in, comforted him, and followed the light he had come with... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, remained in *Al-Madînah*, living amongst its people, for **He**, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, had chosen it as his home, and

¹ As At Tirmidhi narrated that Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

his residence until he died, and his pure noble body was buried in its ground...

The *Ansâr* gathered in *Saqîfat* (shed) *Banî Sâ'idah* to give the pledge of allegiance to Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah as a *Khalifah* (Caliph)... 'Abû Bakr joins them... 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb also joins them, he tells them: O the assembly of *Ansâr* (Supporters)... **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, has accepted 'Abû Bakr to lead us in prayer, and entrusted him to our religion... Wouldn't we trust him to our worldly affairs?... Some of *Ansâr* (Supporters) said: There must be a ruler from us and a ruler from you.. 'Umar says: Two swords in one scabbard would not do!!... (Meaning two people cannot rule at the same time)... So the people give the pledge of allegiance to 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq to be the *Khalifah* (Caliph)...

Sa'd Ibn 'Ubâdah left to *Shâ'm*... He, may Allah be pleased with him, died there four years later... He joined with the early blessed men... May **Allah** be pleased with them.

The Monotheist.. The Son Of The Monotheist
Sa'îd Ibn Zaid Ibn 'Amr
May Allah be pleased with him

When the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was sent, Sa'îd Ibn Zaid Ibn 'Amr was one of the first followers to that true light the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, came with... Sa'îd was not twenty yet... He had been brought up in a home where no one ever worshipped, or prostrated to an idol... His father was Zaid Ibn 'Amr Ibn Nufail who was known in the period of *Jâhilia* (Pre-Islamic time) as a worshipper to **Allah** following Abraham (*'Ibrâhîm 's*), may Allah be pleased with him, faith... Zaid Ibn 'Amr believed in the One and Only **Allah**... He degrades the dreams of *Quraish* and did not worship their gods... He would not eat from their oblations that they slaughtered for their idols, thinking they may bring them near to **Allah**...

Sa'îd Ibn Zaid Ibn 'Amr was brought up having that monotheistic father... He devoured from him the monotheistic creed, and that explains his quick entrance in Islam, the monotheist religion... He received it directly from **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, AS SOON AS he received it... He used to study it with another man to become a Muslim as early as he did... That man was Khabbâb Ibn Al 'Aratt, who used to go to him in his house

and share his food with him... Sa'îd's wife was Fâtimah Bint Al Khattâb, 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb's sister... She was a great help to her husband in that matter... She used to learn the Qur'ân with him, and make the place suitable for him and for Khabbâb to study... She also prepared them food and drink in her home, which was one of the first homes to be lightened by the light of faith.

Islam spreads out secretly amongst the young, free, youth of *Makkah* and also amongst the slaves... The chiefs of *Quraish* are aware of that coming danger that threatens them and threatens their power, even in their own houses...

'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb faces that threat... He leaves his house, snatching his sword aggressively, heading to destroy the source of that threat... On his way out, he meets a man who asks him: Where do you go 'Umar with your mighty sword?..

'Umar says: I want to kill the one who has ruined our ambition, insulted our idols, and separated between the son and his father.. The man tells him: Look first in your own home 'Umar... For your sister Fâtimah and her husband Sa'îd Ibn Zaid Ibn 'Amr have become Muslims..

'Umar is furious and angry... He hurries to his sister's house... He hears someone reciting, he hits the door harshly... Khabbâb hides in a corner in the house, while

Fâtimah opens the door to her brother, who questions her to what he has heard... Sa'îd stands amidst 'Umar and Fâtimah ... 'Umar raises his hand to hit Sa'îd, but his hand misses Sa'îd's face, and lands on Fâtimah's face with a hard blow, which causes her to bleed... But she quickly tells him: 'Umar... We have become Muslims, and we believe in **Allah** and His Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,... So do what you wish...

When 'Umar sees Fâtimah's face bleeding, he feels sorry for her and tries to comfort her by saying: Let me hear what you read... Khabbâb comes out optimistically from his hiding place and reads to 'Umar the verse lines of *Sûrat Tâ-Hâ*:

﴿Tâ-Hâ. We have not sent down the Qur'ân unto you (O Muhammad, Allâh's Prayers and Peace be upon him), to cause you distress, But only as a Reminder to those who fear (Allâh). A revelation from Him (Allâh) Who has created the earth and high heavens. The Most Gracious (Allâh) rose over (Istawâ) the (Mighty) Throne (in a manner that suits His Majesty). To Him belongs all that is in the heavens and all that is on the earth, and all that is between them, and all that is under the soil. And if you (O Muhammad, Allâh's Prayers and Peace be upon him), speak (the invocation) aloud, then verily, He Knows the secret and that which is yet more hidden. Allâh! Lâ illâha

***illa Huwa (none has the right to be worshipped but He)!
To Him belong the Best Names***﴾. (Tā-Hâ ,1-8).

‘Umar’s eyes are filled with tears and he says: Lead me to where Muhammad is.. And so Sa‘îd Ibn Zaid Ibn ‘Amr, may Allah be pleased with him, was a reason for ‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb becoming a Muslim and later a leader to the believers... He became an example to the followers in the path of truth throughout the years...

Sa‘îd Ibn Zaid Ibn ‘Amr immigrates and becomes one of the ten men promised to go to Paradise... These men were always in front of **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, in the conquests (to fight for Islam and defend it)... And they were also always behind him in *Salâh* (prayer)... Sa‘îd does not attend the battle of *Badr* for he and Talhah Ibn ‘Ubaidullah have been sent out to find out news about the *Quraish* caravan near *Shâ’m*... When they returned, the battle had ended... **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, comforted them by assuring them that they would still get some of the afterlife reward, and the booty of the war just as the men who attended the war...

During the battle of *‘Uhud*, he proves himself very courageous... He attends all the conquests with **Allah’s** Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,... He never stays behind... He continues carrying his sword, being a knight during the day and a monk at night... Even after the

Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, dies, he still takes part in all the battles... He was one of the men who fought in the battle of *Yarmûk*, and took part in the siege of *Damascus*...

When most of the immigrants and the *Ansâr* (supporters) die, good and worthy men are not appreciated anymore... Marwân Ibn Al Hakam rules over *Al-Madînah*. He is appointed by Mu'âwiyah Ibn 'Abî Sufyân.. He calls upon Sa'îd Ibn Zaid, that Muslim who was one of the earliest men to Islam, *Hijrah* and fighting for **Allah** ... He had never ruled over any land, or collected any levy from the people... He was that kind, contented man whose only concern was to fight in the Cause of **Allah**, and fulfils **Allah**'s word (In His book), the words he used to learn night and day... That pious worshipper whose prayers were accepted, and who was promised to go to Paradise by **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, ... For he was one of the ten men promised to go to Paradise...

