

DEVOTED COMPANIONS

INTRODUCTION

The Holy Companions (May Allah be pleased with Him), that is, the followers of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) are those great personalities of the world, who are superior to and greater than anyone except the Prophets and Messengers of Allah (peace be upon him). By their achievements they earned the pleasure of Allah and His Holy Prophet (peace be upon him).

When we read the life histories of the Holy Companions, we feel a longing to follow their example. We feel an urge to be firm in our beliefs and to establish the faith of Islam. We believe that had not Allah created those wonderful people; our religion would not have come to us in its pristine form. Allah had caused those noble Companions of our Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) to safeguard our religion. Next to the lives of the Apostles of Allah (peace be upon him). It is the lives of these sages which serve as the best models for us.

The manner in which the Holy Companions went forward with the Islamic movement, the sacrifices which they made in support of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him), and the zeal and enthusiasm with which they worked for spreading the message of Islam, carry a good lesson for all human beings of the world, specially the Muslims. For a long time now there has been a feeling that the life-stories of those torch-bearers of Islam should be presented to our children and young persons, boys and girls, for correcting the ills of our present society. This book is intended to fulfill this need and it is hoped that it will be of benefit to our young generation and shall impart especially to them desirable training on the Islamic way of life. May Allah accept this work and reward us in the hereafter

Mail Khairabadi

HADRAT SAEED BIN A'MIR

(Allah be pleased with him)

A Governor of the Days of Caliphate

Hadrat Saeed bin A'mir (Allah be pleased with him) was one of those persons who embraced Islam at the time when the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) and some of his followers were facing great hardship and tortures at the hands of the Quraysh of Mecca. After embracing Islam he became such a model of piety and righteousness that we can learn many a lessons from his model character. His life also serves as a monument for the Civil Servants of a state which claims to be Islamic. It is also an example for all their citizens.

Hadrat Saeed bin A'mir (Allah be pleased with him) embraced Islam before the battle of Khyber. Soon after he migrated, leaving behind his home and hearth, and took refuge with the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) in Medina. He took part in all the battles along with the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) and showed great courage, bravery and faithfulness for the cause of Islam.

During the caliphate of Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) the Second Caliph, Hadrat Abu Abaidah (Allah be pleased with him) asked the Caliph for reinforcement in the battle of Yermook. He sent Hadrat Saeed bin A'mir (Allah be pleased with him) with reinforcements. Hadrat Saeed performed many heroic deeds in this battle. Later the post of governor of Hamas fell vacant due to the death of Hadrat Abbas bin Ghanam (Allah be pleased with him) Hadrat Saeed was appointed as the Governor of Hamas by the second Caliph.

During the tenure of his governorship somebody sent a complaint to Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) that the governor suffer very often with fits of insanity Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) summoned him at once for investigation. Saeed bin A'mir (Allah be pleased with him) enter Medina in a state of simplicity unknown in the history of a Governor. He held only a stick in his hand and a bowl. Saeed bin A'mir (Allah be pleased with him) said, "Is this all you have to live with?" He said, "What else is require? I eat in this bowl and hand the traveling kit on this stick."

Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) again said, "It is reported to me that you suffer from fits of insanity". He said, "No."

"Then what about this report against you?" said Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him)

Hadrat Saeed bin A'mir (Allah be pleased with him), "It is true. But it is not due to any kind of mental illness. You remember the event of the murder of Hadrat Habib bin Addi."

At that time I was an eye witness of that heinous murder. Hadrat Habib bin Addi cursed the Quraysh when he was torture. Since I also belong to Quraysh, I shudder with fear and lose consciousness when I remember his curse."

His explanation clear the matter and Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) dies him to join his duty in Hamas but he hesitated to go back on his job. Hadrat Umar insisted, so he had to comply with the orders and resume his duty in Hamas.

This is only an example. There are many others examples too, of his piety and righteousness. Only a couple of those examples and reproduced as under:

1. Once when he was the Governor of Hamas, Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) visited Hamas to arrange state help for the poor and needy over there. He order his staff to prepare a list of the poor. When the list was presented to him, he found that it included a name- Saeed bin A'mir. On enquiry he was told that the name refer to no other person but the Governor himself. Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) was stunned and said, "Your ruler! A poor person! What do you say? What does he do with his salary?" The people told the Caliph that he never even touched his salary and always distributed it among the poor and needy.

On learning of such selfness on the part of Governor, Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) began to weep and order a purse of a thousand Dinars to be sent to him at once so that he could meet his requirements. As soon as Hadrat Saeed bin A'mir (Allah be pleased with him) saw the purse, he recited, "*Inna lillah-e-ea Inna Ilaihe Rajeeon*" (To him we belong, and to Him have we to return). His wife was alarmed and asked, "What is the matter? Has the Caliph God forbid, met some accident?" H said, "No, something more fearful has happened." His wife again said, "What calamity has befallen you?" He said, "It is even more terrible that a calamity." Not understanding anything the perplexed wife said, "What is the matter after all? Tell me please." He said, "The world has set many a snares for me." She advised him to forestall them. Accordingly he threw away the whole amount into a big trough and he himself spent the whole night offering prayers. In the morning a contingent of Muslim army passed by that was and he donated the entire amount for their expenses.

2. Needless to say that how much popular a governor like Saeed bin A'mir would be in the public. Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) heard much about the prosperity of the people of Hamas and the popularity. Hadrat Saeed enjoyed there as Governor. Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) asked him why his people liked him so much. He answer, "I take care of them and also sympathies with them." This reply pleased Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) very much. He presented him with a gift of ten thousand Dinars which he declined to accept saying, "My income from my horses and my slaves is sufficient for me, I wish to serve the Muslims for the pleasure of Allah alone." Hadrat Umar Farooq (Allah be pleased with him) insisted, "Do accept the gift please. Once the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) gave me some money as gift and I also hesitated like you, whereupon the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) advised me to accept a gift which Allah give to you without your asking for it. "

These instances may lead some to think that one loses interest in this world and its attractions when he gets quite old. Bu it must be noted that Hadrat Saeed bin A'mir died at the age of forty only, and those instances refer to a period when he was in the full prime of his life.