

MIFTAAH SEMINAR

FAMILIES AROUND THE PROPHET SAW



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The Family of Al-Abbas

- **Al-Abbas ibn Abdul Muttalib**

- He was the paternal uncle of the Prophet SAW. Abdullah, the Prophet's father, is Abbas' older brother.
- He was born three years before Al-Fil, making him three years older than his nephew.
- Although Abbas was older than the Prophet SAW, he showed great respect to him. He did not want to say, "I am older than the Messenger of Allah." When they asked him, "Who is older, you or the Messenger of Allah?", he would say, "He is greater than me, and I am older than him."
- Before Islam, he was known as 'Saql Haramain' as he took water from the Zamzam Well distributed it to the pilgrims in Makkah.
- He was a very wealthy merchant but accepted Islam very late, just before the conquest of Makkah.
- During the early years of Islam he protected the Prophet SAW while he was in Makkah and was around the Prophet SAW for many years.

- A hadith attributed to Ka'b ibn Malik reports:
 - We set out for pilgrimage and struck a rendezvous in mid Tashreeq Days. We were accompanied by a celebrity and a notable of ours called 'Abdullah bin 'Amr bin Haram, who was still a polytheist. We disclosed to him our intention of meeting Muhammad and exhorted him to join our ranks and give up polytheism lest he should serve as wood for Hell in the Hereafter. He promptly embraced Islam and witnessed the serious meeting at Al-'Aqabah'. That very night we slept with our people in our camps. After a third of the night had elapsed, we began to leave stealthily and met in a hillock nearby. We were seventy three men and two women Nusaibah bint Ka'b from the Najjars and Asma' bint 'Amr from Bani Salamah. We waited for the Messenger of Allah Muhammad until he came in the company of his uncle `Abbas ibn `Abd al-Muttalib who (though himself not a Muslim yet) adjured us not to draw his nephew away from the protection of his own kindred unless we were fully prepared to defend him even at the risk of our lives. He was the first to speak:
 - "O you people of the Khazraj — the Arabs used to call the Ansār (Helpers) Khazraj, whether from Khazraj or Aws — you all know the position that Muhammad holds among us. We have protected him from our people as much as we could. He is honoured and respected among his people. He refuses to join any party except you. So if you think you can carry out what you promise while inviting him to your town, and if you can defend him against the enemies, then assume the burden that you have taken.

- But if you are going to surrender him and betray him after having taken him away with you, you had better leave him now because he is respected and well defended in his own place."
- Ka'b replied: "We have heard your words, and now O Messenger of Allah, it is for you to speak and take from us any pledge that you want regarding your Lord and yourself."
- He fought in the Battle of Badr. Having fought on the side of the polytheists, Abbas was captured during the Battle of Badr along with 70 others.
- He was a large man while his captor, Abu'l-Yasar, was small. The Prophet SAW asked Abu'l-Yasar how he had managed the capture, and he said he was assisted by a person whom he described and Muhammad identified as a noble angel.
 - At night all the captives were tied by means of ropes and Abbas was seated near the tent of the Prophet SAW. The moans and groans of Abbas kept reaching his ears as a result of which, he could not sleep till midnight and kept turning from one side to another.
 - One of the Muslims, who was near him, inquired: "O' Prophet of Allah! Why do you not sleep?"
 - The Prophet SAW replied: "The moans of my uncle Abbas distress me and prevent me from sleeping."
 - A little later the moans subsided and could not be heard anymore. The Prophet SAW inquired: "What has happened that I do not hear the moans of my uncle Abbas anymore."
 - The man said: "I have loosened the ropes that bound him." Hearing this, the Prophet SAW instructed: "(In that case) loosen the ropes of all the other captives too."

