

MIFTAAH SEMINAR

FROM ENEMY TO COMPANION



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The Battle of Ajnadayn

- After the Battle of Yarmouk, the Romans regrouped and aimed to retake Damascus. Ajnadayn became one of the largest and most intense battles, with **Amr ibn al-Aas RA** as the lead general and Khalid ibn al-Walid RA under his command.
- Khalid RA spread the army across five miles to prevent flanking. Archers were ordered to shoot in unison to mimic a massive volley, countering the Byzantines' longer-range arrows.
- **Dhirar ibn al-Azwar RA:**
 - Sent for reconnaissance but engaged the enemy, killing around 20 soldiers.
 - Known for fighting bare-chested and showing extreme bravery.
 - Initially wore armor but removed it mid-battle due to heavy arrow fire and continued in hand-to-hand combat.
- **Trick by the Romans:**
 - The Roman leader, Wardan, sent a messenger, David, to lure Khalid RA into an ambush.
 - Khalid RA saw through the plan; David confessed the location of 10 hidden soldiers behind a hill to kill Khalid RA.
 - Khalid RA sent Dhirar RA and nine others to eliminate them, which they did successfully.

- **Victory:**

- Khalid RA and Amr RA led the Muslims to victory. Omar ibn al-Khattab RA had sent small forces to nearby cities (Jerusalem) to distract and delay enemy reinforcements, aiding in the win.

Conquest of Bayt al-Maqdis

- The victories of Ajnadayn, Fihl, and Damascus led to the path being cleared for the conquest of **Bayt al-Maqdis (Jerusalem)**.
- Amr ibn al-Aas RA rejoined the army that had laid siege to the city, which lasted around **four months**.
- The Romans sent a message saying: *"The last land you'll get is Ajnadayn. You won't take Jerusalem."* Amr RA replied confidently, calling himself the conqueror of the city. The Roman replied: *"No, the conqueror of this city is a man named Omar."* Amr RA realized this meant Ameer al-Mu'mineen **Omar ibn al-Khattab RA**.

Jerusalem's Condition for Peace:

- The people of Jerusalem agreed to a peaceful handover, **only if Omar RA himself** came to take the keys.
- Khalid ibn al-Walid RA, who resembled Omar RA, was sent first, but they refused and said: *"He looks like the man, but he's not him."*

Omar's RA Journey to Jerusalem:

- Left Madinah and appointed **Ali RA** as its leader during his absence.
- Traveled simply with one servant and one camel as they took turns riding.
- When they neared Jerusalem, it was the servant's turn to ride. The servant offered to switch, but **Omar RA refused**.
- When urged to change clothes and ride a better animal, he became angry and said:

"Allah gave us honor through Islam. If we seek honor through anything else, He will disgrace us."

Arrival in Jerusalem:

- Omar RA eventually agreed to change his clothes and rode the horse. But he quickly got off the horse and said: *"If there was ever a shaytaan among animals, it's this one."* He asked for his camel and old clothes back, and returned .
- When the priests and bishops saw Omar RA, they said: *"This is the man we were told to give the keys to."*

Cleaning the Masjid Site:

- The **Dome of the Rock** had been turned into a garbage dump by the Christians (due to their hatred of the Jews).
- Omar RA saw it and began cleaning it himself. His companions joined him, and he used his own sheet to gather trash.
- After cleaning, he prayed in front of it and marked the spot for the Masjid.

Respect for Christian Sites:

- Omar RA was taken to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.
- The bishop asked him to pray there, but Omar RA **refused**, saying: *"If I pray here, Muslims may take it as a Masjid tomorrow."*

Treaty and Peaceful Handover:

- Omar RA wrote a detailed **treaty**:
 - Christians would be **safe**; their **lives, homes, and churches** protected.
 - No Muslim would be allowed to harm them or take over their land or churches.
 - Those who wanted to leave were promised **safe travel**.
 - The people requested that **no Jews live in Jerusalem**. Omar RA **agreed**, honoring their terms.

• The Result:

- The **peaceful handover** of Bayt al-Maqdis took place under Omar RA. The city remained under Muslim rule for the next **400 years**.

Khalid RA and Omar RA:

- Khalid RA continued to conquer many lands, but reports and complaints about him kept reaching Omar ibn al-Khattab RA.
- **Example:** After Khalid RA rewarded the poet **al-Ashaaf** with **10,000 dirhams**, Omar RA questioned whether this money was from war spoils (which would be impermissible) or from Khalid's RA own wealth (which Omar RA viewed as extravagant).
- Another complaint involved Khalid RA using **a bath ingredient with alcohol**. Omar RA wrote to him angrily, but Khalid RA clarified that it was boiled and used for **medicinal purposes**, not in its intoxicating form.
- Despite the tension, **Omar RA clarified** that he never removed Khalid RA out of hatred. He feared people would become **too attached to Khalid RA** and rely on him instead of **Allah**, so he kept Khalid RA in check to keep the focus on **tawakkul**.

Khalid's RA Death:

- Khalid ibn al-Walid RA passed away **on his bed**, not on the battlefield.
- He said:
"I fought in over 100 battles, and there's no spot on my body without a scar... yet here I am dying in bed like a camel. May the eyes of cowards never sleep."
- His only regret: **not dying as a martyr** in the path of Allah.

Khalid's Legacy and the Need for Courage Today

- Khalid RA showed **unmatched courage**. He faced the greatest empires of his time without fear, not because of numbers or resources, but because of his **deep faith**.
- The Ummah today **lacks this courage**. We rely too much on material means and forget that true success comes from **Allah's SWT help**.
- The **Sahabah didn't rely on worldly resources**.

- Their strength came from **unshakable loyalty to Allah SWT** and a **refusal to compromise** on their deen.
- Today, we often give up easily, even on small challenges.
- We need to:
 - Stand firm in the face of trials.
 - Protect our deen, our modesty, our sincerity, and our connection with Allah SWT.
 - Stop fearing loss of comfort and start fearing loss of iman.

What Will Be Your Legacy?

- The Sahabah left behind faith, values, and impact, not estates or wealth.
- What will we leave behind?
 - Houses and money are left by everyone; Muslim or not.
 - We must aim to leave behind:
 - Pious children
 - Good character
 - Positive impact on the Ummah