# LESSONS FROM THE 4 RIGHTLY GUIDED CALIPHS

الخلفاء الراشدون al-Khulafa al-Rashidun

# GUIDES FOR THE UMMAH

Abu Najeeh Irbad ibn Sariyah said: The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) gave us a sermon by which our hearts trembled and tears came to our eyes. So we said, 'O Messenger of Allah! It is as though this is a farewell sermon, so counsel us.' He (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said, 'I counsel you to have Taqwa of Allah, and to listen and obey, even if a slave were to become your Ameer. Verily he among you who lives long will see great controversy, so you must keep to my Sunnah and to the Sunnah of the Khulafa Rashideen, those who guide to the right way. Cling to it with your molar teeth. Beware of newly invented matters, for verily every Bid'ah is misguidance.'

أوصيكم بتقوى الله ، والسمع والطاعة ، وإن تأمّر عليكم عبد . فإنه من يعش منكم فسيرى اختلافا كثيرا ، فعليكم بسنتي وسنة الخلفاء الراشدين المهديين عضوا عليها بالنواجذ ، وإياكم ومحدثات الأمور ، فإن كل بدعة ضلالة. (Hadith narrated in Abu Dawud)

Please note: This is not a stand alone booklet. It is designed to be studied with a teacher who can explain each point.

# ABUBAKR

- 2 years younger than Rasulullah (peace be upon him)
- 38 when Rasulullah (peace be upon him) was 40
- Name: Abdullah ibn Uthman
- Known as: Abubakr ibn Abi Quhafah
- Kunyah: Abu Abdullah
- Family: Banu Taim of Quraish
- Children: 6 (3 sons, 3 daughters)
- Passed away: Age 63
- Buried: Next to Rasulullah (peace be upon him)
- Relationship to Rasulullah: Most beloved and father-in-law
- Status: Guaranteed Paradise, loving him is part of Iman He is Abubakr. He is perfection without prophethood.

(التوبة: من الآية 40) إِلاّ تَنْصُرُوهُ فَقَدْ نَصَرَهُ اللّهُ إِذْ أَخْرَجَهُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا ثَانِيَ اثْنَيْنِ إِذْ هُمَا فِي الْغَارِ إِذْ يَقُولُ لِصَاحِبِهِ لا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّ اللّهَ مَعَنَا اللهِ مَعَنَا إِلاّ تَنْصُرُوهُ فَقَدْ نَصَرَهُ اللّهُ إِذْ أَخْرَجَهُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا ثَانِيَ اثْنَيْنِ إِذْ هُمَا فِي الْغَارِ إِذْ يَقُولُ لِصَاحِبِهِ لا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّ اللّهَ مَعَنَا If you do not support him, for Allah did support him when the disbelievers drove him out and he was only one of two. While they both were in the cave, he reassured his companion, 'Do not worry; Allah is certainly with us.'

إِنَّ مِن أَمَنِّ النَّاسِ عَلَيَّ فِي صُحْبَتِهِ ومَالِهِ أَبَا بَكْرٍ، ولو كُنْتُ مُتَّخِذًا خَلِيلًا غيرَ رَبِّي لَاتَّخَذْتُ أَبَا بَكْرٍ، ولَكِنْ أُخُوَّةُ الإسْلَامِ ومَوَدَّتُهُ، لا يَبْقَيَنَّ فِي المِسْجِدِ بَابُ إِلَّا سُدَّ إِلَّا بَابَ أَبِي بَكْرٍ

'The person who has favored me most of all both with his company and wealth, is Abubakr. If I were to take a Khalil other than my Lord, **I would have taken Abubakr as such**, but (we have) the Islamic brotherhood and friendliness. All the gates of the Masjid should be closed except the gate of Abubakr.' (Sahih al-Bukhari)

فَقَالَ أَبُو بَكْرٍ ـ رضى الله عنه ـ بِأَبِي أَنْتَ وَأُمِّي يَا رَسُولَ اللهِ، مَا عَلَى مَنْ دُعِيَ مِنْ تِلْكَ الأَبْوَابِ مِنْ ضَرُورَةٍ، فَهَلْ يُدْعَى أَحَدُ مِنْ تِلْكَ . الأَبْوَابِ كُلِّهَا قَالَ : نَعَمْ وَأَرْجُو أَنْ تَكُونَ مِنْهُمْ

Abubakr said, 'Let my parents be sacrificed for you, O Allah's Apostle! No need will befall him who will be called from (all) those gates (of Jannah). Will there be any one who will be called from all these gates?' He replied, 'Yes, and I hope you will be one of them.' (Sahih al–Bukhari)

قالت: أرأيت إن جئت ولم أجدك؟ كأنها تقول: الموت، قال: إن لم تجديني فاتي أبا بكر She (a Companion) said: 'What if I come to you (O Rasulullah) and do not find you?'