- Abbas didn't publicize his religion even though he supported the Prophet SAW as he was afraid that his wealth would be affected and lost.
- Right before the conquest to Makkah, Abbas accepts Islam. The Prophet SAW named him "last of the migrants" (Muhajirun), which entitled him to the proceeds of the spoils of the war. He was given the right to provide Zamzam water to pilgrims, which right was passed down to his descendants.
- Abbas was a special person and he served the Prophet SAW for a very long time.
- Anas ibn Malik narrates Umar ibn Al-Khattab requesting Al-Abbas to offer the Istisqa' prayer because of his special status as the Prophet's uncle:

أَنَّ عُمَرَ بْنَ الْخَطَّابِ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - كَانَ إِذَا قَحَطُوا اسْتَسْقَى بِالْعَبَّاسِ بْنِ عَبْدِ الْمُطَّلِبِ فَقَالَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا كُنَّا نَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّنَا فَتَسْقِينَا وَإِنَّا نَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِعَمِّ نَبِيِّنَا فَاسْقِنَا. قَالَ فَيُسْقَوْنَ

Whenever drought threatened them, `Umar bin Al-Khattab, used to ask Al-Abbas bin `Abdul Muttalib to invoke Allah for rain. He used to say, "O Allah! We used to ask our Prophet to invoke You for rain, and You would bless us with rain, and now we ask his uncle to invoke You for rain. O Allah ! Bless us with rain." And so it would rain. (Sahih al-Bukhari 1010)

• Umm Fadl

- His wife is Lubaba bint al-Harith or also known as Umm Fadl.
- She was the second woman to accept Islam after Khadija bint Khuwaylid.
- She loved the Prophet SAW so much and supported him.
- Two of her sisters, Maymuna bint al-Harith and Zaynab bint Khuzayma, became wives of the Prophet SAW.
- She had seven children with al-Abbas who were named: Fadl, Abdullah, Ubaydullah, Quthum, Mabad, Abdur-Rahman and Umm Habiba.

- She was a very intelligent woman.
- When Abbas kept his Islam secret, Lubaba and Abbas remained in Makkah when other Muslims emigrated to Medina.
- Lubaba was instrumental in Abu Lahab's death as she hit him with a pole, and he died a week later.
- This was narrated by Abu Rafi, a servant of her household, after the Battle of Badr.
 - Abu Lahab had sent someone (al-As ibn Hisham) on his behalf to fight in the Battle of Badr. Having known about their defeat in this battle, Abu Lahab had got depressed and frustrated.
 - Narrates Abu Rafi, "I was a weak man carving cups near the well of Zamzam. Umm al-Fadl was also there. Abu Lahab came enraged with anger followed by Abu Sufyan and the following conversation took place.
 - Abu Lahab said, "May you tell us what happened in Badr?"
 - Abu Sufyan replied, "We did nothing but to give them (the Muslims) our backs to kill or capture us whenever they like. By God, I did not blame our troops because the people we met were different. They were white and rode white horses. By God, they could not be opposed."
 - Thereupon, Abu Rafi, raised the curtain of the room and said, "Those must be angels."
 - On hearing this Abu Lahab punched him. They fought each other until Abu Lahab fixed him to the earth. Eventually Umm al-Fadl held a wooden pole (or a cudgel) and hit Abu Lahab on his head saying, "You consider him weak in the absence of his master."

- Thereby, Abu Lahab turned away in humiliation. Seven day later he was afflicted by a fatal disease called al-Adasa (black measles) that killed him.
- When the final ayah of the deen was completed, Lubaba started crying, acknowledging that it would be the Prophet's last revelation.
- Abdullah ibn Abbas said his mother was openly declaring her Islam and was always in the state of solace.

