

## Chapter – 11

### 'Abdullah Ibn 'Umer

(611 - 692 AD)

His name is 'Abdullah and Kunniya is Abu Abdur Rahman. He is the son of 'Umar Farooq. As a child, he was already brighten up to the glory of Islam. He was fortunate enough to remain in the company of Allah's Prophet from the very beginning. The initial training of his father and the companionship of the Noble Prophet made his personality like a shining star. He was only a child when he faced the hardships of emigration, with his sister Hafsa, who later became one of the brides of the Prophet.

'Abdullah Ibn 'Umer, who was charged with the spirit of Jihad, could not take part in Badr and Uhud battles due to his young age. When he was 15, he was allowed to join the Battle of Trench. In this event, not only he did participate in digging trenches but also he fought as a regular soldier, which fueled to his passion for Islam.

'Abdullah Ibn Umar, used to observe all the acts of the Noble Prophet very keenly and wanted to act himself in the similar manners. For example, 'Abdullah once saw that the Noble Prophet has prayed at any particular point, then later he himself would pray at the same place. If 'Abdullah saw that the Prophet invoked Allah on any occasion, then he would also

invoke in the same words whenever he got such an occasion again. If the Prophet used to do anything while standing, then he would do the same while standing, and if the Prophet used to do anything while sitting, then he would also do it while sitting. If the Noble Prophet were to stay at any place during his journey then afterwards if 'Abdullah got the chance to pass that place, then he would also like to stay there in the Sunnah of the Noble Prophet. Once, the Holy Prophet reached Makkah and his camel made two rounds to that place before stopping, then the Noble Prophet stepped down and he first prayed two Rakat over there. Although the rotating motion of the camel was merely a coincidence, but whenever 'Abdullah came to that place, he made his camel go two rounds, and then he would come down and offer two Rakat prayers. Umm al-Mu'minin 'Aisha said: "*There is no one like 'Abdullah Ibn' Umar who follows in the footsteps of the Noble Prophet.*"

The habit of keenly observing the persona of Noble Prophet has made 'Abdullah as a credible Muhaddith (*scholar of hadith*). Despite such close research, whenever 'Abdullah used to narrate any hadith, he was afraid that there would be nothing incorrect in it. Therefore, he narrated only that hadith of which he remembered each and every word perfectly.

In the same way, he was very careful about giving fatwa (*ruling on a point of Islamic law*). Once a person approached 'Abdullah Ibn 'Umar for some of his problems. At that time he was not quite sure that his decision would be correct or not, so he apologized by saying, "*I do not know about it*". When that fellow left he said to himself "*Omar's son was questioned but he said I do not know!*". As a result of his careful nature he always refused to accept the office of the Judge. Whereas he was fully aware of it that what the role of Judge was and he was having nothing short of qualifying it.

'Abdullah Ibn Umar, considered wealth only as a means of fulfilling his need and not as a resources of obtaining comfort or luxury. That is why he had always considered wealth to be his servant and not his master. So he lived his whole life with the utmost simplicity. It was not like he never had enough money. He was considered among honest and successful businessmen.

He got a fair share of the wealth from war booties as well. But he used to spend most of his wealth on the orphans, the poor, and the needy persons. It was his simplicity that he was once given a gift of fine piece of cloth (*presumably Thob*). He said it is silk. He was told, No! it's a good cotton. He replied, "*It looks so refined that it might make me proud to wear it, so I won't use it.*"

Abu Musa 'Ash'ari has said:

*"Abdullah Ibn 'Umar was not only the son of a great father but he himself was also a great man. He was a great scholar. He had a generous nature. He was a kind hearted person. He was a man of great stature and he was a true gentleman."*

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