

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيُرِضِّي بَانْ يُصْلِلُ عَلَيْهِ

Allah Almighty, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah Almighty, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon
His Beloved Messenger – *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* – his family & his
companions – *may Allah be pleased with them all*

Bravery in front of an Emperor

The following is an account of that person who received his special training under the guidance of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - through the Madressah which was established in Madina Shareef.

It was the behaviour of the Muslim Mujahideen that they displayed immense bravery when they entered the land of any of their enemies. In fact, their intention was never to back down or retreat in any battle. In fact, they used to place such immense pressure on their enemies that on most occasions, their enemies were forced to retreat. In this manner, on numerous occasions, immense wealth and booty came into the hands of the Muslims.

Once, Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - sent a battalion towards Rome. Among the soldiers, there was a brave young soldier whose name was Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Huzaifah Sahmi - *may Allah be pleased with him*. It was also seen that in any battle the fortunes of both armies used to change as the battle progressed. However, such was the Divine Intent of the Allah Almighty that in this specific battle a few brave Muslims had to become

prisoners. After the battle, all of these brave Muslims were then presented to the Emperor of Rome tied in chains.

The Emperor could also see that in front of him stood a very brave looking young man, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Huzaifah Sahmi - *may Allah be pleased with him*. His face was unlike the faces of other prisoners which had been captured in the past. There was no sign of weakness or fear in the eyes of the young man. The Emperor had already heard about the amazing qualities of the blessed Ashaab and their amazing steadfastness in the face of immense odds. At the same time, he also had a great urge to meet one of them face to face. He now had the opportunity of doing so. He then decided to test the young Muslim who stood in front of him and wanted to see for himself whether the amazing stories which had heard were actually true.

He then said to Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him*, "If you accept Christianity, then I will make you a partner in my kingdom. I will also give you untold riches." His intention was to purchase the allegiance of the blessed companion with all of these immense gifts which had presented. However, ultimately, he was only going to see failure and nothing else.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - completely refused to accept any of this for the sake of his religion. As a matter of fact, where there is complete Imaan running in the veins of someone, that is someone who would always negate any wordly objects being thrown at him as a bribe. He will never be prepared to sell his Imaan for any price.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Huzaifah Sahmi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then shook his head to indicate that he was not prepared to do so. This was again an indication that when a Muslim reads the first syllable of the Kalimah, it starts with the letter "La" which means "nothing" or "no". In other words, there is nothing but Allah Almighty.

When the Emperor realized that he was wasting his time and these types of offers are achieving nothing, he then resorted to threats. He ordered that this Muslim, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Huzaifah Sahmi - *may Allah be pleased with him*, be hanged from the highest point so that it becomes a lesson for others. At the same time, numerous arrows be also released against the brave young Muslim.

However, even on this occasion, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - displayed no fear or apprehension whatsoever. He also did not utter one words of complaint. In fact, there was a slight smile on his face.

It seemed like he was looking at something else altogether and not even listening to the Emperor. When the Emperor saw the slight smile on the blessed face of this young man, he decided that he will teach him such a lesson that it would become an example for others. The Emperor ordered that a large hole be dug and a large fire be prepared. Over this fire, a large pot of water be boiled.

After the water began to boil, another Muslim prisoner was brought forward. He was also offered the same rewards which were presented to Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - but he also refused to accept anything. He said that instead of making the Divine Creator angry, he was prepared to sacrifice his life instead.

The Emperor now ordered that this Muslim be thrown into the hot boiling water. Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - admits that he watched this from the corner of his eye and within a few seconds, only the bones of this companion appeared above the water. In fact, the blessed body of this person dissolved like how salt dissolves in water.

All the time, the Emperor was watching Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - to see whether this was having any effect on him. He was waiting to see whether fear would overtake this young Muslim and like other prisoners in the past, he would beg for mercy.

The Emperor then said to him, "Either you accept Christianity or you will face the same end as your Muslim brother."

However, not even the slightest change was noticed in the young Muslim, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Huzaafah Sahmi - *may Allah be pleased with him*. He stood like a mountain of determination and steadfastness. When the Emperor saw this, he also ordered that the young man be thrown into the boiling hot water.

When the guards escorted him to the pot, everyone present were surprised to see that this once determined young man was now weeping. When the Emperor saw this, he also became overjoyed and realized that perhaps he had succeeded in his mission of changing the religion of this young man. He then addressed the young Muslim and asked, "O Abdullah! Why are you crying? Are you perhaps thinking about your wife and children and that very soon you will leave this world without seeing them?"

However, wiping away the tears, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - replied in such words which will be always remembered in the history of Islam. It would also become a lesson for other Muslims in the future. He declared, "O Emperor of Rome! I swear by Allah that I am not weeping because of my wife or children or because I am missing my home. I

am weeping with immense regret that I only have one life to sacrifice and this would be destroyed when I am placed in the hot boiling water. If only I could have a thousand lives which I could sacrifice in the Path of the Allah, it is for this reason why I am weeping."

When the Emperor of Rome heard these sincere words from one of the most amazing young Muslims of his era, it was like a thunder bolt had hit him and like a bolt of lightning had run through his entire body. Even the Emperor realized that compared to this young Muslim Mujahid, he himself was insignificant.

The Emperor realized that he was not looking at an ordinary Muslim but was looking at an Angel who was dressed as a human. In fact, this young man was not someone who should obey, but someone who should be obeyed. At the same time, the Emperor also had an immense urge to gain the nearness of this amazing young man. He thought that perchance in this way, he himself would gain some benefit.

He then declared, "O Abdullah! Would you be prepared to kiss my head with the condition that I free you and you will be allowed to go freely wherever you wish?"

His intention was that this young man would readily accept this condition and come running to kiss his head. However, he soon came to know that he was not speaking to an ordinary human. While the Emperor was waiting for the answer, at the same time, he did not want to mention that this was considered his greatest gift. He wanted to place a seal on his head through the lips of this young Muslim Mujahid. In this manner, if the young Muslim agreed to this, then he would admit that he had also gained an immense benefit from the Muslim.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then asked, "Will the other Muslim prisoners be also freed with me?"

The Emperor had already developed immense respect for this young man and when he heard this answer, he realized that he was certainly not talking to any ordinary young man. In fact, through this, an ordinary Muslim attained the rank of a mighty leader. Through his behaviour, he had also made an Emperor of a mighty kingdom look like an ordinary human.

The Emperor then agreed that all the other Muslims would also be spared. As a matter of fact, such was his awe in this court that even if he had asked the position of being the next Emperor, perhaps even this would have been given to him. His unswerving trust in the Allah Almighty and his complete dedication to the religion of Islam transformed his poor and simple clothing into that of a regal garb.

He then approached the Emperor and kissed him on his forehead. In this manner also, the ultimate wish of the Emperor had been fulfilled. All the Muslim were then freed and they returned to their respective places.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - decided to visit Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - in Madina Shareef. When the eminent ruler of the Muslims saw the young Mujahid, without anyone saying anything, he rose with respect and love and kissed him on his head. He also declared, "It is the duty of a Muslim to kiss the head of Abdullah".

This is that Muslim Mujahid who received his training in the Darul Uloom of Suffah and was able to satisfy his religious thirst. There is no doubt that the pages of Islamic history will always have a record of this great act of bravery. For every generation thereafter, it will always appear as a shining light. For those who wish to sacrifice their lives and property for Islam, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Huzaifah Sahmi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - created an open example and sowed the seed of true Imaan in the hearts of the young Muslim.

(Min Nafahaatul Khulud)