

Mu`adh ibn Jabal (radhiAllahu anhu)

The young Mu`adh ibn Jabal (radhiAllahu anhu) was one of the seventy companions who were present at Bay`atul-`Aqaba from the Ansaar of Medina. He also fought alongside the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him in all of the Battles including the Battle of Badr and the Battle of Uhud.

Master of the Qur'an

In a hadith narrated by Abdullah ibn Amr (radhiAllahu anhu) who said I heard the Messenger of Allah (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) say:

"Learn the recitation of the Qur'an from four (persons): Ibn Mas`ud, Saalim the freed slave of Hudhayfa, Ubay ibn Ka`b, and Mu`adh ibn Jabal."

Most Knowledgeable in Halal and Haram

In another hadith, it is narrated by Anas ibn Malik (radhiAllahu anhu) that the Messenger of Allah (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) said:

"The most merciful person from my nation, to my nation is Abu Bakr and the most firm on the command of Allah is 'Umar and the shyest of them is 'Uthmaan and the most knowledgeable of them regarding the recitation of the Qur'an is Ubayy ibn Ka`b and the most dutiful of them is Zaid ibn Thaabit and the most knowledgeable of them as regards the permissible and the impermissible is Mu'adh ibn Jabal. Every nation has someone who is (known to be extremely) trustworthy and the trustworthy one of this nation is Abu Ubaydah ibn Al-Jarrah."

In relation to Mu'adh ibn Jabal's knowledge of Halal and Haram, Mu`adh himself narrates an incident saying:

"The Prophet peace be upon him said to Mu'adh ibn Jabal when he was about to send him to Yemen: 'How will you judge (between the people) if it so happens that you must judge?' He (Mu'adh ibn Jabal) said: 'I will judge according to the Book of Allah.' He (the Messenger of Allah then) said:

'What if (the legal ruling) is not found in the book of Allah?' He (Mu'adh ibn Jabal) replied: 'Then (I will judge) according to the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allah (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam).' He (the Messenger of Allah) then said: 'What if (the legal ruling) is not found in the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allah?' He (Mu'adh ibn Jabal) replied: 'Then I will use my independent judgment and I will make an effort (to try to come to the correct solution).' He (the Messenger of Allah) then struck me on my chest and said: 'All praise is for Allah who rendered suitable the messenger of the Messenger of Allah and caused him to be in agreement with that which pleases His Messenger.'"

The Prophet's Love for Mu`adh

In another hadith narrated by Mu'adh ibn Jabal (radhiAllahu anhu) who said:

"The Messenger of Allah (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) said: 'O Mu`adh, verily I love you (for the sake of Allah).' I replied: 'O Messenger of Allah, I swear by Allah that I love you (too).' The Messenger of Allah then said: 'I advise you to say these words after every prayer: "O Allah, help me to remember you and to thank you and to better perform my worship of you.' "

Last Meeting with the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam)

When the Prophet was sending Mu`adh to Yemen to teach them about Islam, he personally bade farewell to him and walked for some distance alongside Mu`adh as he rode out of the city. Finally, he said to him:

"O Mu`adh, perhaps you shall not meet me again after this year - perhaps when you return you shall see only my masjid and my grave." Mu`adh then start to cry uncontrollably. Those with him wept too. A feeling of sadness and grief overtook him as he parted from his beloved Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be on him.

The Prophet's feeling was correct. The eyes of Muadh never beheld the Prophet after that moment. The Prophet died before Mu`adh returned from the Yemen. There is no doubt that Mu`adh wept when he returned to Madinah and found there was no longer the blessed company of the Prophet.

Mu`adh Passes Away in The Plague of Amwaas

In 639 AD, in the town of Emmaus (Amwaas), in Palestine, a severe plague hit the area. This plague caused the death of many prominent companions of Rasulullah (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam). Historical accounts estimated that 25,000 people died in this outbreak. When this reached the Muslim areas Mu`adh ibn Jabal announced the plague was a blessing from Allah, the prayer of His prophet and the manner in which the righteous ones before have died.

There Mu`adh (radhiAllahu anhu) fell ill with the plague that had affected the whole area. As he was near to death, he turned in the direction of the Ka`bah and repeated these words: "Welcome Death, Welcome. A visitor has come after a long absence . . ." And looking up to heaven, he said: "O Lord, You know that I did not desire the world and to prolong my stay in it . . . O Lord, accept my soul with goodness as you would accept a believing soul..."

He then passed away, far from his family and his clan. May Allah be pleased with and grant him high ranks in Paradise.