Sa'îd goes to Marwân, and there he finds a woman called 'Arwah Bint 'Uways complaining against him saying: He has been unjust to me, he has taken my land... Sa'îd says: Do you think I could have been unjust to her, whilst I heard **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, saying: *"He who took a span of land unjustly would be made to wear around his neck seven earths on the day of*

Resurrection"¹.. Sa'îd prays to **Allah** saying: O **Allah**, make her blind if she has told a lie and make her grave in her house (own well)...

As time passes, the woman becomes blind... She cannot find her way around in her own home... In her home, there is a well... And she is dragged by her own feet to end up in the well and dies... And so the well becomes her grave, as Sa'îd Ibn Zaid Ibn 'Amr had prayed...

The people in *Al-Madînah* hear about that event, and so her story becomes a tale related around: May **Allah** blind him as He has blinded 'Arwah!!...

The doors of the Paradise are opened to welcome that contented fighter of **Allah** who had not been properly esteemed and ranked by the people...

His soul returns to its Creator when he is in his early seventies... 'Abdullah Ibn 'Umar and Sa'd Ibn 'Abî Waqqâs prepare for his *Ghusl* (washing to be buried), and his shrouding... They bury him in *Al Baqî'* beside the men who preceded him from the immigrants and the *Ansâr* (supporters)...

¹ As Al Bukhâri narrated that 'Â'ishah (may Allah be pleased with her) said.

A Good Deal Has Been Won 'Abâ Yahya Suhaib Ibn Sinân

May Allah be pleased with him

O people of *Quraish*... You know that I am one of the most skilful of archers amongst you... By **Allah**, you will never get to me until I throw you with every arrow I have, then I will hit you with my sword, or with whatever I have left in my hand... If you are after my money, I shall lead you to its place... They said: Then lead us to your money, and we shall set you free... They agreed to that, and he showed them where his money was...

That was what Suhaib Ibn Sinân -known as Suhaib *Ar-Rûmî* (Suhaib the Greek)- told the people of *Quraish* who had gone after him while he was going out of *Makkah*, trying to catch up with **Allah**'s Prophet in *Al-Madînah*, immigrating to him... Suhaib told them the truth about where his money was and they believed him... For Suhaib would not lie, as he was one of the earliest men to become a Muslim -while **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, was still at *Al 'Arqam*'s house inviting the people to Islam secretly-... Indeed, a believer would not lie, nor would he keep back his money in return for sacrificing his religion, or enforcing the immigration to **Allah** and His Prophet... He was a man who had endured suffering beyond what

any human can endure... He was one of the seven men who had declared themselves as Muslims in *Makkah* and was dressed in iron armours and left to burn in the sun... Suhaib and ‘Ammâr Ibn Yâsir had become Muslims on the same day, after over only thirty men had become Muslims...

As the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said about him, being the first of *Ar-Rûm* (Greeks) in Islam: *“The Preceding men are four... I am the preceding Arab, Suhaib is the preceding Ar-Rûm (Greek), Salmân is the preceding Persian and Bilâl is the preceding Ethiopian”*¹.

Suhaib Ibn Sinân joined **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, in *Qubâ'*, before entering *Al-Madînah* ... At the same time, Gabriel (*Jibrael*) had come down to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, with **Allah**'s words, concerning Suhaib and what he had done: ***﴿And of mankind is he who would sell himself, seeking the Pleasure of Allâh. And Allâh is full of Kindness to (His) slaves﴾***. (*Al-Baqarah* “The Cow”,207).

When Suhaib went to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, he was very pleased to see him, and smiled to him and

¹ As *Imâm* Ibn Al-Atheer narrated that Anas Ibn Mâlik (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

said: “A good deal has been won 'Abû Yahya... A good deal has been won 'Abû Yahya”¹...

Ever since, Suhaib became from *As-Suffah*² people who had dedicated themselves to learning the Qur'ân, worshipping **Allah**, and staying close to **Allah's** Prophet wherever he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, went... Suhaib joined in all the conquests including *Badr*, *'Uhud*, and *Al Khandaq*... Whenever **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, went out to war, he was with him... In every *Bai'ah* (pledge), he was also present... Even in every squadron, he was with him... In any conquest, he was on his right or on his left... Whenever the Muslims feared the enemy attacking from the front, he would go in front... And whenever they feared the enemy attacking them from the back, he would protect them from the back... Until **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, died, he always came between him, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and the enemy...

During the *Khilafat* (Caliphate) -Ruling time- of 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq and 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, may Allah be pleased with them, Suhaib remained as a worshipper, fighting in the

¹ Narrated by Tabarâni and Al-Byhaqî.

² *As-Suffah*: A shaded place in the Mosque of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, at *Al-Madînah* in which poor people (emigrants) used to take shelter.

Cause of **Allah**, carrying the Qur'ân in his heart and applying its rules... He relates **Allah's** Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, words: "*Whoever permits the prohibited in the Qur'ân, is not a believer in the Qur'ân*"¹... And so he was very careful in staying away from all that is prohibited in the Qur'ân... He was a generous, open-handed person with his money...

'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, may Allah be pleased with him, loved Suhaib dearly and was close to him... One day he goes to Suhaib saying: I can't find in you Suhaib any defects, except three things, without which, no one else would rank higher to me than you... I know you are an *Arab*, and yet you speak as a foreigner... You are nick-named 'Abâ Yahya and that is a Prophet's name... And you are extravagant with your money... Suhaib said: As for my extravagance, I have never spent it except in the right place... And as for my being nick-named 'Abâ Yahya, **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, named me by 'Abâ Yahya, therefore I would not change it... And finally for my being an *Arab*, *Ar-Rûm* (Greeks) had taken me as a slave in my youth, so I am influenced by their accent... I am proud to be a man from *An-Namr Ibn Qâssit* (An *Arab* tribe) with every part

¹ Narrated by At Tirmidhi.

of me, and I would not be ashamed to be a part of them in all their conditions...

‘Umar Ibn Al Khattâb’s special appreciation to Suhaib is apparent when ‘Umar is stabbed by ‘Abû Lu’lu’ah Al Magûsî and he appoints Suhaib to lead the people in prayer for three days, until the six men of *As-Shûrah* (consultation) choose a new *Khalifah* (Caliph)... And although Suhaib’s accent was rather foreign, he was still chosen as *Imâm* in prayer, and ‘Umar asked that when he died, Suhaib would also be *Imâm* in the funeral prayer... For he was one of the first men to become a Muslim, and one of the four preceding men in Islam who related from **Allah’s** Prophet’s, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, words: “*When the people of Paradise enter Paradise, and the people of Hell enter Hell a caller calls: O people of Paradise... You have a time to meet with Allah which He wishes to grant you... They say: And what is that?!... For haven’t Allah rewarded us, enriched our status, enlightened our faces, sent us to Paradise and brought us out of Hell?... Then the veil between Allah and them is set aside, so they look at Allah, Praise and Glory be to Him, nothing from all what they have been given is more loveable to them than just looking at Him... for that is the true abundance*”¹...

