

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ وَدِدِ أَدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصَلَّى 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*

Hadrat Abdullah bin Zubair

It is reported that this day was a special day in the history of Islam and for the Muslims in Madina Shareef. There was a large group of Muslims that were congratulating each other and walking towards the blessed Masjid of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. One can describe it as being a Juloos. At the head of this group of Muslims that were marching to the blessed Masjid was Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Bakr - *may Allah be pleased with him*.

They were also saying among themselves that indeed the Jews have been destroyed. The evil intent of the Jews had now been destroyed. At the same, the Muslims could see that Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Bakr - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was extremely joyous. In fact, on this day, the blessed companion had become a maternal grandfather, in other words a “nana”. He was carrying his blessed grandson in his hands and it was the blessed son of his daughter, Sayyidah Asma binte Abu Bakr - *may Allah be pleased with her*.

When Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Bakr - *may Allah be pleased with him* - placed the young baby in the arms of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - asked for a date. After chewing the date, he placed a little of this date and his blessed saliva in the mouth of this baby. He also named the child "Abdullah". In this manner, the first thing to enter the mouth of this blessed child was the blessed saliva of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. Although there were many children that were going to be born after that, but this was a special occasion because this was the first child that was born to the Muslims after the event of Hijrah.

In fact, when the Muslims arrived in Madina Shareef, the Jews has spread a rumour that their magicians had cast an evil spell on the Muslims and that no child would be born among the Muslims. At the same time, since many children did pass away, the Jews found an opportunity to mock the Muslims.

However, when Sayyidah Asma - *may Allah be pleased with her* - arrived after undertaking the arduous journey from Mecca Shareef, she gave birth to this blessed child in Quba. Since the child had survived, it was an occasion for the Muslims to celebrate and also an occasion when the false propaganda of the Jews was destroyed. (Sayr)

Who is Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him*?

The name given to him by the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - was Abdullah. His family genealogy is Abdullah bin Zubair bin Awwam, bin Khuwaylid bin Asad bin Abdul Uzza bin Qusay. In fact, the Mother of the Faithful, Sayyidah Khatijah Al Kubra - *may Allah be pleased with her* - is the paternal aunt of the father of Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him*.

The paternal aunt of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*, namely Sayyidah Safiyah binte Abdul Mutallib - *may Allah be pleased with her*, is the mother of Hadrat Sayyiduna Zubair bin Awwam - *may Allah be pleased with him* - and is the paternal grandmother of Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him*. She is also among the early Muslims and was considered extremely brave and fearless. She used to also write poetry.

As we have mentioned, the mother of Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was Sayyidah Asma binte Abu Bakr - *may Allah be pleased with her*. She herself was among the first Muslims and was also given news of Jannah while in this world. In brief, his mother was indeed very blessed. His aunt was the blessed wife of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - and his grandfather was Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Bakr - *may Allah be pleased with him* - who is the most supreme of creation after the Prophets. There are very few people that can boast such a blessed blood line.

In fact, his blessed aunt, Sayyidah Ayesha - *may Allah be pleased with here* - used to love her nephew so much that when he grew a little, she asked her sister that she would take care of him. In fact, at the request of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*, she was also called "Umme Abdullah" after this.

It is reported that Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was extremely intelligent, a great speaker and orator, extremely pious and master archer and brave beyond description. Among the younger generation there was none like him. Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Uthman bin Talha - *may Allah be pleased with him* - mentions that, "There was no match to Abdullah bin Zubair in three things. They were bravery, Ibadah and in eloquence of speech." He was also a master orator as we have mentioned and why not when the first thing placed in his mouth was the blessed saliva of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was also able to give an immediate answer without showing the slightest fear. It is mentioned that one day he was playing with a few children when Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - walked past. When the children saw who was coming all of them ran away. However, the young Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - stood at the same spot and looked at Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him*. The blessed companion asked him, "Why did you not run like the other children?" He replied, "I did not commit any crime that I should run and fear you. At the same time, the road is also not so narrow that I have to move to one side". Suffice to say that the blessed companion smiled when he heard this reply.

It is mentioned that while Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was young, (according to one report), his father told him to gather all the other Muslim children in Madina Shareef and lead them to the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - so that they can also swear allegiance to the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. He then led the other children to the blessed court of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. The Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - looked at this group of Muslim children with great mercy and also smiled.

The young Abdullah bin Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then said, "O Prophet of Allah! We have presented ourselves to make Bay'at with you."

The other children were all hiding behind him but he was standing firm in front. The Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - then asked him to place his hand forward. The Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - then held his small hand and uttered the words, "You are certainly the son of your father." In other words, this was indicating to the bravery of his father who is also the son of the paternal aunt of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. His blessed father is also among the "Asharah Mubashashirah."