He said: If you do not find me, **go to Abubakr**.' (Sahih al-Bukhari)

### **UMAR**

- 12 years younger than Rasulullah (peace be upon him)
- 28 when Rasulullah (peace be upon him) was 40 (embraced Islam at 34)
- Name: Umar ibn al-Khattab
- Known as: Umar ibn al-Khattab
- Kunyah: Abu Hafs
- Family: Banu Adi of Quraish
- Children: 12 (9 sons, 3 daughters)
- Passed away: Age 63
- Buried: Next to Abubakr
- Relationship to Rasulullah: Father-in-law, grandson-in-law
- Status: Guaranteed Paradise, loving him is part of Iman

لقد كان فيما قبلكم من الأمم ناس محدثون، فإن يك في أمتي أحد، فإنه عمر

'There were Muhaddathun (the recipients of Divine inspiration) among the nations before you. If there is any of such **Muhaddath** among my followers, he must be Umar.' (Sahih al–Bukhari)

وَالَّذِي نَفْسِي بِيَدِهِ مَا لَقِيَكَ الشَّيْطَانُ قَطُّ سَالِكًا فَجَّا إِلاَّ سَلَكَ فَجَّا غَيْر فَجِّكَ

'By Him in Whose Hands my life is, whenever **Satan sees you taking a path**, he follows a path other than yours.' (Tirmidhi)

لو كانَ بَعدي نبيٌّ لَكانَ عُمَرُ بنُ الخطَّابِ

'If there was a **Prophet** after me, it would be Umar ibn al-Khattab.' (Tirmidhi) \*

\* This indicates that Prophethood ends at Rasulullah (peace be upon him). It shows how Umar (may Allah be pleased be upon him)'s reign complimented the mission of Rasulullah, and the expansion of Islam that took place during it. This is corroborated by the following Hadith: 'In a dream I saw myself drawing water from a well with a bucket. Abubakr came and drew a bucket or two weakly. May Allah forgive him. Then Umar ibn al-Khattab came and the bucket turned into a very large one in his hands. I had never seen such a mighty person as he in doing such hard work till all the people drank to their satisfaction and watered their camels that knelt down there.' (Sahih al-Bukhari)

# **UTHMAN**

- 6 years younger than Rasulullah (peace be upon him)
- 34 when Rasulullah (peace be upon him) was 40
- Name: Uthman ibn al-Affan
- Known as: Uthman ibn al-Affan
- Kunyah: Abu Abdullah
- Family: Banu Umayyah of Quraish
- Children: About 16 (9 sons, 7 daughters)
- Passed away: Age 82
- Buried: Jannat-ul-Baqee
- Relationship to Rasulullah: Son-in-law, grandson of his (peace be upon him)'s aunt Bayda
- Status: Guaranteed Paradise, loving him is part of Iman

فَقَالَ: اثْذَنْ لَهُ وَبَشِّرهُ بِالْجَنَّةِ مَعَ بَلَوَى تُصِيبُهُ» فَجِئتُ، فَقُلتُ: ادْخُل وَيُبَشِّرُكَ رسُول الله -صلَّى الله عليه وسلَّم- بِالْجَنَّةِ مَعَ بَلوَى تُصِيبُك، فَدَخَلَ فَوَجَدَ القُفَّ قَدْ مُلِئَ، فَجَلَسَ وِجَاهَهُم مِنَ الشِقِّ الآخَرِ

He (Rasulullah) said: 'Let him (Uthman) in and give him **glad tidings of Paradise along with an affliction that will befall him**.' I (Abu Musa) came and said: 'Come in and the Messenger of Allah gives you glad tidings of Paradise along with an affliction that will befall you.' He went in and saw that the edge of the well was fully occupied so he sat on the other side facing them (Rasulullah, Abubakr and Umar). (Sahih al-Bukhari)

ألا أَسْتَحِي من رجل تَسْتَحِي منه الملائكةُ

'Shall I not be shy in front of a man whom the angels are shy of?' (Sahih Muslim)