¹ Narrated by *Imâm* Ahmad.

Meaning what is mentioned in **Allah**'s words:

﴿For those who have done good is the best (reward, i.e. Paradise) and even more (i.e. having the honour of glancing at the Countenance of Allâh, Glory and Majesty,.....﴾. (Yânus "Jonah",26).

Death is near... Suhaib Ibn Sinân dies in the year 38 (thirty eight) of *Hijrah*... He is buried in *Baqî'* near **Allah**'s Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companions who have been well rewarded by **Allah**... When he died, he was 73 (seventy three) years old...

**The Living Martyr
Talhah Ibn ‘Ubaidullah**

May Allah be pleased with him

When **Allah**'s, Praise and Glory be to Him, words were sent:

﴿Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with Allâh [i.e. they have gone out for Jihâd (holy fighting), and showed not their backs to the disbelievers]; of them some have fulfilled their obligations (i.e. have been martyred); and some of them are still waiting, but they have never changed [i.e. they never proved treacherous to their covenant which they concluded with Allâh] in the least﴾. (Al-Ahzâb "The Confederates",23).

An *Arabian* went to **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and asked him: Who is that who has fulfilled his obligation?!... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, refrained... The man asked him again, **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, refrained again... He repeated the question for the third time, but still, **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, refrained... It was then that Talhah Ibn ‘Ubaidullah entered the mosque, wearing green clothes... When **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, saw him, he said: "*Where is the man who asked about the one who has fulfilled his obligation*"... The *Arabian* man said: It is

I, O Prophet of **Allah**... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"That is the man who has fulfilled his obligation"*¹...

Jâber Ibn 'Abdullah, may Allah be pleased with him, said that **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *"Whoever would like to see a martyr walking on his feet (Meaning alive), let him look at Talhah Ibn 'Ubaidullah"*²...

Talhah Ibn 'Ubaidullah *Al Qurashî* was from *Taym* tribe... It is 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq's, may Allah be pleased with him, tribe... 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq had taken him, when he was only twenty one years old by his hand to meet **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and he became a Muslim... He was one of the early Muslims, and one of the ten men promised to go to Paradise... He was also one of the six men of *As-Shûrah* (consultation) that 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb, may Allah be pleased with him, said about them: Before the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, died, he was pleased with them...

Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, established the bond of brotherhood between him and Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awâm in *Makkah* before *Hijrah*... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, then established the bond of brotherhood between

¹ Narrated by At Tirmidhi.

² Narrated by At Tirmidhi.

him and 'Abû 'Aiyûb Al 'Ansârî in *Al-Madînah* after *Hijrah*... When it was time for the battle of *Badr*, Talhah and Sa'îd Ibn Zaid were in a squadron near *Shâ'm*, trying to find out news about the caravan of *Quraish*, so they did not attend the battle... When Talhah returned, **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him: "*You shall take your share of the booty*"... Talhah said: And my reward in the hereafter too, O Prophet of **Allah**?!... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*And that reward also*"¹...

During the battle of *'Uhud*, Talha's main concern was to protect **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, by his own body... He used to take in the hits of the arrows in his own hands to prevent them from reaching **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, until his finger was paralysed... When **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, fell in a ditch, and was hurt, Talhah carried him, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, on his back, until he climbed over a rock, and kept protecting him, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and taking in the blows instead of him until he fainted... His body had over seventy wounds caused by stabbing, striking or shooting with arrows... When 'Abû Bakr and 'Abû 'Ubaidah Ibn Al Jarrâh rushed to **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, they found Talhah in his arms...

¹ Narrated by Ibn Hager Al-Asqalani.

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told them: "*Take care of your brother, Talhah's condition obliges you to do that*"¹... They took care of him, and carried him to *Al-Madînah* ...

Talhah witnessed all the conquests with Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, ... He witnessed *Bai'at-ul-Ridwân* (treaty)... On the day of *'Uhud*, Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, called him Talhah *Al Khair* (Meaning Talhah the one who brings good)... On *Al 'Usrah* day, He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, called him: "*Talhah Al Fayyâd*" (Meaning the abundant)... On *Hunain* day, he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, called him: "*Talhah Al Jûd*"² (Meaning the generous)...

When 'Uthmân Ibn 'Affân, may Allah be pleased with him, became *Khalifah* (Caliph), the people complained a lot about their rulers... Talhah was one of the people who objected to how 'Uthmân was acting... When 'Uthmân was murdered, Talhah regretted objecting him... He had not imagined that the opposition to 'Uthmân would lead to bloodshed... He went out with Az-Zubair Ibn Al 'Awâm and 'Â'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, seeking revenge for 'Uthmân...

¹ As At Tirmidhi narrated that Az-Zubair (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

² Narrated Gamî' Al Fawaid.

Then it was the battle of *Al Jamal*... ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib sends for Az-Zubair and Talhah to speak to them... ‘Alî reminded them of certain matters, and blamed them, so they decided to go back to *Al-Madînah* and refrain from fighting... But some of the people who wanted the chaos to stay on, were not happy about that... So, Ibn Jarmûz killed Az-Zubair while he was praying in one of the roads... Another man threw Talhah Ibn ‘Ubaidullah by an arrow in his knee, until it severely bled... Whenever people tried to hold the wound, his leg would become swollen... And if they removed their hands from the wound, the bleeding would start again ... So Talhah said: Leave it, for that is an arrow that **Allah** has sent... O **Allah**, take to ‘Uthmân from me until You please... He bled to death... When he died, he was sixty years old and some...

When ‘Alî Ibn ‘Abî Tâlib was informed about his death, he stood by him weeping, and saying: It is so hard for me, O Muhammad’s father, to see you murdered, and lying here under the stars of the sky... Then he said: It is to **Allah** that I confess how sad and distressed I am... I wish I would have died twenty years before witnessing that day... For I have heard **Allah**’s Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, by my own ears saying: “*Talhah and Az-Zubair*

*are my neighbours in Paradise”¹... By Allah, I do hope that I, Talhah, ‘Uthmân and Az-Zubair, shall be from the ones that Allah said about them: **﴿And We shall remove from their breasts any deep feeling of bitterness (that they may have). (So they will be like) brothers facing each other on thrones﴾**. (Al-Hijr “The Rocky Tract”,47).*

By that, we notice how they all regretted their disputes, which was misused by the people who encouraged chaos... Those people who survive only amongst hatred and evil... That is the only way we can explain what happened amongst these men... These special men who were all promised to go to Paradise: ‘Alî, ‘Uthmân, Talhah and Az-Zubair, may Allah be pleased with them, . . . What came between them, was that their differences were exposed to the public; the public being men who cannot conceive the chaos that could result of such differences... And also probably, amongst these men, were men who were against Islam; all these factors led to all the fighting and all the killing that took place in the Islamic nation which was unnecessary... It could have been all resolved, had these special men involved, discussed matters privately, and solved all their differences quietly...