The young Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was named "Himaamatul Masjid" or the 'pigeon of the Masjid'.

His immense bravery on other occasions.

One of his amazing acts of bravery and intelligence was seen during the period of Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Uthman Ghani - *may Allah be pleased with him*. The leader of this army was the person who had drunk milk from the same mother as the great Muslim leader. The leader of the battalion was Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Sa'ad bin Abi Sarah - *may Allah be pleased with him*.

Every day, a battle ensued between the Muslims and their enemies and when it was midday, both armies stopped the battle. In fact, the claim was made that since both armies were tired, the battle would resume the next day. At that time, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was twenty seven years old.

Once, in the evening there was meeting among the different commanders of Muslim army and Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was listening to this conversation. When it came to his turn to offer his advice, he remarked, "I do not agree with your actions of only fighting half a day. We should fight the entire day so that this battle can be completed."

He was told that the soldiers became tired and they needed rest. However, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - insisted that this should not be allowed and that they should tire the enemy. He was then asked how this would be possible and he suggested that the Muslim army should be divided into two battalions. The first should fight in the morning and the second should start during midday. The next day, this suggestion was put into place and very quickly, the enemy was defeated in one single day.

The reason for his immense bravery.

As we have mentioned that Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was extremely well-built and powerful and together with his immense bravery, it made him a powerful force in any army. The historians also mention a strange event which took place with him. It is reported that once the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - had performed cupping and his blessed blood had been placed in a special bowl. While this was going on, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was also standing one on side. The Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - then commanded him to take the blessed blood and bury it in such place where no one could see him doing this.

When Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - came outside the Masjid with the blessed blood, he thought to himself that this is the blessed blood of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - and there is no way that it can be thrown anywhere. He then decided to drink the blessed blood.

When he returned, the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - asked him, "O Abdullah! Where did you throw the blood?"

He replied, “O Prophet of Allah! I have hidden it in such a place which no one is aware of except the Almighty Allah.”

The Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - then said to him, “You have drunk the blood”. He nodded his head.

In another report, the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - said to him, “He whose blood is mixed with mine, the Fire of Hell has become Haraam on him.” (Al Mustadrak)

This bravery was also seen in a battle which took place in Africa. At that time, the Christian forces numbered a hundred thousand while the Muslims were only twenty thousand. The leader of the Christians was someone whose name was Jarjeer. While the battle was going on Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - felt that if the leader of the Christians could be killed, his entire force would be defeated much easier. He then came to the supreme commander of the Muslims, Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Sa'ad - *may Allah be pleased with him* - and said to him, “I only need a few brave young men with me so that I could personally go and kill the leader of the Christians.” He then travelled to the main camp and the Christians were under the impression that the Muslims were coming to surrender.

When they came near the main camp, the leader of the Christians was surrounded by his female slaves and it was very easy for him to be killed. They then cut off the head of the Christian leader and paraded it around the battlefield.

In fact, prior to the battle, the leader of the Christians had also made a public announcement that if anyone killed Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Sa'ad - *may Allah be pleased with him* - he would be handsomely rewarded. In fact, he would be married to the daughter of Jarjeer and he would also receive a hundred thousand Dinaars. At the same time, when the Muslims heard this, they also made a public statement whoever kills Jarjeer, he would receive a hundred thousand Dinaars and also be given the chance to marry the daughter of Jarjeer.

After the battle, the commander of the Muslims wanted to hand over the reward to Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - but he refused to accept and made it clear that he had not committed this act for any wordily benefits.

Besides victories in Africa, he also took part in battles in Andalusia and Constantinople.

However, the last few days of his blessed life was indeed a great test to his immense Imaan. After the death of Yazeed, his son, Mu'awiyah the second, took control of government. He was also still only eighteen years and had no experience. The people then began to swear allegiance to Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - and very soon, the majority of people supported him. However, very soon, the Ummayyad rulers got support from the various parts of the world and they attacked Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah bin Zubair - *may Allah be pleased with him* - while he was in the Haram Shareef.

This atrocity was committed under the leadership of Hujjab bin Yusuf who arrived in Mecca Shareef with a force of two thousand soldiers and started to stone the Haram Shareef with large boulders and rocks. This was in 72 A.H. His blessed mother was still alive at that time although she had lost her vision. She continued to encourage her son to fight against these forces and he was finally martyred. (Al Usaabah, Al Isti'ab, Hulyatul Awliyah, Al Bidaayah, Usdul Ghaabah, etc.)