غَفَرَ اللَّهُ لَكَ يَا عُثْمَانُ مَا قَدَّمْتَ، وَمَا أَخَّرْتَ، وَمَا أَسْرَرْتَ، وَمَا أَعْلَنْتَ، وَمَا أَخْفَيْتَ، وَمَا أَبْدَيْتَ، وَمَا أَبْدَيْتَ، وَمَا كَانَ، وَمَا أَسْرَرْتَ، وَمَا أَعْلَنْتَ، وَمَا أَخْفَيْتَ، وَمَا أَبْدَيْتَ، وَمَا كَانَ، وَمَا أَنْ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ

'May Allah forgive you, O Uthman, that of your which is the past, the future, secret, open, hidden, apparent, and whatever has been, and whatever shall be until the day of Judgement.' (Fadhail Sahabah lil Imam Ahmed)

صَحِبَهُمَا الله، إِنَّ عُثْمَانَ أَوَّلَ مَنْ هَاجَرَ بِأَهْلِهِ بَعْدَ لُوطٍ عَلَيْهِ الْسَّلامُ

'May Allah be their companion. Verily Uthman is the **first to migrate** with his family after Lut alayhissalaam.' (Al-Bidayah wan-Nihaya)

## ALI

- 30 years younger than Rasulullah (peace be upon him)
- 10 when Rasulullah (peace be upon him) was 40
- Name: Ali ibn Abd Manaf (i.e. Abu Talib) ibn Abdul Muttalib
- Known as: Ali ibn Abu Talib
- Kunyah: Abu al-Hasan
- Family: Banu Hashim of Quraish
- Children: About 31 (14 sons, 17 daughters)
- Passed away: Age 63
- Buried: Most likely in Kufa, Iraq (Shia say in Najaf, Iraq)
- Relationship to Rasulullah: son-in-law, first cousin
- Status: Guaranteed Paradise, loving him is part of Iman

أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عليه وسلَّمَ قالَ يَومَ خَيْبَرَ: لَأُعْطِيَنَّ هذِه الرَّايَةَ غَدًا رَجُلًا يَفْتَحُ اللَّهُ علَى يَدَيْهِ، يُحِبُّ اللَّهَ ورَسُولُه، ويُحِبُّهُ اللَّهُ ورَسُولُهُ

Rasulullah (peace and blessings be upon him) said on the day of Khaibar: 'I will surely give this flag tomorrow to a man whom Allah will give victory on his hands. He loves Allah and His Messenger and **Allah and His Messenger love him**.' (Sahih al-Bukhari)

أَنْتَ مِنِّي بِمُنْزِلَةِ هَارُونَ مِنْ مُوسَى إِلاَّ أَنَّهُ لاَ نَبِيَّ بَعْدِي.

'You are in the same position with relation to me as **Haroon was in relation to**Musa but that there is no prophet after me.' (Sahih Muslim)

وَأُمَّا أَنْتَ يَا عَلِيُّ فَأَخِي وَأَبُو وَلَدَيَّ ، وَمِنِّي وَإِلَيَّ

As for you, O Ali, you are my brother, and the father of my two sons (i.e. Hasan and Husain), and **you are from me and to me**. (Mustadrak Hakim)

أنا دار الحكمة وعلي بابما

I am the home of wisdom and Ali is its gate. (Munkar narration, Sunan Tirmidhi)

# EMBRACING ISLAM

#### **ABUBAKR**

First person Rasulullah (peace be upon him) told. No hesitation. Dreams previously such as seeing moon landing in his lap and meeting monks who prophesised to him.

#### **UTHMAN**

Said to be 4<sup>th</sup> male to embrace Islam. Hearing a voice in Syria announcing the coming Prophet, then his aunt Su'dah's prophecy which led him to ask Abubakr, upon whose hands he embraced.

#### **UMAR**

6<sup>th</sup> year Hijri, 3 days after Hamza. Set out to attack Rasulullah (peace be upon him) but heart turned to Islam. Dua of Rasulullah (peace be upon him) for his guidance and being moved by Ayats of Surah Taha.

#### **ALI**

First child to embrace Islam. Grew up in household of Rasulullah (peace be upon him) from age 5, and saw him and Lady Khadijah praying Salah.