¹ Narrated by At Tirmidhi.

Sa'd Ibn 'Abi Waqqâs heard a man insulting 'Alî, Talhah, and Az-Zubair, so he told him: Do not insult my brothers... But the man did not stop... Sa'd prayed two *Rak'ahs*, and said: O **Allah**... If he displeases you by what he says... then let me see him suffer from a disease (or a punishment), and let him be a lesson for the people to learn from... As soon as that man went out, a camel with a long neck was pushing its way amongst the crowds, as if looking for something in particular; it came towards that man, attacked him, stepped on him, and squeezed him, until the man died... All the people around him were looking in amazement... They followed Sa'd Ibn 'Abi Waqqâs telling him: Rejoice 'Abâ 'Ishak, your prayer has been accepted...

As time passes, a man sees Talhah Ibn 'Ubaidullah in his sleep telling him: Move me from my grave, I have been harmed by water... The man sees the same vision three times... He goes to Ibn 'Abbâs relating to him what he saw... They all go to the grave, to find that the water had penetrated the grave, so they moved Talhah from that grave to a new one... The narrator says: It was as if I could still see the *Kâfûr* (Camphor) in his eyes... It seemed that nothing had happened to his body, except that his braid had been slightly moved...

His pure body is placed in the new grave as if he is just sleeping for a while, without being affected by the dust of the ground... For he did not perish, and shall not perish till the Judgment Day... For **Allah's** Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, words are the truth when he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: *“Whoever would like to see a martyr, walking on his feet, let him look at Talhah Ibn ‘Ubaidullah”...*

The Best Qur'ân Reader

'Ubaî Ibn Ka'b

May Allah be pleased upon him

When the *Ansâr* (supporters) gave the pledge of allegiance to **Allah's** Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, during their first solemn pledge of *Al-'Aqabah* in *Makkah* before the *Hijrah* (Immigration), 'Ubaî Ibn Ka'b was amongst these men. And when Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair arrived to *Al-Madînah* to teach people their religion, and teach them the Qur'ân, he was from the closest men to him. For his love to Qur'ân was like blood running in his veins, and he had a good voice, and read well. In the following year, 'Ubaî Ibn Ka'b returned with the *Ansâr* (supporters) for the second solemn pledge of *Al-'Aqabah* ...

And after the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, immigrated to *Al-Madînah*, 'Ubaî Ibn Ka'b was the first to write him what the angel Gabriel (*Jibrael*) told him.. One day, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, called upon him and said: "**Allah has ordered me to recite to you**"¹: ***Those who disbelieve from among the people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians) and Al-Mushrikûn, were not going to leave (their disbelief) until there came to them clear***

¹ As At-Tirmidhi narrated that Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

evidence﴾.(*Al-Bayyinah*:“The Clear Evidence”,1).. ’Ubaî said: Has he mentioned my name?.. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: “Yes”... On hearing this, ’Ubaî started weeping.. So one of the *Sahâbah* (companion) asked him: Did that make you happy?.. He answered: What should prevent me when Allah says: ﴿Say: “**In the Bounty of Allâh, and in His Mercy (i.e. Islâm and the Qur’ân);- therein let them rejoice.” That is better than what (the wealth) they amass**﴾.(*Yûnus* “Jonah,58).

’Ubaî Ibn Ka’b stays close to the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, and does not depart from him in travel, nor inside the country. He joins him in all his conquests. He divides his time between fighting in Allah’s Cause , and trying his best to learn the Qur’ân and learn its rules, until the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, gave him the permission to give out advice concerning religious matters. He was one of three supporters who had this right during the time of the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him,: ’Ubaî Ibn Ka’b, Zaid Ibn Thâbit, and Mu’âdh Ibn Jabal. He was also one of the four people recommended by the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, as a man to take the Qur’ân from: ’Ubaî Ibn Ka’b, ‘Abdullah Ibn Mas’ûd, Mu’âdh Ibn Jabal, and Sâlim

Mawlah (the freed slave of) 'Abî Hudhaifah¹... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, had declared that he was the best man to read the Qur'ân in the nation, for he said: "The most tender man to my nation is 'Abû Bakr, and the most attendant to **Allah**'s religion is 'Umar, and the most sincerely bashful is 'Uthmân, and the most knowledgeable in Halâl (lawful) and Harâm (unlawful) in religion is Mu'âdh Ibn Jabal, and the most knowledgeable to the rules of inheritance in Islam is Zaid Ibn Thâbit, and the best man who reads the Qur'ân is 'Ubaî Ibn Ka'b, and every nation has an Amîn (i.e. the most honest man), and the Amîn of this nation is 'Abû 'Ubaida Ibn Al Jarrâh"²...

One day, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, asked him: "Which is the greatest verse in **Allah**'s great book?!" He said: Only **Allah** and His Prophet know.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, repeated the question two more times.. So 'Ubaî said: The verse *Al Kursî*, O Prophet of **Allah**.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, hit him with his hand on his chest and said: "You are a benefit to knowledge 'Abâ Al Mundhir"³. And so, from that time he

¹ As At-Tirmidhi narrated that Ibn 'Amr Ibn Al-'Âs (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

² As At-Tirmidhi narrated that Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

³ Narrated by *Imâm* Muslim.

was called 'Abû Al Mundhir as a nickname to that respectable *Sahâbî* (companion) of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,.

'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb used to call him 'Abû Al Tufayl as his son's name was Tufayl... He said about him: 'Ubaî Ibn Ka'b is the master amongst Muslims.

When 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb became a *Khalîfah* (Caliph), and the Muslims started praying during the night in *Ramadân*¹ in the *Jamâ'ah* (congregation), he ordered that 'Ubai Ibn Ka'b leads them in the prayer as he was the best Qur'ân reader. He used to read all the Qur'ân during the *Tarâwîh*². The learners of the Qur'ân, plus the *Sahâbah* (companions), and the followers would learn from him and correct their way of reading to his.

And until the day of judgment, every Qur'ân reader will benefit something from 'Ubaî Ibn Ka'b's reading, and that will be granted to him in his book of good deeds, without lessening the good deeds of the reader himself.

