

SUMMER IMMERSION

BLISS BOUND



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SESSION 6

Umar ibn Al-Khattab In Madina

- The Muhajireen had to either find a way to continue their trading, or they had to farm, which is the source of livelihood in Medina
- Umar tended to a garden, and he alternated days with his neighbor
 - On the days his neighbor was working, Umar would attend the halaqahs of the Prophet (SAW) in the masjid and inform his neighbor about what he learned, and his neighbor would do the same of the days Umar was working
 - This wasn't permanent, whenever Prophet (SAW) went on expeditions, Umar was with him the whole time
 - This also happened when Prophet (SAW) had to discuss something important - Umar and Abu Bakr would always be there
 - Prophet (SAW) didn't like late night (after Isha) idle conversations, because it would ruin a person's routine at night
 - However, when it came to important conversations, he would have them after Isha just with Abu Bakr and Umar

During the Khilafa of Abu Bakr

- After the Prophet (SAW) passed away, there was confusion on who should succeed him
- The Ansar believed they should have a share in the leadership, saying that there should be one leader from the Quraysh and one from the Ansar
 - The Prophet (SAW) had clearly stated that leadership is for the Quraysh
 - Abu Bakr first praised the Ansar, and then told them this statement of the Prophet (SAW)
 - He presented Abu Ubaydah Al Jarrah and Umar to them
- Umar later speaks about the incident, saying that Abu Bakr was saying everything he had in his own mind on what to say, and it was going well until Abu Bakr mentioned Umar's name to be the khalifa
 - He did not want to be nominated for the position
- Then, Umar started speaking
 - He said, tell me one person who has these three virtues (referring to a single ayah in Surah Tawba):

إِلَّا تَنْصُرُوهُ فَقَدْ نَصَرَهُ اللَّهُ إِذْ أَخْرَجَهُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا ثَانِيَ اثْنَيْنِ إِذْ هُمَا فِي الْغَارِ إِذْ يَقُولُ لِصَاحِبِهِ لَا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَنَا فَأَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ سَكِينَتَهُ عَلَيْهِ وَأَيَّدَهُ بِجُنُودٍ لَمْ تَرَوْهَا وَجَعَلَ كَلِمَةَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا السُّفْلَى ۗ وَكَلِمَةُ اللَّهِ هِيَ الْعُلْيَا ۗ وَاللَّهُ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ

It does not matter if you believers do not support him, for Allah did in fact support him when the disbelievers drove him out of Mecca and he was only one of two. While they both were in the cave, he reassured his companion, "Do not worry; Allah is certainly with us." So Allah sent down His serenity upon the Prophet, supported him with forces you believers did not see, and made the word of the disbelievers lowest, while the Word of Allah is supreme. And Allah is Almighty, All-Wise

- He has been called the “companion” of the Prophet (SAW) by Allah in the Qur’an
 - He is included in the same pronoun as the Prophet (SAW) when Allah says “when THEY were in the cave”
 - When Allah says he is the other person Allah is with
- Umar is the first to take bay’ah (pledge) on Abu Bakr’s hand, and everyone follows suit willingly
- The sahaba sent Umar to Abu Bakr to ask him to make the army led by Usamah ibn Zayd not go on their expedition
 - Usamah was a young sahabi who was leading senior sahaba in battle
 - He was appointed by the Prophet (SAW) before he died
 - Umar was hesitant but the other sahaba convinced him
 - Umar asked Abu Bakr, who got angry and said, what’s wrong with you? You want me to remove someone that the Prophet (SAW) appointed? He scolded Umar
 - Umar returned to the sahaba, who were waiting and said, because of you, I had to face the anger of Abu Bakr
- People who had just accepted Islam left Islam
- In Yamamah, Musaylama declared himself to be a prophet
- Others refused to give zakah
 - All of the above are issues Abu Bakr had to tackle
 - Abu Bakr said, “can Islam be subtracted from while I’m alive?”
- Abu Bakr sent armies to fight each of these groups of people
 - Had he not taken a strong stance, Islam would have faded in many places
 - Even Umar was saying to be softer on people, but Abu Bakr knew the weight of the situation
- The compiling of the Quran
 - Umar convinced Abu Bakr to do this
 - They had Zayd ibn Thabit lead the task

- Zayd ibn Thabit says, "if they had asked me to move a mountain, it would have been easier than this task"
- Zayd would use his own memory, and after that, he would only accept an ayah if they had two witnesses to the ayah being taught by the Prophet (SAW)
- The ayat were compiled into folders
- This was completed at the time of Umar, he kept the folders - after him, Hafsa bint Umar kept them
 - After that, Uthman had them put together into a mushaf like we have today
- Abu Bakr appointed Umar as his successor openly before he left this world
 - Some people didn't like this, saying that Umar was too tough
 - Abu Bakr clarified many times, saying, "I make Allah my witness, I am putting the best of the ummah in charge of them"
 - He had this documented, and Uthman wrote it down
- Ibn Masud said, "three people proved had the greatest insight:
 - Abu Bakr when he appointed Umar as khalifa,
 - The daughter of Shuayb when she told him to hire Musa for a job,
 - And the Aziz of Egypt who told his wife to take good care of Yusuf when he purchased him."

Umar's Khilafa

- Umar climbed the minbar and said, "Allah has never seen me feeling worthy to sit in the place Abu Bakr used to sit."
 - Umar stepped down one step to sit at the place Abu Bakr used to stand, rather than sitting in the place he used to sit
- The people were afraid of Umar's harshness as a khalifa, especially since he was harsh at the time of the Prophet (SAW) and Abu Bakr

- Umar said, “my harshness has now been doubled - but don’t worry, it is only to those who oppress and do injustice towards the people of this ummah. As for those who have good intentions and stay away from oppression and tyranny, I will be softer with them than they are among themselves. Remember, I will not allow someone from this ummah to commit an act of tyranny unless I rub their face on the ground, and I will put my foot on his face and keep it there until he listens to the truth and submits to it. However, I am willing to put my face on the ground for anyone who is pious and righteous. There are some rights I am giving you - hold me accountable for it. One, I am not collecting taxes from you unless I have religious authority to do so. Two, take me to task if I spend a single coin from Baytul Maal in a way that it should not be spent. Thirdly, I promise to increase whatever was being given by Baytul Maal in terms of welfare and assistance. I will also commit to you that I will protect your borders and frontiers. I will also never put you in harm’s way, nor will I discard you when you need assistance. For those of you who go on expeditions, I will stand as the father of your children until you return. Help me by controlling yourselves against me, and help me against my own nafs motivating me to do good and forbidding me to do evil.”
- Prophet (SAW) made multiple comparisons between Abu Bakr and Umar
 - Once, he (SAW) said that Umar was like Musa (AS) due to his harshness and Abu Bakr like Isa (AS) because of his gentleness
 - Another time, he saw them both praying tahajjud
 - Abu Bakr was reciting very quietly, Umar was reciting very loudly

- Prophet (SAW) asked them both why they were reciting that way
- Abu Bakr said, “the One Who I’m speaking to can hear me.”
- Umar said, “I’m reciting loudly to wake up those who are sleeping and repel Shaytan”
- Prophet (SAW) told Abu Bakr to raise his voice a little bit and told Umar to lower his voice a little bit when reciting
- Umar is the first to be called Ameerul Mumineen