# STATUS IN THE UMMAH

Sahabah (Companions of the greatest Prophet)

Muhajireen (Emigrants to Madinah)

Sabiqeen Awwaleen (Foremost Forerunners)

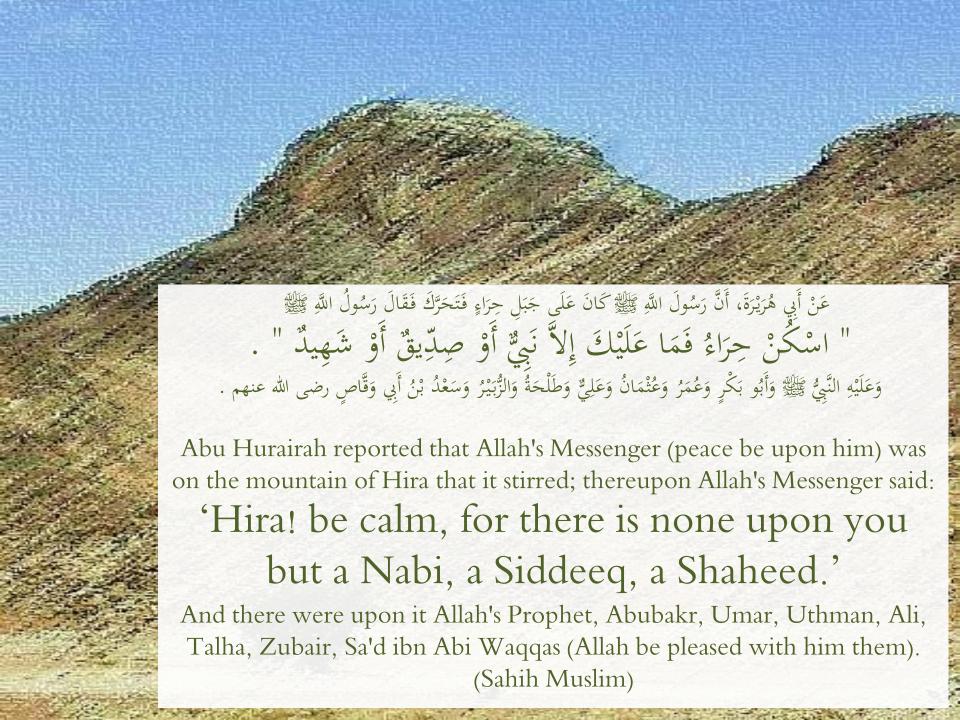
Katibeen Wahi (Scribes of Revelation)

Badriyyeen (Participant of battle of Badr)

Fil Mashahid Kulliha (In all expeditions)

Asharah Mubasharah (10 promised Jannah)

Khulafa' Rashideen (4 rightly guided Caliphs)



# HIJRAH

#### **ABUBAKR**

Permission to migrate to Abyssinia but taken back to Ibn Daghina. Migrated to Madinah with Rasulullah (peace be upon him) on the best of all journeys.

#### **UTHMAN**

First couple to migrate for Allah; Uthman and Ruqaiyyah. They migrated to Abyssinia then later to Madinah.

#### **UMAR**

Openly migrated to Madinah, challenging the Quraish.

#### **ALI**

Slept in Rasulullah (peace be upon him)'s bed when he left for Hijrah to Madinah and stayed to return trusts and goods of Quraish. Joined him at Quba. الشيخين The Two Elders

صاحب الغار و الحوض Companion of the Cave and Cistern خليفة رسول الله Caliph of the Rasulullah الأتقي **Most Pious** الصديق The True العتيق The Free

الفاروق The Distinguisher الختنين The Two In–Laws ذو النورين Possessor of The Two Lights

الغني

The Enriched

الحيدر The Lion

ابو تراب

Father of Dust

كرّم الله وجهه

May Allah Ennoble his Face

# **ARCHETYPES**

Whenever Allah Almighty sends two Prophets or guides at the same time, their personalities and approaches complement one another. For example, Haroon and Musa (peace be upon them), and Yahya and Isa (peace be upon them). The four Khulafa Rashideen complimented one another, and at their centre was the most balanced of individuals, Muhammad the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him). When giving advice regarding the captured enemies of Badr, Abubakr and Umar's advice reflected the approaches of the mentioned Prophets.



# DISTINGUISHING QUALITIES

The most merciful of my Ummah towards my Ummah is Abubakr.

The most **firm** of them to the religion of Allah is Umar.

The most sincere of them in **modesty** is Uthman.

The best judge of them is Ali bin Abu Talib.

