

SUMMER IMMERSION

BLISS BOUND



Shaykh Abdul Aziz Waheed

SESSION 4

Umar ibn al-Khattab

- Umar's kunya was Abu Hafs
 - Some say that this came from his daughter's name, which was Hafsa
 - Others say that he had this kunya before she was born
 - Hafs means lion, so it symbolized his bravery and courage
- Umar had two titles:
 - Al-Faruq, which was given to him by the Prophet ﷺ
 - He had the ability to separate truth from falsehood and know right from wrong clearly
 - Amir al-Mu'minin, which was given to him after he became the second Khalifa
 - Abu Bakr's title was Khalifahtu Rasul Allah
- His father's name was Khattab ibn Nufayl
 - His father was a rough man and used to physically beat Umar when he was younger
 - Umar used to help his father take care of the cattle and if he made a mistake, his father would use physical force.
 - Umar went through a rough childhood, but he did not let that become an excuse to be cruel to others. He was the most just Khalifah.
 - Umar did not continue the cycle

- His mother was Hantama and she was very kind and soft
- Umar had 4 sons
- He had one brother, named Zayd
 - Zayd accepted Islam before Umar did
 - Zayd was more introverted than Umar was and he hid his Islam when he first accepted
 - Zayd was also martyred before Umar, in the Battle of Yamama
 - Umar said later in his life that Zayd beat him twice: to Islam and to martyrdom.

Physical Description

- Umar was very tall and muscular
 - When he was sitting on a horse, his feet would touch the ground
- He had a white/reddish complexion, but it changed to a paler color later in his life
 - When the Muslims suffered from a drought, Umar did not eat for multiple days and he became very pale
- Umar had a long beard and mustache
- He had a loud and deep voice
 - When he spoke, everyone heard him
 - Part of our faith is to speak up when it is needed to speak up.

Early Life

- Umar herded camels for his father when he was young
- He was not a good businessman
- Abu Jahl was Umar's mother's uncle
- Umar used to defend Quraysh
 - He was known as the Safir of Quraysh (defense spokesperson)
 - He did not like division. If anyone tried to cause division within Quraysh, he would speak against it.

- Umar was very literate
 - He learned poetry and competed in poetry events
 - Literacy means reading and writing

Conversion to Islam

- Umar once passed by a woman named Umm Abdillah who was packing her bags and leaving Makkah. Umar saw her and asked what she was doing. She explained to Umar that she was leaving with her husband because of all of the persecution they were facing as Muslims in Makkah. Umar felt bad and said, "May Allah be with you." Umm Abdillah was shocked and she told her husband about what Umar said later. Her husband said, "His father's donkey will become Muslim before he does."
- In another incident, Umar was sleeping near the Ka'bah one day and, all of a sudden, he heard a voice speaking about an eloquent man who is very successful. Because it was so unexpected, the people all ran away except for Umar. Umar followed that voice and concluded that whomever he was speaking about had to be a prophet. Then, Umar walked away.
- In another incident, Umar decided to go get some alcohol and drink with his friends. But, he did not find any alcohol or any of his friends. So, he decided instead to make tawaf. As he was doing that, he heard the Prophet reciting Quran. He snuck into the Ka'bah until there was nothing between him and the Prophet except for a curtain. As he was listening to the Quran, he thought to himself that the Prophet must be a poet. The Prophet was reciting Surah al-Haqqa and he recited the verse, "And it is not the speech of a poet—little do you believe." This frightened Umar even more and he thought to himself that the Prophet must be a fortune teller because he read his thoughts. The Prophet recited the next verse, "Nor is it the speech of a soothsayer—little do you take heed." Umar could not take it anymore, so he left.

- Abu Jahl offered a reward to whoever would take the life of the Prophet ﷺ. So, Umar decided to take up the offer. He put on his sword and headed for the Prophet. He bumped into Nuaym ibn Abdillah on his way there and Nuaym asked him where he was going. Umar told him the truth and Nuaym questioned Umar. So, Umar asked him if he was a Muslim too. Nuaym told Umar that his own sister became Muslim, so Umar went straight to his sister's house. Khabbab ibn al-Aratt was teaching them Quran and when he heard Umar knocking at the door, he hid in a closet. Umar came in and beat up his brother-in-law, Said ibn Zayd. Umar's sister came and tried to stop him from hurting her husband and Umar accidentally hit her. She began bleeding and when Umar saw this, he felt bad and calmed down. She admitted that they were Muslim and Umar asked her for what they were reading before he came into the house. His sister, Fatima, told him to take a shower first because he was a Mushrik. So, he did and he came back and began reading the Quran directly. He read the beginning verses of Surah Taha. Umar cried and asked to be taken to the Prophet. When this happened, Khabbab came out and said, "The Prophet's dua will be answered. I heard the Prophet asking Allah to strengthen Islam through Abu Jahl or Umar ibn al-Khattab." Umar was taken to Dar al-Arqam, and when he knocked on the door, the sahaba inside got scared. Hamza ibn Abdul Muttalib got up and said, "If he came with bad intentions, I will kill him with his own sword." So, they opened the door for Umar and the Prophet held onto him and pinned him on the wall. He said, "Umar! What are you waiting for?" Umar accepted Islam in that moment. The sahaba all said takbeer and it could be heard from people by the Ka'bah.

- Umar was very similar to Prophet Musa, so it may be that he read the story of Musa and felt connected to it.
- When he became Muslim, Jibreel came down and informed the Prophet that even the angels rejoiced from the Islam of Umar.
- Umar did not hide his Islam when he became Muslim. He wanted to make it public. He took the Muslims with him to the Ka'bah and Hamza led one group while he led another and they all prayed publicly.

Hijrah

- All of those who migrated at this point had done so secretly because it was dangerous for them to be leaving Madinah.
- Umar was the only one who publicly announced that he was doing Hijrah
- Umar intended to travel and did tawaf around the Ka'bah. When he was done, he went to each of the chiefs of Quraysh sitting around the Ka'abh and said, "Whoever wants their mom to lose her child or their wife to become a widow, or their child to become an orphan, meet me behind this valley. I am going to do hijrah."
- The weak sahaba who wanted to do Hijrah went with Umar so that they would be protected