

# Lecture No. 22: History of Islam-III

## (Module 1(92): The life and services of the Third Righteous Caliph: Hazrat Usman-e-Ghani R.A)

**Introduction:** His name is "Usman", his surname is "Abu Abdullah", his title is "Zul-Nuraen (ذوالنورین)" the man of two lights (married two daughters of the Prophet (PBUH)), Ghani (he spent a lot of money in the way of Allah on several occasions)". His tribe was Banu Umaiyyah (بنو امیه). He was born 6 years after The Year of the Elephant. He was martyred on 18 Dhu al-Hijj (ذو الحج) 35 Hijri.

**Personal Characteristics and Distinctions:** Hazrat Usman RA was the only person who married two daughters of the Prophet (PBUH). Even before accepting Islam, he was a man of good habits. At that time, Arab women used to sing lullabies to their children in these words: "By Rahman, I love you as much as Quraysh (قریش) love Usman." The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said regarding his appearance: "I know Usman (RA) to be more similar to my father Hazrat Ibrahim (AS)" and he also said: You are the first person after Hazrat Lut (AS) who migrated along with his family in the way of Allah" And in the hadith, this tradition is found regarding the attribute of sense of modesty of Usman (RA) that upon his arrival, the Prophet (PBUH) wrapped his clothes on his shin and said, "Why should I not show modesty to this person whom even the angels show modesty to?"

**Life after Acceptance of Islam:** After Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA), Hazrat Ali (RA) and Hazrat Zaid bin Haritha (RA), Hazrat Usman (RA) was the fourth among men to accept Islam. He was 34 years old at the time of acceptance of Islam. He migrated twice in the way of Allah, once to Abyssinia (حبشه) and the second time to Madinah. He participated in all the battles except the Battle of Badr. He could not participate in the Battle of Badr due to the serious illness of his wife Hazrat Ruqayyah (RA). The reason for the pledge of allegiance to Rizwan was he and, on this occasion, the Prophet (PBUH) declared his other hand as the hand of Usman and pledged allegiance on his behalf. On the occasion of the Battle of Tabuk (تبوك), he spent so much money in the way of Allah that the Prophet (PBUH) was very happy and said that after today, no action of Usman will harm him. He was one of the most important ministers and advisors during the caliphate of Hazrat Umar (RA). Hazrat Umar (RA) is mostly used to consult Hazrat Usman (RA) and Hazrat Ali (RA) on important matters. It was Hazrat Usman (RA) himself who suggested the lists prepared by Hazrat Umar (RA) to distribute the wealth among the people and it was Hazrat Usman (RA) himself who advised Hazrat Umar (RA) to start the Hijri year from the month of Muharram.

**Virtues and Merits:** Hazrat Usman (RA) bought heaven twice while living in this world, once he bought the well of Rumah (رومه) and dedicated it to the public, about which the Prophet

(PBUH) said that whoever buys the well of Rumah and makes it public to the Muslims, there is heaven for him. For the second time, he bought and dedicated a piece of land for the expansion of the Prophet's Mosque, about which the Prophet (PBUH) said, "Whoever buys so-and-so's land and expands the mosque, he will get a better place in Paradise." Hazrat Usman (RA) received the tidings of Paradise in this world from the words of the Prophet (PBUH). The Prophet (PBUH) said with reference to him, "Among my companions, Usman (RA) is very similar to me in habits. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said that Hazrat Usman (RA) will be on the right during the commotion (Fitna) which led to his martyrdom. Once, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) mentioned a Fitna, while Hazrat Usman (RA) passed by. The Prophet (PBUH) said: "On that day, this person will be killed by the oppressors" and at another occasion, he said: "On that day, this person will be on the right."

## (Module 2(93): The introduction and features of Hazrat Usman's R.A Caliphate era)

On the 4<sup>th</sup> Muharram 24 Hijri, on the third day of the burial of Hazrat Umar (RA), the Companions of the Prophet (PBUH) appointed Hazrat Usman (RA) as the intermediary caliph and pledged allegiance to him after the Fajr prayer. Many areas were conquered during his reign (Ray (رے), most of the Kingdom Rome (روم) (Byzantine), Sabur (سابور), Jurjan (جرجان), Istakhar (اصطخر), Qasa (قساء), Jor (جور), Khorasan (خراسان), Tus (طوس), Sarkhas (سرخس), Marv (مرو), Beibaq (بیبق). In 26 Hijri, Hazrat Usman (RA) built Masjid Haram and in 29 Hijri made the extension of Masjid Nabawi. In 26 Hijri, at the request of the people of Makkah, the new port of Jeddah was built in place of the old port of Shaiba. During the time of Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA) and Hazrat Umar (RA), decisions were made in the mosque itself therefore, there was no separate building, and he constructed a separate building built as a judicial court.