(Sahih Hadith narrated in Ibn Majah)

**MERCY**: When the hypocrites made a rumour about his blessed daughter, his own nephew – whom he had provided for – spoke on it too. Hurt, he decided not to support him anymore. Allah Almighty revealed: "Let not those among you who are endured with grace and amplitude of means resolve by oath against helping their kinsmen, those in want and those who migrated in the path of Allah. Let them forgive and overlook. Do you not wish that Allah should forgive you? Indeed Allah is oft–Forgiving, most Merciful." (Qur'an 24:22) He straight away exclaimed 'Oh yes, my Lord' and resolved to spend double on his nephew going forward.

FIRMNESS IN DEEN: Abdullah ibn Umar reported that he divorced his wife while she was menstruating. So, (his father) Umar informed the Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) about that, and he became furious at him and said: 'Let him take her back and keep her until she becomes purified of menstruation, and then menstruates and then becomes purified of menstruation. Thereafter, if he decides to divorce her, he should divorce her while in a state of purity and before having intercourse with her. That is the Iddah, as commanded by Allah, the Almighty.' (Hadith narrated in Bukhari and Muslim)

**SHYNESS**: A'ishah reported: The Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) was lying in my house with his thighs or shins uncovered. Abubakr sought permission to enter, and he allowed him in, still in that state. Abubakr talked. Umar sought permission to enter, and he allowed him in while in that very state. Umar talked. Then Uthman sought permission to enter, so the Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) sat down and set right his clothes – Muhammad (one of the narrators) said: I do not say that it happened on the same day – and he then entered and conversed with him. When he left, A'ishah said: Abubakr entered and you did not care and did not arrange your clothes, Umar entered and you did not care and did not arrange your clothes right!' He said: 'Should I not feel shy of a man whom the angels feel shy of?' (Hadith narrated in Sahih Muslim)

**JUDGEMENT**: (from Ali): Rasulullah sent me to Yemen. I said: 'O Rasulullah! You are sending me to a people older than me, I am young. I don't have the discernment of rulings.' He (Ali) said: He put his hand on my chest and said: 'O Allah! Make his tongue firm and guide his heart. O Ali! When two disputants sit with you, don't judge between them until you listen to the other just as you heard from the other. If you do that, then judgement will be made clear for you.' He (Ali) said: 'After that, he never found issuing rulings difficult.' (Musnad Ahmed)

# EXAMPLES OF DEVOTION

#### THE BRAVEST OF ALL WAS ABUBAKR

.Defending Rasulullah during Makkan period from Uqbah ibn Abi Mu'ayt - 'Will you kill a man solely because he says my lord is Allah?' - badly wounded for doing so.

#### FROM THE MANY (MUWAFIQAT) AGREEMENTS OF UMAR

Prisoners of Badr were ransomed by Rasulullah. Umar's initial advice was to give them capital punishment. Ayats were revealed (8:67) showing that this was the way of the other prophets but exception was for Rasulullah.

#### THE CLOSENESS OF UTHMAN

He was sent with message to Quraish in Hudaibiyyah. They let him make Tawaf but he refused to do so until Rasulullah did. When the rumour of his death spread, the pledge of Ridwan took place. Rasulullah placed his left hand in his right to represent him.

#### THE RESPECTOF ALI

Sahabi who wrote the treaty of Hudaibiyyah. When the disbelievers asked to change 'Muhammad, Messenger of Allah' to 'Muhammad, son of Abdullah', he could not bring himself to do it. Rasulullah (peace be upon him) himself had to erase it.

# DUAS GIFTED VIA THEM

#### **ABUBAKR**

اللَّهمَّ إِنِي ظَلَمْتُ نَفْسِي ظُلْمًا كَثِيرًا، وَلا يَغْفِر الذُّنوبَ إِلاَّ أَنْتَ، فَاغْفِر لي مغْفِرةً مِن عِنْدِكَ، وَارحَمْني، وَإِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْغَفُورِ الرَّحِيم

#### **UMAR**

اللَّهُمَّ ارْزُقْنِي شَهَادَةً في سَبيلِكَ واجْعَلْ مَوْتِي في بَلَدِ رَسولِكَ صَلَّى اللهُ عليه وسلَّمَ

#### **UTHMAN**

بِسْمِ اللهِ الَّذِي لَا يَضُرُّ مَعَ اشْمِهِ شَيْءٌ فِي اللَّرْضِ وَلَا فِي السَّمَاءِ فِي السَّمَاءِ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ

