

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيُرِضِّي بَنْ يُصْلِّي 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*

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## The Greatest Pauper of his Time

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Once, Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - asked the officials in the city of Hums to draw up a list of the most needy people in the city and have it sent to him. His intention was to nominate a special stipend for them.

However, when he received the list he was extremely shocked and surprised. The first name on the list was the person whom he had nominated as the Governor of this region, namely the eminent companion, Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa’eed bin Aamir Jamhi - *may Allah be pleased with him*.

When Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - saw this list and noticed the name on top, he thought to himself that he gives this person a special stipend

on a monthly basis but how is it that this person is considered as the poorest person in the region.

When Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - inquired about this from the other officials in the region, they also concurred that this person was also very poor. They explained to him why. The reason as that whatever came to Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed bin Aamir Jamhi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - he immediately distributed this among the other poor and needy and when everything was finished, he mentioned that he had nothing else to give them. He also mentioned to them that when the leader of the Muslims had given him this position, he had indeed placed a huge burden on his shoulders. Even though he had complained that he would not be able to carry this burden, still Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed bin Aamir Jamhi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was given this responsibility. When Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - heard these words, he mentioned, "I have certainly destroyed this person, I have placed a larger burden on him which he could handle."

Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then asked them about his behaviour towards them and they replied that there was nothing wrong with him in this regard, however, there were four things which they noticed in Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed bin Aamir Jamhi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - that made them confused.

They were:

1. He only appears when the sun has fully risen.
2. He is not to be seen in the night.
3. During the month, on one day, he disappears and is not seen by anyone.
4. Sometimes, he falls into an unconscious state for a lengthy period.

Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then nominated more money for the needy in Hums and sent four hundred Dinaars extra for his Governor. He also made it clear that this was personally for him and he should spend this on himself and his family.

It is reported that when this money reached Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - he was immensely saddened. The sadness could be clearly seen on his face. In this state of immense sadness, he entered his house. When his wife saw his

state, she asked him whether someone close had passed away. Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* -mentioned that this was not the case.

She then asked him whether someone important in the city had passed away and again he mentioned that this was not the case. His wife then asked him the reason for his immense grief. Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then took a long breath and replied, “I have been blessed with being in the blessed company of the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him*. Certainly his company was the most supreme of company and his companions were the most supreme of companions. I then had the opportunity of being in the blessed company of Hadrat Sayyiduna Abu Bakr - *may Allah be pleased with him*. His company was also the best of company and he was the best of companions. I then became the companion of Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him*, however, his companionship did not prove such a good companionship.”

When his wife asked him the reason, Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* -placed the money which had been sent to him by Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - as a gift. He also looked at this money in scorn and said to his wife to look at what he had sent him.

His wife then asked Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - what he feared about this money and he replied, “I only have fear for you in this regard. Perhaps you do not become attached to this money and do not become overtaken by its magic and power.”

His pious and noble wife replied, “Please assure yourself about me and whatever you wish to do with the money, you may do.”

When Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - heard this, he began to smile broadly and made a special Du'a for his wife. He also mentioned that she had indeed made him a very happy person.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - then asked for a piece of cloth to make a parcel for the money. His blessed wife looked in the entire house and could not find a piece of cloth. She then tore a piece of her scarf and handed it to him.

He cut this piece into smaller pieces and placed a few coins into each of this. He mentioned that this parcel should be given to a certain household and that parcel should be given to a certain household etc. He continued to do this until none of the money remained. He then picked up his blessed hands and made Du'a, "O Allah Almighty! Please make it such that no other gift comes to me from 'Umar Farouq - *may Allah be pleased with him*."

His wife than asked, "Why do you make such Du'a? The money which he sends us, is this money not Halaal?"

Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - replied that indeed the money was Halaal, however he had also heard from the Holy Prophet - *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* - that, "The poor Muhaajireen will enter Jannah forty years before the wealthy Muhaajireen."

This Hadith Shareef has been recorded by Imam Muslim - *may Allah be pleased with him* - in the *Kitaabuz Zuhd* from Hadrat Sayyiduna Amr bin Al Aas - *may Allah be pleased with him* -. It has also been mentioned in the *At Targheeb wat Tarheeb*. 4/136.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - also continued, "Even if all the wealth in the world was given to me, I will still not be pleased until I do not be included in the first group."

Once day, when Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - met Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him*, he inquired about the four complaints which were levelled against him.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - replied, "O Ameerul Mo'mineen! Whatever they have complained about, they have certainly spoken the truth. However, I can also present a reason for each one of them.

1. The reason I only leave my house at the time Chaast when the sun has fully risen is because I do not have a personal servant. My wife is also unwell and after the Fajr Salaah, I complete all the house work on her behalf. This continues until the sun rises.
2. The reason that I do not meet people at night is because during the entire day, I serve the people and I have allocated the night to fulfilling the Divine Rights of the Allah Almighty.

3. One day in the month in which I do not appear in public is because I only have one set of clothing. I then wash this one pair of clothing and wait for it to dry and only then appear in public.

4. The reason that I sometimes fall into a state of unconsciousness is because the blessed companion, Hadrat Sayyiduna Khubaib bin Adi - *may Allah be pleased with him* - was martyred in front of me in Mecca Shareef. At the time I was also not a Muslim. When I think of this incident, I feel immense grief and pain and I have this immense regret that if only I could have helped him at that stage. If only I was a Muslim at that stage, I would have certainly helped. When I think of that moment, a mountain of sadness descends upon me and due to this immense grief and sadness, I sometimes fall unconscious.

It is mentioned that when Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - heard this, he began to weep to such a state that it became uncontrollable.

It is also mentioned that when Hadrat Sayyiduna Sa'eed - *may Allah be pleased with him* - passed away, whenever Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - used to remember him, he wept uncontrollably and used to make immense Du'a for him.

It is also recorded that once, Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - sat with a few companions and asked them to reveal their personal wishes.

One of them said, "My wish is that I have an army which I can use to fight the enemies of Islam".

Another mentioned, "I wish I could have plenty of wealth which I could spend in the Path of Allah Almighty."

Hadrat Sayyiduna 'Umar - *may Allah be pleased with him* - replied, "My wish is that I have (more) people like Sa'eed bin Aamir who I could nominate to control the affairs of the Muslims."

After he mentioned this, he wept so much that it became difficult for him to speak. He also continued to make Du'a for the eminent companion and kept mentioning that the Allah Almighty showers him with His Special Divine Grace.

This was the example of the Muslim leaders of the past. It is impossible to find people later who could emulate such eminent behaviour and ideals. (Al Khulud)