

Umm Shareek (radhiAllahu anha)

And her Amazing Story of Allah's Help

Blessed With the Love for Islam

Her name was Ghuzayyah bint Jabir ibn Hakeem from the tribe of Daws.

Ibn Abbas (radhiAllahu anhu) relates that Allah Ta`ala endowed her heart with the love of Islam so she embraced it in Makkah on her own. This shows her intelligence, strength and courage because to accept Islam at that time was extremely difficult due to the persecution of the Muslims at the hands of Quraysh. Thus anyone who accepted Islam during the earlier stages was truly strong-spirited.

She was married at that time to Ibil-Askar ad-Dawsi who was not a Muslim.

Secretly she started to propagate Islam to all the women of Quraysh and began to encourage them to accept the pure and pristine way of the oneness of Allah and to leave the ignorant custom of idol-worship.

Captured by the Idolaters

Eventually after some time, the idolaters of Makkah caught on to her propagation of Islam and captured her. They warned her saying, "If it wasn't for fear of your tribe retaliating against us then we would have taken care of you for good. But what we shall do is exile you from Makkah and make you return to them."

We should remember that taking her back to her people was not a gesture of kindness, but this was actually a form of punishment due to the fact that her people were also idolaters and would do anything to persecute their opponents.

Miracle and Help from Allah Ta`ala

Umm Shareek (radhiallahu anha) tells her story, "They took me on a camel with no saddle or anything on it to ease the rough and rugged journey of the desert. They left me for 3 days not giving me anything to eat or drink. Whenever they would stop at any place to rest on the way, they would take rest in the shade and tie me down in the scorching heat of the sun to burn. All this time, I would be held back from eating or drinking anything.

However, at one of the places we stopped to rest, they tied me down and left as they had been doing. When they left me there and walked away to go rest in their shade, I suddenly felt the coolness of something on my chest. So I felt what it was and found it to be a bucket of water. I drank a little from it and it was lifted up from me. Then again it was brought down and I drank a little more from it until it was lifted up. Again and again it would be brought down to me to drink from and then lifted up when I finished. After this, I noticed that it was left there for me so I drank to my heart's content until I could drink no more. I also poured the remainder of the water on my body and clothes to cool down from the burning heat of the desert.

The Idolaters Bear Witness to the Miracle

When the idolaters came back to take me along with them, they noticed that I was drenched in water and that I was in a very good condition. So they said, "Did you open your ropes and manage to drink all of our water?"

I said, "No, by Allah...." Then I explained to them what had happened.

They said, "If what you say is true, then your religion is better than ours."

When they went to see their water bags, they noticed that none of them were even touched. At the moment they saw this, they knew that this was a miracle and assistance from Allah. All of the idolaters accepted Islam and those who previously wanted to exile her became her well-wishers and brethren in faith.

Marrying the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam)

After this incident Umm Shareek (radhiallahu anha) went to the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) and offered herself to him in marriage. The Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) accepted her offer but did not consummate the marriage. She never married after the demise of the Prophet (sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) and passed away in the 50th year of his Hijrah. May Allah Ta`ala be pleased with her. Ameen.