**Important Steps of the Caliphate:** The prominent steps of his Caliphate were that all Muslims were gathered on the single recitation of the Holy Quran. The salaries of the muezzins (مؤذنون) were fixed, pastures were made for the official animals, the people were allowed to pay their zakat by themselves, the police chief was appointed, laws were made for private ownership of land, and in his era, the first fleet of the Islamic army was developed and Cyprus (قبرص) was conquered with it.

**Important Features of the Usman Caliphate:** Like the previous caliphs, Shura (شوری) (Consultation) system was followed. In all important matters the companions of the Prophet (PBUH), especially the Companions of Badar were consulted. The Shura system, commitment to justice and fairness, respect for freedom of opinion, and accountability were indispensable elements of his caliphate. During his reign, there was an abundance of wealth, according to some historians, the Usman era was a period of relative of more prosperity and comfort.

## (Module 3(94): The life and services of the Forth Righteous Caliph: Hazrat Ali al-Murtaza R.A)

**Introduction:** His name was "Ali, Asad (his mother gave him this name at the time of birth)", his surname was "Abu Turab (أبو تراب), Abu Al Hasan (أبو الحسن)", his title was "Amirul Momineen (أمير المؤمنين), Haydar Karrar (حيدر كزار), Murtaza (مرتضى)" and his tribe was "Banu Hashim (بنو هاشم)". He was born 10 years before the Prophet's mission and was martyred in the month of Ramadan in 40 Hijri.

**Personal Characteristics and Distinctions:** Hazrat Ali (RA) was the cousin of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) Prophet (PBUH) took him under his guardianship in his childhood to share the burden of his uncle, so he was directly under the training of Prophet (PBUH) right from childhood. He was very brave and strong. He killed many brave people of the disbelievers, especially, Marhabh (مرحب) in the battle of Khyber and Amr bin Abd Wud (عمرو بن عبد وُد) in the battle of Khandaq. Half of the infidels who died in the Battle of Badr, were sent to Hell by his hands.

In addition, he was an expert in Arabic rules. He was the first to compile Arabic rules so that people could easily understand Arabic phrases and especially the Holy Qur'an. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) had already informed Hazrat Ali (RA) about his martyrdom, he said, "Two people are the most unfortunate, the ones who slaughtered the camel of the people of Thamud (ثمود), and the others who will strike your head with a sword and your beard will be covered with blood."

**Life after Acceptance of Islam:** He was the first among children to become Muslim. At the time of acceptance of Islam, he was 10 years old. On the occasion of migration, the Prophet (PBUH) put him on his bed with his cloak for rest and chose to return the trusts of the people which they have handed over to the prophet (PBUH). He was the one who wrote the peace document of the Hdaybiyah (حديبية) accord. After the conquest of Makkah, on the order of the Prophet (PBUH) he broke the idol "Qulas" (قلس) of the tribe of Banu Tay (بنو طي). On the occasion of the Battle of Tabuk (تبوك), the Prophet (PBUH), appointed Hazrat Ali (RA) his deputy for supervision of the family of the Prophet (PBUH) in Madinah. he said, "You have the same relationship with me as Harun (AS) had with Musa (AS)." On the occasion of the Farewell Sermon (حجة الوداع), the Prophet (PBUH) slaughtered 63 camels out of 100 and ordered him to slaughter the remaining camels.

**Virtues and Merits:** He received the tidings of Paradise in this world from the mouth of the Prophet (PBUH). He had the honor of being the son-in-law of the Prophet (PBUH). Hazrat Fatima (RA), the Prophet's daughter, was married to him. The prophet said, "Whomever I am the beloved of, Ali is also his beloved." In a hadith, His love was made the criterion of faith. The Prophet (PBUH) said to Hazrat Ali, "A believer will love you and a hypocrite will hate you."

**Scholarly Position of Hazrat Ali Murtaza:** Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) clarified his scholarly position and said, "I am the city of knowledge and Ali is its gate." Hazrat Umar (RA) used to seek the refuge of Allah from a complicated problem for which Abu Hazrat Ali (RA) was not available to solve. When Hazrat Umar (RA) ordered the stoning to death of a pregnant woman in the case of adultery, Hazrat Ali (RA) forbade it and said, "What is the sin of a child in the womb?" Hazrat Umar did not stone her and said "لو لا علي لهلك عمر" If it were not for Ali, Umar would have perished.

