

RAMADAN

IMMERSION



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Introduction

- Our sessions will focus on how the Sahaba spent Ramadan. We'll explore their practices and learn how to incorporate their habits to enhance our own routines this Ramadan.

Definition of Sahaba:

- Sahabi (plural: Sahaba) — Means Companion/Companions, referring to the Companions of the Prophet (ﷺ).
- It is defined as any person who met the Prophet (ﷺ) in his lifetime, while believing in him and died as a Muslim.

Why are the Sahaba special?

- They are the Prophet's students — those who learned directly from him.
- They are the first-hand transmitters of Islamic knowledge — without their dedication, the religion would not have been preserved for us today.
- Allah Himself has explicitly stated their virtue, pleasure, and approval in the Qur'an — starting with the beginning of Surah al-Baqarah.

- After Allah tells us about the way to live life following the Qur'an as a book of guidance and how not to be; describing the disbelievers and hypocrites, He highlights the people of true faith (iman):

وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ ءَامِنُوا كَمَا ءَامَنَ النَّاسُ قَالُوا أَنُؤْمِنُ كَمَا ءَامَنَ السُّفَهَاءُ أَلَا إِنَّهُمْ هُمُ السُّفَهَاءُ وَلَكِن لَّا يَعْلَمُونَ

And when it is said to them, "Believe as the people have believed," they say, "Should we believe as the foolish have believed?" Unquestionably, it is they who are the foolish, but they know [it] not. (2:13)

- الناس (An-Naas) Means the people. Here, it is specifically referring to the Sahaba.
- They were the people who had unquestionable iman through their immediate, total submission to the commands of Allah and His Messenger (ﷺ) such as fasting, praying etc.
- They aren't outdated; their stories serve as a blueprint for how we navigate the modern world and it is still applicable to our current lives. Hence, we must shift our perspective on the Sahaba.
- They are the exemplary generation chosen by Allah and thus, we should follow their path. Following the right path entails following and loving them.
 - Abdullah ibn Mas'ud said:

: مَنْ كَانَ مُسْتَنَدًا فَلَيْسَتْ بِيَمِينِ قَدْ مَاتَ فَإِنَّ الْحَيَّ لَا تُؤْمِنُ عَلَيْهِ الْفِتْنَةُ. أَوْلَيْكَ أَصْحَابُ مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ كَانُوا أَفْضَلَ هَذِهِ الْأُمَّةِ أَبْرَهًا قُلُوبًا وَأَعَمَّقَهَا عِلْمًا وَأَقَلَّهَا تَكْلَفًا اخْتَارَهُمُ اللَّهُ لِصُحْبَةِ نَبِيِّهِ وَإِلِقَامَةِ دِينِهِ فَأَعْرِفُوا لَهُمْ فَضْلَهُمْ وَاتَّبِعُوهُمْ عَلَى آثَارِهِمْ وَتَمَسَّكُوا بِمَا اسْتَطَعْتُمْ مِنْ أَخْلَاقِهِمْ وَسِيرَتِهِمْ فَإِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا عَلَى الْهَدْيِ الْمُسْتَقِيمِ. رَوَاهُ رَزِين

"Whoever wants to follow a path, let him follow the path of one who has died, for the living are not safe from fitnah. I mean the Companions of Muhammad (ﷺ). They were the best of this ummah: the purest in heart, the deepest in knowledge and the most straightforward. Allah chose them to accompany His Prophet and establish His religion, so recognize their status and follow in their footsteps and adhere as much as you can to their example of conduct and attitude, for they followed true guidance." (Mishkat al-Masabih)

- They are considered the ultimate role models embodying total love, devotion, and obedience to Allah and His Messenger (ﷺ). Choosing other role models (i.e. celebrities) over them as examples will only lead to disappointment.
- They are those Allah honored with the promise of Jannah. الحسنى (Al-Husna) in this verse addressing the sahaba, refers to Jannah:

لَا يَسْتَوِي مِنْكُمْ مَنْ أَنْفَقَ مِنْ قَبْلِ الْفَتْحِ وَقَتْلَ أَوْلِيَّكَ أَكْبَرُ دَرَجَةً مِّنَ الَّذِينَ أَنْفَقُوا مِنْ بَعْدِ وَقْتِ لَوْ وَكَلَّهَا وَعَدَّ اللَّهُ الْحُسْنَى

Not equal among you are those who spent before the conquest [of Makkah] and fought [and those who did so after it]. Those are greater in degree than they who spent afterwards and fought. But to all Allah has promised the best [reward] (57:10)

- They were a diverse group; different ethnicities, backgrounds, and personalities. We can each find a personal role model whose life story speaks to our own.
- The Prophet (ﷺ) knew the different personalities of his companions. Hence, he tailored his teaching methods to each individual, using personalized approaches to bring out the best in them.