

Chapter – 13

Khalid Bin Walid

(594 - 642AD)

The name is Khalid. His Kunniya is Abu Suleiman and the title is Saifullah (*Sword of Allah*). His father's name is Walid bin Mughira, who throughout his life tried to show aggression against the message of Islam and the Noble Prophet. Mother Lubaba bint Haris was the sister of Um al-Mu'minin Hazrat Maimuna. Since Khalid was the son of a very rich father, so instead of adopting any regular profession, his young age was spent in horse riding, haunting and learning fight with swords. Naturally, his spontaneity of bravery and facing to dangers made him a great war expert. Since his entire family was an enemy of Islam, Khalid also took part aggressively in opposition to Islam. On the eve of the Battle of Uhad, when the victory of the Muslims was almost certain, Khalid suddenly attacked on Muslims and remained successful in making a chaos in Islamic troops. So at that time he personally saved the pagans from their complete defeat.

In 6AH/628AD, on the eve of the reconciliation of Hudaibiya, the Quraish contingent that came to detect the movement of the Muslim troops, Khalid was leading that faction. In those days Khalid used to go on patrolling, then he had a chance to have a closer look at the then most attractive personality of Allah's Prophet and the combination of his greatness and loveable character. Then all of a sudden his heart

took a turn and he was forced to think that "*Despite my numerous attempts to harm the Noble Prophet and his Companions I could not get any success. Certainly, there must be some super power, that is Allah, who protects them. No matter how hard we try, we cannot overcome them.*" Thus, the authenticity of Islam on Khalid was highlighted in his heart and it became the reason for his acceptance of Islam. After the acceptance of Islam, Khalid decided to stay in Madinah. According to him, during this period, the personality of the Noble Prophet further aggravated in him, particularly when he did not behave discriminately with him.

Prior to the acceptance of Islam, Khalid bin Walid was not only prominent in the management of his military camp, but he was a commander as well. Keeping this in view, the Prophet retained this honor for him which helped greatly in Islamic conquests. Khalid was a fierce enemy of the Muslims before the conversion of Islam, but after the acceptance of Islam he became a serious threat to the polytheists.

His first assignment was the Clash of Mautah. In this war, three commanders of the Islamic troops were martyred. But, as soon as the flag of Islam came into the hands of Khalid, the situation of the whole war was changed. In this battle, although victory could not be achieved, but Khalid could remain successful in bringing back his troops safely. Considering Khalid fighting bravely, he was awarded a title of Saifullah (*Sword of Allah*) by the Noble Prophet. On the occasion of conquest of Makkah, the Quraish had put down their weapons without any resistance, yet a few infidels were killed by the hands of Khalid. When this matter was questioned with Khalid, it came to know that in fact the nonbeliever had initiated the fight.

Five days later, the Noble Prophet gave Khalid an assignment of breaking the famous idol, 'Uzza. Then one month after, three tribes of Quraish came forward for battle. So Khalid

was given the command of 12,000 troops to carry out the fight. He bravely fought and forced to run away from the battle field. Nevertheless, he himself was seriously injured. Allah's Prophet recited the Divine Verses on his wounds and he became perfectly fit again. In Taif, the infidels started war with their fort closed. On this occasion, the commander of Khalid defeated them as well.

In the period of Abu Bakr, the apostates, the claimants of prophecy, and the deniers of paying Zakat raised their heads. At this juncture many groups were made to tackle them, and Khalid became the head of one party. In the first battle, Khalid defeated Taliha, a claimant of the prophecy. Then he had gone to deal with a denier of Zakat, Malik bin Nawirah. On account of a misunderstanding, Malik bin Nawirah was killed away from the battlefield. After finding out the details of this matter Abu Bakr paid a blood money in this regard. Afterwards Khalid was sent to deal with Musleemah bin Kazzab. Here, only 13,000 Muslim soldiers defeated a troop of 40,000 people, and at last Musleemah bin Kazzab was also killed. Then Khalid Saifullah was given the great tasks to conquer Iraq and to overthrow the Kingdom of Qaiser. When he came out on this expedition, success became his fate and he conquered many well-known and powerful cities that were included in the Islamic Empire. Khalid also performed prominently in the Battle of Yarmuk and defeated the Romans. Then he had the victory over Bait al-Maqdis.

The great fighter who decided the fate of Iraq and Syria, in 17AH/639AD, as a result of some of Umar's strategic decisions, Khalid had to see his ousting from the battlefield as well. Anyways, Khalid later became Governor of Harman too, but a year later he resigned from that position. This great Mujahid died in Madinah in 21AH/642AD.