#### **ALI**

TASBEEH FATIMI فسبحا ثلاثا وثلاثين واحمدا ثلاثا وثلاثين وكبرا أربعا وثلاثين

# PERIOD OF CALIPHATE

PROPHET OF ALLAH	ABUBAKR	UMAR	UTHMAN	ALI
13 B.H. - 11 A.H.	11 A.H. - 13 A.H.	13 A.H. - 23 A.H.	23 A.H. - 35 A.H.	35 A.H. - 40 A.H.
AGE 40 TO 63	2 YEARS 7 MONTHS	10 YEARS 7 MONTHS	12 YEARS	4 YEARS 9 MONTHS
23 YEARS	30 YEARS			

# ABUBAKR'S FIRST ADDRESS

"O people, I have been put in authority over you and I am not the best of you. If I do the right thing, then help me. If I do wrong, then correct me. Truthfulness is a sacred trust and lying is a betrayal. The weak amongst you is strong with me until I get his rights returned to him, Allah willing. The strong amongst you is weak until I [justly] take the right from him, Allah willing. When obscene things spread among any nation, calamities continue to descend upon them. As long as I obey Allah and His Messenger, you should obey me. If I do not obey Allah and His Messenger, then obedience to me is not an obligation upon you. Now, stand for the prayer, may Allah have mercy upon you." (Ibn Hisham)

# Protecting Islam & Expanding Islam

- 1<sup>st</sup> Official Mushaf
- -Ridda wars
- -Paying of Zakah
- Expanding intoPersia, Levant & Rome

- -Conquest of Persia
- -Conquest of Levant
- -Treasury & Welfare & Records
- -Tarawih in Jama'ah

# Preserving Islam & Maintaining Islam

- -Mushaf Uthmani
- -Conquering North Africa & Cyprus
- -Expanding Haramain
- -3<sup>rd</sup> Adhan for Jumu'ah

- -Battle of Jamal (resolving rebels)
- -Battle of Siffin (resolving Caliphate)
- -Battle of Nahrawan (resolving Khawarij)

### **DEMISE**

#### **ABUBAKR**

Passed away after 15 day illness. Poisoned a year before. Last words:

«والله لن يصاب المسلمون بعد رسول الله بمثلك أبداً، كنت «والله لن يصاب المسلمون بعد رسول الله بمثلك أبداً، كنت للدين عزاً وحرزاً وكهفاً، فألحقك الله عز وجل بنبيك مُحمَّد الله عز وجل بنبيك مُحمَّد الله عز وجل بنبيك مُحمَّد الله عن عزاً وحرنا أجرك ولا أضلنا بعدك»

#### **UTHMAN**

Martyred by an armed rebel insurrection who had surrounded his home for days. They did not let anyone bury his blessed body for 3 days.

#### **UMAR**

Stabbed by the Zoroastrian Abu Lu'lu during the Fajr prayer. Passed away as a martyr 3 days later.

#### **ALI**

Martyred by Ibn Muljim, under a Kharijite conspiracy which had also planned to kill Mu'awiyah and Amr ibn Aas (Allah be pleased with all three) but failed.

# WISDOM FROM THE WISE

أربع من كُنَّ فيه كان من خيار عِباد الله: من فرح بالتائب، واستغفر للمذنب، ودعا المدبر، وأعان المحسن
Four qualities whoever they are in, is from the best of the servants of Allah:
whoever is pleased with one who repents, seeks forgiveness for the sinner, prays
for the one who has turned away, and helps the one who does good.

إني لا أحمل هم الإجابة ولكني أحمل هم الدعاء

Verily, I do not burden myself with the response of my supplication. Rather, I concern myself with the need to supplicate.

وجدت حلاوة العبادة في أربعة أشياء؛ أولها في أداء فرائض الله والثاني في اجتناب محارم الله والثالث في الأمر بالمعروف ابتغاء ثواب الله والرابع في النهي عن المنكر اتقاء غضب الله

I found the sweetness of worship in four things: completing the Fara'idh of Allah, staying away from the prohibitions of Allah, commanding to good seeking the pleasure of Allah, and prohibiting evil avoiding the wrath of Allah.

لا غنى كالعقل، ولا فقر كالجهل، ولا ميراث كالأدب

There is no wealth like intelligence, no poverty like ignorance, and no inheritance like manners.

May Allah's peace and salutations be on Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah. May Allah's peace and pleasure be on His Messenger's blessed family and companions, and those who follow them in goodness. May Allah be pleased with Abubakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali. May He raise us with them. Aameen.

