

Chapter – 19

Salman Farsi

(576 - 656 AD)

Before accepting Islam, the name of Salman was Mabah. His birthplace was a village named Jiyan which was located near the city of Isfahan, Iran. His Father's name is Yuzakhshon bin Mursalan, who was considered as the chief of the village. His father loved him immensely. Since he was born in a rich family, so his upbringing was also gone accordingly. Before Islam he was related to the religion of Majoos (*fire worshiper*). By nature he was having much religious emotions, so he used to serve the Fire Temple in the same way.

Once his father sent him to take care of the property because of his busyness. On the way, Salman found a church where worship was in progress. He entered the church and began to watch keenly the way of worship. He was so impressed with their worship that he decided to learn more about Christianity. Incidentally, he got an opportunity to join a Christian convoy which was going to Syria. He reached Sham where he met several bishops. The series of meetings were going ahead that he reached 'Umuria. There he met a very dedicated bishop. The bishop sensed his dissatisfaction and said to him, "*In my view, here is not a single bishop to whom I can advise you to go. But wait for the appearance of a prophet who will rise from the Arabian desert, and who would revive the*

religion of Ibrahim. His signs are that he will accept the offering, but will consider the charity forbidden for himself. There will be a prophecy stamp between his two shoulders. If you can meet him, you must meet. "

Salman was staying in 'Umuria and there he found a caravan of Banu Culb who was going to the valley of Al-Qura. So he associated himself with them. When caravan reached Makkah, they abused him and took away all his belongings he had, and sold him as slave to a Jew. Sometime later, a man from Banu Quraiza bought him and brought him to Madinah. Here he suddenly received a news that the claimant of a Prophecy had migrated from Makkah to Madinah. This news just made him as he destined. He got the opportunity to reach Quba to meet the Noble Prophet. First of all he did investigate about the gift and the charity and satisfied himself that he is the same person to whom he is looking for. When he arrived to meet him for the third time, he wished the Prophet to see the stamp of the "End of the Prophecy". The Noble Prophet acceded to his request and removed his mantle from his back. Salman saw the stamp and immediately kissed him. Then he narrated all his story which the Holy Prophet listened with interest. At that time, he became the possessor of the everlasting wealth for which he had been searching since long.

Due to the slavery, Salman could not participate in the battles of Badr and Uhad. Then the Prophet advised him to come out of the slavery for that he had to make agreement with his boss. Accordingly, he had to plant 300 palm trees for his boss and pay 40 Oqia of gold. For this, not only the Companions did participate in the tree planting but the Noble Prophet himself took part. Now they were thinking about the required gold that all of a sudden a man came to them carrying

a piece of gold weighing exactly about 40 Oqia. On completing the agreement he got liberation and then he also got a brotherhood relation with Abu Darda.

In the Battle of Trench, Salman participated with great enthusiasm. In fact, Salman's strategy played a very important role in the success of the event. After this victory, the Noble Prophet said for him: "*Salman is amongst Ahl-Bait*" After the Battle of Trench, there was no battle left that Salman Farsi did not join with the Noble Prophet. In the period of 'Umer, Salman participated in the combats against Iran as well.

Salman Farsi had a greater proximity with the Noble Prophet. For this reason all the Companions also highly respected him. One time the Noble Prophet said about Salman: "*Salman is full of knowledge.*" The Prophet also gave him the title of "*Salman al-Khair*" (*Salman the benevolent*).

During the period of 'Umar, he was the Governor of Madain. Yet his humbleness was so dominating that he had only one cloak to wear. He never built a home for himself too.

Salman Farsi passed away in 35AH/656AD at the age of about 80.