

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*

Simpleness of Hadrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah bin Jarrah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was one of the ten people given glad tidings of Jannah in this world.

Once, while he was the commander-in-chief of the Muslim army, the ruler of Rome sent him a message. The message read, “We are sending you a messenger with the idea of creating a peaceful pact. He will also invite you towards justice and if you accept this advice, it is hoped that it will be better for both of us. If you do not accept this message, then in my opinion, you will only cause harm to yourself.”

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - asked him to send whoever he wanted.

The ruler of Rome then sent an ambassador who was extremely tall, reddish in complexion and had azure coloured eyes. When he came, he could not make out who was the leader among them because all of them looked the same and there was nothing unique among one of them which could distinguish Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - as the leader of the Muslims! He had no idea whether the eminent companion was with these Muslims or not. Finally out of helplessness, he asked, “O Arabs! Where is your commander?”

He was told that the person standing in front of him was the commander. He saw that Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him*, who was wearing armour, was seated on one side as an ordinary soldier. He had a spear in his hand which he was turning around in his hand. He was sitting on the ground. There were no servants to be seen or any special security around him.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - also had no special sign on his shoulders which made him look like a commander of the army. The Roman envoy asked Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - whether he was the commander-in- chief of the Muslim army. Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - said that he was.

He then asked, “Why are you therefore sitting on the floor. If you were sitting on a horse or donkey or some carpet, no harm would have been created for you in the Divine Court of Allah Almighty or He would not have lessened any of His Divine favours upon you.”

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Ubaidah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - replied, “Allah Almighty is not shy to speak the truth. I will tell you the honest truth. On this day, I only possess a single horse, a sword and a few other weapons. Yesterday, I needed to purchase a few things (but had no money), therefore I had to take a loan from my Muslim brother, Ma'az bin Jabal, and bought these few items. Even if I had a donkey or a carpet, it would not have been possible for me to sit on this while my Muslim brothers sat on the sand. (How can I even do this) when there is a possibility that some of them may be more superior to me in status in the Divine Court of Allah Almighty. We are the servants of Allah Almighty and we walk on the earth. We sit on the ground and eat and drink and also sleep on the ground. By doing this, our status is not lowered in the

Divine Court of Allah Almighty. As a matter of fact our reward increases even further and also our status, therefore go ahead and mention the purpose of your visit.” (Siffatus Safwah)

This was the justice displayed by the noble leaders of Islam. However, in the present age, this is not done by modern leaders in the Muslim world. These earlier leaders of Islam used to choose the common person above themselves.

It is reported that when a severe drought overtook the Hijaz during the era of Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him*, his stomach started to rumble due to hunger. He then slapped his stomach and declared, “You will certainly die as long as ghee is sold at (such a high price) in Madina Shareef.”

This severe drought took place in 17th A.H. and in the *Taarikhul Khulafah*, it is mentioned that this year was known as “Aamur Rimaadah” and due to this severe drought, the complexion of people had also changed.

Allah Almighty shower His choicest blessings upon these people. Even though they had large wealth in the form of the Baytul Maal, they lived simple and humble lives. Even though some of them were in dire need of help themselves, they preferred others above them. Each one of them only had provision for one single day. In their houses, besides a small container to wash their clothing hardly anything else existed. The bare essentials were to be found in their houses. Yet, they spent day and night serving the Muslims. These were those blessed people who had qualified in an institute which was governed and managed by the Holy Prophet - *may Allah’s peace and blessings be upon him*. Hence, those who qualified from this institute became the torch-bearers of Islam and a symbol for everyone to follow until the Day of Judgement. (Ar Riyaadun Nazr)

It should also be borne in mind that these were those people whose names were merely enough to frighten the disbelievers and by just hearing their names, mighty empires and superpowers used to shake in their boots. Sadly, we do not see this been practised by any Muslim who is in power today.