¹ *Ramadân*: The month of observing *Saum* (fasts). It is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar.

² *Tarâwîh*: Optional *Salât* (prayers) offered after the '*Ishâ*' prayers on the nights of *Ramadân*. These may be performed individually or in congregation.

Recite, O Ibn Hudair
'Usaid Ibn Hudair
May Allah be pleased with him,

He left his house intending to fight, with his weapon in his hand. He was heading to 'As'ad Ibn Zurârah's house. He wanted to end this nonsense caused by the man coming from *Makkah*... Inviting people to a new religion.. Gathering around him the young men of *Al-Madînah* from the tribe of *Banî 'Abdul-'Ashal*, affecting them by his simple logic, and the splendor of his words... When he got to them and entered furiously, the anger was reflecting harshly from his eyes.. Everybody left quickly as they all feared and respected him... For he was one of the leaders of *Banî 'Abdul-'Ashal*, and one of its wise men known for his wise opinions.

Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair did not move from his place, for he had come to *Al Madînah* according to the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, orders to teach its people religion, and teach them Qur'ân. He was not the man to be afraid or retreat from his mission while he had borne so much suffering in *Makkah*, more than humans could bear.. With no introduction, 'Usaid Ibn Hudair told Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair as he was waving his spear towards him insultingly: Get out of our city to where you came from, or

stop talking... Because your words have damaged our young men's minds.. So Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair said: Would you sit and listen to me?!... If you consent to it take it, and if you dislike it, we will not impose it on you...'Usaid Ibn Hudair said: Fair enough.. Say what you have.. He put down his weapon and sat down. Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair started reading from the Qur'ân what pierced his heart and delighted his chest... He became a Muslim at once and said: How good and beautiful that is... What do you do to enter this religion?! Mus'ab said: Clean your body and your garment and say: I testify that none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah** and that Muhammad is the Messenger of **Allah**.

'Usaid Ibn Hudair hurried to his house, washed up, cleaned himself, put on cleaned purified clothes, and declared the *Shahâdah*: I testify that none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah** and that Muhammad is the Messenger of **Allah**. He then returned to 'As'ad Ibn Zurârah's house to hear from Mus'ab Ibn 'Umair more of the Qur'ân, ask him about Islamic laws, and inquire about *Halâl* and *Harâm* (lawful and unlawful). He stayed with him day and night until the time of the second solemn pledge of *Al-'Aqabah* after a year... He was a representative to *Banî 'Abdul-'Ashal* consenting and

giving the pledge of allegiance to **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, on their behalf and on himself too...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, immigrated to *Al Madînah Al Munawwarah*. In *Al Madînah*, the houses of *Banî 'Abdul-'Ashal* were opened to the immigrants... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, established the bond of brotherhood between 'Usaid Ibn Hudair and Zaid Ibn Hârithah in Islam; the freed slave and loved one of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, 'Usaid took him in at his house and shared with him his money and his food..

'Usaid Ibn Hudair was one of the best people who could read the Qur'ân... He would pray at night, reading from the Qur'ân... One night, he read *Sûrat Al Baqarah* (The Cow) and his son Yahia was lying by his side. He was a young boy then, his horse which he had ridden during the battles was tied at the door. The horse started moving in a harsh and abrupt way, and started making sounds that 'Usaid could hear, so he stopped reading... The horse stopped its movement and the sounds... When he started reading again, the horse went back to the same thing, so he stopped reading... The horse stopped, and then he started reading, so the horse started too... He then went outside to have a look, and he was worried about his son also, but he didn't find anything wrong... He looked up to the sky and he saw something like a cloud containing what looked like

lamps,... He was taken aback... He stopped reading till the next morning, he went to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and told him what had happened. So, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him: "*Recite, O 'Abâ Yahia*" (Yahia's father)... 'Usaid said: When I read, the horse was startled.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Recite, 'Abâ Hudair*" (Hudair's father).. So, he said: I read, and lifted my head to find what seemed like a cloud containing what looked like lamps, so I was taken aback... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Those were Angels who came near to you for your voice, and if you had kept on reciting till dawn, it would have remained there till morning when people would have seen it as it would not have disappeared*"¹.. 'Usaid Ibn Hudair lived far away from the mosque, but he was very prompt in attending the prayers with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,... When he returned home after '*Ishâ*'², his walking stick lit the way for him... One day, 'Abbâd Ibn Bishr returned home with him, so they both walked guided by the light of the walking stick... When they were separated, each in his way, 'Abbâd Ibn Bishr's walking stick lit also, so they were both known amongst the *Sahâbah*

¹ Narrated by Al Estiaab.

² '*Ishâ*': Late evening *Salât* (prayer).

(Companions) as: The owners of the two lighted sticks during the dark nights...

'Usaid Ibn Hudair witnessed all the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, conquests with him, and did not stay back during any of them, and he joined in all the conquests with 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq. He also witnessed conquering and opening *Bait-u-Maqdis* (The House of Jerusalem) with 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb...

He, may Allah be pleased with him, was from the most beloved people to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him. He said about him: "*What a good man 'Usaid Ibn Hudair is*"¹... 'Usaid also loved the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, family. He stood well during the *Al-'Ifk*² incident, and in the day of the Divine verse of *Tayamum*³ was revealed, when he told 'Â'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, O family of 'Abû Bakr!.. That is not the first blessings of yours..

He was also firm in giving the pledge of allegiance to 'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq, may Allah be pleased with him, to become *khalîfah* (Caliph), when *Ansâr* (Supporters) met at *Saqîfat* (The shed) *Banî Sâ'idah* after the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and

¹ As At-Tirmidhi narrated that 'Abû Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) said.

² *Al-'Ifk*: The story of the forged statement against 'Â'ishah which the hypocrites said.

³ *Al-Tayamum*: performed instead of ablution (*Wudû'*) and *Ghusl* (in case of *Janabah*).

Peace be upon him, death and they told the immigrants: There should be one *'Âmir* (ruler) from us, and one from you...

He abode by the vow, was obedient to the *Khulafâ'* (Successors) acting upon what the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, told him and told the supporters: "*You will see after me, selfishness (on the part of other people) and other matters that you will disapprove of*". They asked: What do you order us to do, O Allah Prophet? (under such circumstances).. He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Be patient till you meet me at Al-Hawd (Lake-Fount-Kauthar)*"¹...

He, may Allah be pleased with him, died in *Sha'bân*² in the twenty years of *Hijrah*... 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb carried him in his funeral till he buried him in *Baqî'*, and lead his funeral prayer.

¹ Narrated by Al Bukhâri and Muslim.

² *Sha'bân*: The eight month of Islamic calendar.