The Children of Al-Abbas

• Fadh ibn al-Abbas

- He is the eldest son of Al-Abbas and Lubaba, and the cousin of the Prophet SAW.
- He accepted Islam late.
- Ibn Abbas narrated a hadith about his brother Fadl:

قَالَ أَرَدَفَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ الْفَضْلَ بْنَ عَبَّاسٍ يَوْمَ النَّحْرِ خَلْفَهُ عَلَى عَجْزِ رَاحِلَتِهِ، وَكَانَ الْفَضْلُ رَجُلًا وَضِيئًا، فَوَقَفَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ لِلنَّاسِ يُفْتِيهِمْ، وَأَقْبَلَتِ امْرَأَةٌ مِنْ خَتَمِ وَضِيئَةٍ تَسْتَفِي رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَطَفِقَ الْفَضْلُ يَنْظُرُ إِلَيْهَا، وَأَعْجَبَهُ حُسْنُهَا، فَالتَفَتَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَنْظُرُ إِلَيْهَا، فَأَخْلَفَ بِيَدِهِ فَأَخَذَ بِذَقَنِ الْفَضْلِ، فَعَدَلَ وَجْهَهُ عَنِ النَّظَرِ إِلَيْهَا، فَقَالَتْ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ إِنَّ فَرِيضَةَ اللَّهِ فِي الْحَجِّ عَلَى عِبَادِهِ أَدْرَكَتْ أَبِي شَيْخًا كَبِيرًا، لَا يَسْتَطِيعُ أَنْ يَسْتَوِيَ عَلَى الرَّاحِلَةِ، فَهَلْ يَقْضِي عَنْهُ أَنْ أَحْجَّ عَنْهُ قَالَ " نَعَمْ " .

Al-Fadl bin `Abbas rode behind the Prophet (ﷺ) as his companion rider on the back portion of his she camel on the Day of Nahr (slaughtering of sacrifice, 10th Dhul-Hijja) and Al-Fadl was a handsome man. The Prophet (ﷺ) stopped to give the people verdicts. In the meantime, a beautiful woman from the tribe of Khath'am came, asking the verdict of Allah's Messenger (ﷺ). Al-Fadl started looking at her as her beauty attracted him. The Prophet (ﷺ) looked behind while Al-Fadl was looking at her; so the Prophet (ﷺ) held out his hand backwards and caught the chin of Al-Fadl and turned his face (to the owner sides in order that he should not gaze at her. She said, "O Allah's Messenger (ﷺ)! The obligation of Performing Hajj enjoined by Allah on His worshipers, has become due (compulsory) on my father who is an old man and who cannot sit firmly on the riding animal. Will it be sufficient that I perform Hajj on his behalf?" He said, "Yes." (Sahih al-Bukhari 6228)

- **Abdullah ibn al-Abbas**

- He was born just three years before the Hijrah.
- He was known as Ibn Abbas and considered to be the greatest mufassir of the Quran.
- He was known for his knowledge of traditions and his critical interpretation of the Quran. From early on, he gathered information from other companions of the Prophet SAW and gave classes and wrote commentaries.

- **Ubaidullah ibn al-Abbas**

- He was a hadith narrator who retold the event of the pen and paper as he heard from his brother Ibn Abbas.
- According to historical sources, he was appointed by Ali as the ruler of Yemen where he remained until Ali's martyrdom.

- **Abdul Rahman ibn al-Abbas**

- He died a natural death in Syria

- **Qutham ibn al-Abbas**

- He was appointed by Ali as the ruler of Makkah and Ta'if.
- He was the one responsible of bringing Islam to the area of Transoxiana, that is now Uzbekistan.

- **Ma'bad ibn al-Abbas**
 - He became a governor
 - He was martyred in Africa
- **Umm Habibah ibn al-Abbas**
 - She died a natural death in Makkah
- **Other offsprings**
 - Al-Abbas had children that were from other women
 - Their names were Al-Harith, Aown, Mushir, Kathir, Amina, Safiya, and Tammam.

The Descendants of Al-Abbas

- From his children came the Abbasid caliphate.
- The Abbasids claimed to be the true successors of the Prophet SAW.
- He had more than 39 members from these generations that were kings or queens.
- The most notable was Harun al-Rashid, the fifth Abbasid Caliph.
- The Abbasid dynasty founded in 750 by Abu al-Abbas Abdullah as-Saffah claimed the title of caliph (literally "successor") through their descent from Abbas's son Abdullah.