**Virtues and Merits:** The Holy Prophet (PBUH) patted his hand on the chest of Hazrat Ali (RA) and prayed that his heart might be enlightened and uprightness of his tongue. He (RA) says that after that day, I never had any doubts about settling matters. The Prophet (PBUH) said about him that he was the greatest judge of the Ummah.

## (Module 4(95): The features of the Caliphate of Hazrat Ali al-Murtaza R.A)

On 19th Dhul-Hajj, 35 Hijri, Hazrat Ali (RA) took the oath of allegiance as the fourth caliph in the mosque of the Prophet (PBUH) in the morning. From 656 to 661, four years and eight months, and nine days, he carried out the affairs of the caliphate. After assuming the position of Caliph, he delivered the address of the Caliphate, in which he advised the people to embrace good and abandon evil, to fulfill the rights of Allah and the rights of the people, to take care of what was forbidden and what was halal, and to keep in mind the end of the Hereafter in every matter. Later, he wrote letters to the governors and advised them regarding government matters, morals, manners, and their behavior with the subjects. After the martyrdom of Hazrat Usman (RA), his caliphate, unfortunately, suffered from internal disturbances, due to which Muslims fought among themselves during his caliphate. In which the Battle of Jamal (جمل) was fought in 36 Hijri, the Battle of Siffin (صفين) in 37 Hijri, and the Battle of Nahrwan (نهروان) in 38 Hijri. He (RA) moved the center of the Caliphate from Medina to Kufa (كوفه) due to internal disturbances.

- Hazrat Ali divided the kingdom into different provinces and states (Makkah, Madinah Bahrain and Oman, Yemen, Syria, Jazira, Basra, Kufa, Egypt, Persia, Khorasan, Azerbaijan). In all these areas such people were appointed as judges (Qazi) who are the most respected and whose decisions are acceptable to the people. They included Abdullah bin Abbas (عبد الله بن عباس), Shuraeh bin Harith (شريح بن حارث), Abu Musa Ash'ari (ابو موسى اشعري), Ubaidullah bin Mas'ud (عبيد عماره), Uthman bin Hanif (عثمان بن حنيف), Qays bin Sa'd (قيس بن سعد), Amara bin Shahab (بن شهاب), Qatsum bin Abbas (قثم بن عباس), Jaidah bin Habira (جعده بن هبيرة), Khalid bin Qabra Yarbu'I (خالد بن قبرة يريوعي), Abu al-Aswad al-Dawli (ابو الاسود الدؤلي), Saeed bin Nimran Hamdani (سعيد بن نمران همداني), Abdullah bin Utbah bin Mas'ud (عبد الله بن عتبة بن مسعود), Obaidah al-Sulmani (عبيده السلماني), Muhammad bin Yazid bin Khalidah al-Shibani (محمد بن يزيد بن خليفة الشيباني), etc.

**Important Measures of the Caliphate:** During the reign of Hazrat Ali (RA), a system of reforming the markets was established. Under this system, the mutual relations of people in the markets and the matters of buying and selling were made bound by the rules of the Islamic Sharia. He himself used to visit the markets and give advice and instructions to the people. He set up a prison (محبس). He fixed the cost of clothing and food for the prisoners. **Police inspectors were appointed**, provinces were given autonomy, and officials and governors were empowered to collect tribute in their respective areas to complete welfare projects with treasury or tribute money. In addition, the governors had the power to choose their ministers and advisers and appoint civil servants, form the army and even formulate foreign policy.

**The Main Features of the Alawi Caliphate:** During his reign, like the previous rightly guided caliphs, the system of Shura (Consultation) was followed. Special importance was given to the opinions of the Companions of the people of Badr, during his caliphate, the Qur'an, the Sunnah of the Prophet (PBUH), and the example of the two elders (Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA) and Umar (RA) were the main sources. He (RA) made a special arrangement for commanding what was good and forbidding evil. In spite of the commotion and riots, the personal freedom of the people was maintained. Apart from that, he appointed informers to monitor the governors and workers in order to be aware of their performance. The Ummah got the details of the Shariah rulings in the mutual battles of Muslims, such as the status of the victims, the property of the opponent parties, and the rulings on the prisoners from the events that took place during of Caliphate.