The Beloved, The Son Of The Beloved
'Usâmah Ibn Zaid
May Allah be pleased with him,

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, entered *Makkah* victoriously, riding his camel *Al-Qaswâ*¹, looking down humbly to **Allah's**, Praise and Glory be to Him, power. He was surrounded by ten thousand fighters. On the camel behind him, rode a black young boy, snub-nosed, whose age would not exceed 18 years old... And when the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, entered the *Ka'bah*, he entered with him and closed the door... When he came out, he came out with him... The people gathered around him and asked: Did the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, pray inside the *Ka'bah*, and how many *Rak'ahs* did he pray?. That young boy is 'Usâmah Ibn Zaid the beloved, the son of the beloved.

'Â'ishah, 'Um *Al-Mu'minîn* (the mother to all believers), may Allah be pleased with her, says: 'Usâmah stumbled at the edge of the door, and was cut in his face... So, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*Remove from him the traces of the damage*". I was somewhat disgusted of him, so the

¹ *Al-Qaswâ*: The name of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, she-camel.

Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, kept sucking and spitting his blood and said: *"If 'Usâmah was a slave girl, I would have clothed him and taken care of him till he completely recovered"*¹.

That was when he was still a young boy. He was loved by the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and enjoyed his tenderness towards him... He was the son of a marriage between Zaid Ibn Hârithah the man loved by the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and 'Um 'Ayman (named Barakah) an *Ethiopian* woman who was one of the women who helped in the bringing up of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,... So, he was the beloved, the son of the beloved...

The people knew how much the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, loved 'Usâmah, so when they needed anything from the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, they would go to 'Usâmah...

One day, a woman called Fâtimah Al Makhzûmiyah committed a theft, her family feared that the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, might order her hand to be cut off, so they discussed the matter amongst them saying: Who can intercede with the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, for her?... And who will try to ask for her mercy of him for

¹ Narrated by Ibn Sa'd.

her sake?... For she has confessed of her sin and repented... But they could not find anyone daring to do this task, so they said: Nobody dared to do that but the beloved, the son of the beloved, 'Usâmah Ibn Zaid.. But, when 'Usâmah went to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, trying to ask for his mercy upon her -he was still a young boy- then, he could not appreciate the seriousness of the situation.. The Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, reply was: "*In one of Allah's rules 'Usâmah?!!... In one of Allah's rules 'Usâmah?!!*". Then, he spoke to the public saying: "*By Allah, I would cut even the hand of Fâtimah (i.e. the daughter of the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him.) if she committed a theft*"¹.

Then the people understood there was no mercy concerning Allah's rules. If the matter reaches the ruler, then there is no mercy concerning the punishment. But, if the matter had not yet reached the ruler, then the person attacked could then have mercy on the guilty one, if he pleased.

When Zaid Ibn Hârithah ('Usâmah's father) was killed during the battle of *Mu'tah*, and he was a leader to the

¹ As Al-Bukhâri and Muslim narrated that 'Â'ishah (may Allah be pleased with her) said.

army, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, grieved to a great extent...

After some time, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, ordered that an army goes out to teach *Al-Rûm* (Romans) a lesson, and he made 'Usâmah Ibn Zaid its leader. At that time, he had not yet reached the age of twenty, and in the army were older people like 'Abû Bakr, 'Umar, 'Uthmân, and 'Alî... So, some of the hypocrites and the weak believers started grumbling about that amongst themselves till the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, heard about the matter, so he gave a speech saying: *"If you are criticising 'Usâmah's leadership, you used to criticise his father's leadership before. By Allah! He was worthy of leadership and was one of the dearest persons to me, and (now) this (i.e. 'Usâmah) is one of the dearest to me after him (i.e. Zaid)"*¹...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, faces his death illness, so the army is delayed in starting off, and the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, demands before his death: *"Let 'Usâmah go out as I ordered"*²...

'Abû Bakr As-Siddîq became *khalifah* (caliph) and carries out the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, will. When he

¹ As At-Tirmidhi narrated that Ibn 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with them) said.

² Narrated by At-Tabâri.

goes to bid the army farewell, he goes walking while 'Usâmah is riding on his horse, so 'Usâmah says: O *khalîfah* (successor) to **Allah**'s Prophet, either you ride, or I come down from my horse... But 'Abû Bakr refuses to ride, or that 'Usâmah gets off his horse and says: It wouldn't do me any harm if my feet were dusted while I took some steps in **Allah**'s Cause... Then he takes 'Usâmah's permission that 'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb would stay (behind from the battle) to help him carry out the *Khilâfah* (ruling) matters together.. 'Usâmah grants him that permission.. 'Usâmah's army returns after fulfilling his target successfully, and without victims...The people then commented: We have not seen an army more peaceful than that of 'Usâmah.

'Umar Ibn Al Khattâb became *khalifah* (caliph) and he loves 'Usâmah and keeps him close to him. He is more generous to him than to his own son 'Abdullah Ibn 'Umar and when 'Abdullah complains about it by telling his father: O leader of the believers, you have preferred 'Usâmah to me and I have gone through difficulty with you that he had not witnessed?...

'Umar said: 'Usâmah was more beloved to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, than you, and his father was more beloved to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, than your father...

Days pass by, and ‘Alī Ibn ‘Abī Tâlib became *khalifah* (caliph), and the clash takes place between him and Mu‘âwiyah Ibn ‘Abī Sufyân. ‘Usâmah stays away from that, and does not join either of them... and when ‘Alī blames him for that he says: By **Allah**, if you put your hand in the mouth of a monster, I would put mine also, but you heard what the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said when I killed that man who declared the *Shahâdah* (I testify that none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah**)... For I was in the battle and I saw a non believer (in field) killing the Muslims, so I and one of *Ansâr* (Supporters) attacked him. We pointed our weapons to kill him, he said: (I testify that none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah**). And we still killed him. When we went to the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, we told him about it, so he said: “O ‘Usâmah... *Why did you not regard the words (None has the right to be worshipped but Allah?!)*”... So I said: O Prophet of **Allah**, he just said it to save himself from our killing him... So the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: “O ‘Usâmah, *why did you not regard the words (None has the right to be worshipped but Allah?!)*”... And By Him Who sent him with the Truth, he kept repeating these words until I wished that I would become a Muslim once more, and that what had passed from my days as a Muslim were not worth

considering...So I said: I make a vow to **Allah** never to kill a man who says (I testify that none has the right to be worshipped but **Allah**)...'Usâmah stayed away from the sedition. He never put up his sword against any Muslim until he died, may Allah be pleased with him, which was during the later part of Mu'âwiyah Ibn 'Abî Sufyân's ruling period. He was buried in *Baqî'* beside the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, companions from the immigrants and supporters.

Allah's Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, **Loved**

One

Zaid Ibn Hârithah

May Allah be pleased with him

Zaid's father composes verses about his lost son saying (In meaning):

I cry upon Zaid, for I do not know
if he is dead or alive...

Even if he has died, I do not know if he died on land or on
a high mountain...

If only my poem would bring back time,
And bring back Zaid...

That would mean the world to me...

I remember Zaid whenever the sun shines,
And whenever it sets...

With the blowing wind, I remember Zaid also...

I feel my sadness and my fear towards him...

I will keep looking for Zaid,
Riding my camels and horses...

Neither I, nor they will give up...

This life is ending for everyone...

For we shall all die,

Even if we hope to be everlasting...

After I die, I ask my other sons,
Qays, ‘Amr, Yazîd and Jabal...
To be good to him, if they find him...
These sorrowful lines take us back to the day when Su‘dah
Bint Taghlabah went out with her young boy Zaid to visit
her family... Su‘dah arrives safely to her family’s
hometown with her son Zaid, who is growing up safely
amongst his mother’s family... But an evil tribe attacks
them one day, and they snatch Zaid away... They sell him
in ‘Ukâz market... A man called Hakîm Ibn Huzâm buys
him, and sells him to his cousin Khadîjah Bint Khuwaylid
and she -in turns- gives him as a gift to her husband
Muhammad Ibn ‘Abdullah...
Su‘dah Bint Taghlabah returns to her husband Hârithah
Ibn Sharâhîl feeling very sad, and weeps for her son...
The father’s grief increases... He takes off, looking for his
lost son who has not even become eight yet... He is in
deep longing for his son... He spreads out his sad poems
everywhere until some caravans spread it in *Makkah*...
Zaid hears it, and understands it concerns him... He tells
the people who relate the verses: If you return to your
homes, return with my verses too... He says in his verses
(meaning):
I do miss my people as I am far away from them...
But I am living in a special place,

I live in Holy land...
So, do stop this sorrow that has affected you...
There is no reason for your sadness...
Thanks be to **Allah**, I live amongst a worthy family...
Who has been known through?
The generations for their good roots...
The tribe hears the words of Zaid Ibn Hâarithah, and they
memorise them... They return to his people with it...
When Zaid's father hears it, he is so overwhelmed... He
heads to *Makkah* with his brother Ka'b Ibn Sharâhîl... For
it is time to meet his lost, dearly beloved... The brothers
reach *Makkah*, they inquire about Zaid's location... They
learn that he is staying with the truthful and honest
Muhammad Ibn 'Abdullah... They go to him and tell him:
O son of 'Abdul Muttalib, son of *Banî Hâshim*, son of the
masters of the tribe... You are the people of the House of
Allah; you help the distressed, and you feed the captive...
We have come to you for our son who stays with you, so
be kind to us, and ask what you want (as ransom) for him..
Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him,
said: "*May I suggest otherwise?*".. They said: And what is
that?!.. The Prophet Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon
him, said: "*Call him and let him choose; if he chooses
you, then he is yours with nothing in return (ransom)...
But if he chooses me, let his choice be done and not*

mine”.. They said: You have spoken well, and you are more generous to us in your offer than what we asked for.. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, called upon Zaid and said: “*Do you know these people?!*”.. Zaid said: Yes, that is my father, and that is my uncle.. The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: “*And I am the man you have known, and you have lived my companionship to you... Therefore, choose me, or choose them*”.. -The Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, had not been declared yet as a Prophet- Zaid said: I am not the one to prefer anyone to you... To me, you are father and uncle.. His father and uncle said: *Waihaka* O Zaid... Do you choose slavery over freedom, and over your own father and family?!.. Zaid said: Yes, I could never prefer anyone to him.. When the prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, saw Zaid’s action and his words, he took him by his hand to the *Ka’bah* where the elite people of *Quraish* gathered, and announced: “*To who is present here, witness that I declare Zaid as my son, he inherits me, and I inherit him*”... When his father and uncle heard that, they felt reassured, and so returned to their country... Since then, Zaid had been called upon as *Zaid Ibn Muhammad* (Zaid, son of Muhammad)... For adopting

was allowed in *Jâhiliya* (pre-Islamic time), until **Allah**'s, Praise and Glory be to Him, words in Islam revealed: **﴿Call them (adopted sons) by (the names of) their fathers: that is more just with Allâh. But if you know not their father's (names, call them) your brothers in faith and Mawâlîkum (your freed slaves). And there is no sin on you concerning that in which you made a mistake, except in regard to what your hearts deliberately intend. And Allâh is Ever Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful﴾.** (*Al-Ahzâb* "The Confederates",5).

Once more Zaid's name was changed to Zaid Ibn Hârithah, but amongst *Sahâbah* (Companions), he was known as (Zaid, the loved one)... Zaid was the first to become a Muslim, after the honourable Khadijah, may **Allah** be pleased with her,... In most references, it is mentioned that he became a Muslim even before 'Abû Bakr As-Siddiq, may Allah be pleased with him,... He, may Allah be pleased with him, was the most beloved of men to **Allah**'s Prophet Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and the nearest to his heart... 'Â'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, says: Whenever **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, sent Zaid in a squadron, he appointed him as its leader... Had he lived, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, would have even nominated him as *khaliphah* (Caliph) after him...

Zaid, knowing how much he meant to the Prophet Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, longed to become an in-law with the Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, family... Zaid asked Allah's Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, if he could marry his honourable and precious cousin Zainab Bint Jahsh... She was most pious and respected amongst *Quraish* girls.. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, goes to Zainab to fulfil the wish of his beloved Zaid... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells her about the proposal.. She replies: O Prophet of Allah... Are you ordering or asking me!!.. He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, said: "*I am asking you*".. She refuses this marriage... Her brother 'Abdullah Ibn Jahsh also refuses... For they were totally incompatible... For how could that noble, high classed lady marry one who had been a slave!!...

Before the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, announces to Zaid that Zainab has refused him, Gabriel (*Jibrael*) comes down with these Divine verses: ***﴿It is not for a believer, man or woman, when Allâh and His Messenger have decreed a matter that they should have any option in their decision...﴾.*** (*Al-Ahzâb* "The Confederates",36).

Zainab hears the verses and says: I obey **Allah** and His Prophet... For it is clarified later that Zaid is not only loved by **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, but he is also loved by **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, for his name alone has been mentioned in the Qur'ân, whilst the rest of the companions were not mentioned by name... And even the names of the different Messengers' companions were not mentioned... His name; every letter of it has become a part of **Allah**'s words in the Qur'ân, only to be touched by the pure...

﴿...So when Zaid had accomplished his desire from her (i.e. divorced her), We gave her to you in marriage,...﴾.

(*Al-Ahzâb* "The Confederates",37).

Time passes, and Zaid wants to end this marriage, he goes to the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, asking him the permission to divorce Zainab ... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, tells him: "*Behold your wife*"... Until **Allah**'s word reveals to allow divorce, and that **Allah**'s Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, would marry Zainab, and she would become one of the mothers of the believers, may Allah be pleased with her,.. By that, Islam through **Allah**'s word-allowed that a man would marry his adopted son's previous wife... For that was prohibited in *Jâhiliya* (pre-Islamic time)...

Zaid Ibn Hârithah was a monk at night and a knight during the day... He never stayed back in any of **Allah**'s Prophet's, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, conquests... Before the battle of *Mu'tah* near *Shâ'm*, the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, got to know that Hercules had prepared an army to invade the Muslim lands... The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, wanted to send an army to meet Hercules in *Mu'tah*... That was during the eighth year of *Al Hijrah*... He, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, appointed Zaid Ibn Hârithah as the leader of the army and said: "*If Zayd is killed, then the leader is Ja'far Ibn 'Abî Tâlib... If Ja'far is killed, then the leader is 'Abdullah Ibn Rawâhah*"¹... The army goes out, fighting for Islam, and for stopping the enemy in their own land, before they dare approach or invade the Muslim's land... During the battle, Zaid Ibn Hârithah is killed as a martyr... Ja'far leads the army, but is also killed as a martyr... 'Abdullah Ibn Rawâhah leads the army, but he dies as a martyr also... Gabriel (*Jibrael*) comes down to inform the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, about his three companions being killed as martyrs, and that Khâlid

¹ Narrated by Urwah Ibn Az-Zubair (may Allah be pleased be with them) and Sirat Ibn Heshâm.

Ibn Al Walîd has taken over, and **Allah** has granted him victory...

The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, goes out to his companions; his eyes filled with tears, saying:

*"My brothers, my intimate companions, the men I enjoyed talking to"*¹ ... Meaning Zaid Ibn Hârithah and Ja'far Ibn 'Abî Tâlib,

May **Allah** be pleased with them.

¹ Al Estiaab and Az-Zubair

And now, dear reader, you may have spent some moments with unique samples of human being with: strong faith, undoubtful certitude, complete obedience and ultimate love for the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, true religious brotherhood, a rare sort of courage, patience in times of injury unheard of, asceticism and a desire for **Allah's** rewards.

All these qualities were found in over thirty men at the start of Islam in *Makkah* which at that time had no organized army, police force or government. It had over ten chiefs of tribes whose homes were not fortified and had no guards.. Their weapons were nothing more than swords, spears and arrows. These men tortured the Muslims in a way no human could stand. They burnt them, whipped them, forbade them to eat or drink and left them to burn in the hot sun. It was such a pagan society that **Allah** has denounced in His Holy Book.

Islam preaches justice, charity and giving the nearest relations. Islam prohibits atrocious sins, evil and injustice. The Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, demands truthfulness good relations, purity

goodness with parents and kindness with neighbours. These are matters which better man, reform the society and make people live in peace and security where the rich help the poor and the older looks after the younger.

However, a pressing question arises: Why did the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, and the *Sahâbah* (companions) endure both injury for thirteen years and life in a corrupt society?!.. And why didn't the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, order these men, who shielded him with their own bodies and said to him: Let my parents be sacrificed for you, O **Allah's** Prophet,.. Or: Let my father and mother be sacrificed for you, O **Allah's** Prophet,.. And why didn't he, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, order these men to kill the chiefs of *Quraish*, the heads of paganism anytime during day or night?!.. Why didn't he conquer *Makkah* and establish an Islamic reign?!.. Why didn't he order these men to kidnap the pagan women and children to keep them hostages and bargain with them?!.. Why did the Prophet, Allah's Prayers and Peace be upon him, wait till the confrontation at battle of *Badr* a year and a half after *Hijrah*, where the chiefs of *Makkah*, the heads of paganism, were killed in a brave dual?!..

This is because Islam is not a religion of deceit or betrayal and because the Muslim followers were not after power or worldly pleasure. This is because Islam is a religion of reason and choice not of suppression and authority.. A religion that depends mainly on the conscience and sincerity of its followers. It is a Muslim state where Muslims are like shining stars guiding people to good behaviour not terrorists or murderers. These Muslims obey **Allah** openly and in secret, they do not rob people of their money or even water. They deal with people according to what they show not what they hide in their hearts or what they intend to do- they leave this to **Allah** who knows what is hidden in their hearts. It is a religion of worshipers who have complete trust in each other; they do not accuse anybody without evidence. It is the religion of a state based on forgiveness, love and mercy, a religion that spreads in the world because of the good morals and behavior of its followers not by violence or terrorism.

And **Allâh** says: *«There is no compulsion in religion. Verily, the Right Path has become distinct from the wrong path. Whoever*

disbelieves in Tâghût¹ and believes in Allâh, then he has grasped the most trustworthy handhold that will never break. And Allâh is All-Hearer, All-Knower ﴿. (Al-Baqarqh, “The Cow”, 256).

And the Prophet, Allah’s Prayers and Peace be upon him, said:

“But I was sent to achieve and accomplish the nobles traits of character”

“A Muslim is the one who does not harm Muslims with his tongue or his hands, the believer is the one whom people can entrust with their lives and their goods, and a Muhajir (an emigrant who emigrates to safeguard his faith) is the one who abandons all that Allah has forbidden”.

¹ The word *Tâghût* covers a wide range of meaning: It means anything worshipped other than the Real God (**Allah**), i.e all the false deities. It may be Satan, devils, idols, stones, sun, stars, and angels, human beings e.g Messengers of **Allah**, who were falsely worshipped and taken as *Tâghûts*. Likewise saints, graves, rulers, leaders, etc., are falsely worshipped and wrongly followed. Sometimes *Tâghût* means a false judge who gives as false judgment.

Islam is a simple and pleasant heavenly system, let us delve in the treasure of this religion to try and understand what it has to convey to us.

With the help of **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, we have finally succeeded in publishing the books of the great Islamic preacher, **Yassin Roushdy**, who has spent more than twenty years promulgating Islam, and as a contribution from his part to all Muslims around the world, he gave up his rights to take any profit in return for these books or video and cassette tapes, are distributed either as a gift, or for their cost price, so as to make his earning entirely for the sake of **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him,. May **Allah** accept his efforts as well as ours, and reward us all with the best of rewards in this world and in the Hereafter. All praise and thanks be to **Allah**, Praise and Glory be to Him, with Whose aid and blessings we have succeeded in publishing this series of books.