

# Ramadan Immersion



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Waheed

## Indications of the Prophet's death cont.

- Hadith Jibril
  - About four weeks prior to his departure from this world, as he was sitting amongst his companions, the Prophet (ﷺ) was visited by a man whom no one recognized — it was Jibril who came to clarify things about Islam.
  - This lesson with Jibril is considered a revision of the 23 years of the Prophet's prophethood. It was one final lesson for everyone to hear, and thus there should be no arguments about these matters.
    - It was narrated that 'Umar said:

كُنَّا جُلُوسًا عِنْدَ النَّبِيِّ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ - فَجَاءَ رَجُلٌ شَدِيدُ بَيَاضِ الثِّيَابِ شَدِيدُ سَوَادِ شَعْرِ الرَّأْسِ لَا يَرَى عَلَيْهِ أَثَرُ السَّفَرِ وَلَا يَعْرِفُهُ مِنَّا أَحَدٌ . قَالَ فَجَلَسَ إِلَى النَّبِيِّ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ - فَأَسْنَدَ رُكْبَتَهُ إِلَى رُكْبَتِهِ وَوَضَعَ يَدَيْهِ عَلَى فَخْذَيْهِ . ثُمَّ قَالَ يَا مُحَمَّدُ مَا الْإِسْلَامُ قَالَ " شَهَادَةُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَأَنِّي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ وَإِقَامُ الصَّلَاةِ وَإِيتَاءُ الزَّكَاةِ وَصَوْمُ رَمَضَانَ وَحَجُّ الْبَيْتِ " . قَالَ صَدَقْتَ . فَعَجَبْنَا مِنْهُ يَسْأَلُهُ وَيُصَدِّقُهُ . ثُمَّ قَالَ يَا مُحَمَّدُ مَا الْإِيمَانُ قَالَ " أَنْ تُؤْمِنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ وَكِتَابِهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَالْقَدَرِ خَيْرِهِ وَشَرِّهِ " . قَالَ صَدَقْتَ . فَعَجَبْنَا مِنْهُ يَسْأَلُهُ وَيُصَدِّقُهُ . ثُمَّ قَالَ يَا مُحَمَّدُ مَا الْإِحْسَانُ قَالَ " أَنْ تَعْبُدَ اللَّهَ كَأَنَّكَ تَرَاهُ فَإِنَّكَ إِنْ لَا تَرَاهُ فَإِنَّهُ يَرَاكَ " . قَالَ فَمَتَى السَّاعَةُ قَالَ " مَا الْمَسْئُولُ عَنْهَا بِأَعْلَمَ مِنَ السَّائِلِ " . قَالَ فَمَا أَمَارَتُهَا قَالَ " أَنْ تِلِدَ الْأُمَةُ رَبَّتَهَا " . قَالَ وَكَيْفَ يَغْنِي تِلْدُ الْعَجَمِ الْعَرَبَ " وَأَنْ تَرَى الْحَفَاةَ الْعُرَاةَ الْعَالَةَ رِعَاءَ الشَّاءِ يَتَطَاوَلُونَ فِي الْبِنَاءِ " . قَالَ ثُمَّ قَالَ فَلَقِينِي النَّبِيُّ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ - بَعْدَ ثَلَاثٍ فَقَالَ " أَتَدْرِي مَنْ الرَّجُلُ " . قُلْتُ اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَعْلَمُ . قَالَ " ذَاكَ جِبْرِيلُ أَتَاكُمْ يُعَلِّمُكُمْ مَعَالِمَ دِينِكُمْ " .



*"We were sitting with the Prophet (ﷺ) when a man came to him whose clothes were intensely white and whose hair was intensely black; no signs of travel could be seen upon him, and none of us recognized him. He sat down facing the Prophet (ﷺ), with his knees touching his, and he put his hands on his thighs, and said: 'O Muhammad, what is Islam?' He said: 'To testify that none has the right to be worshipped but Allah, and that I am the Messenger of Allah, to establish regular prayer, to pay Zakat, to fast in Ramadan, and to perform Hajj to the House (the Ka'bah).' He said: 'You have spoken the truth.' We were amazed by him: He asked a question, then told him that he had spoken the truth. Then he said: 'O Muhammad, what is Iman faith? He said: 'To believe in Allah, His angels, His Messengers, His books, the Last day, and the Divine Decree (Qadar), both the good of it and the bad of it.' He said 'You have spoken the truth.' We were amazed by him. He asked a question, then told him that he had spoken the truth. Then he said: 'O Muhammad, what is Ihsan (right action, goodness, sincerity)? He said: 'To worship Allah as if you see Him, for even though you do not see Him, He sees you.' He asked: 'When will the Hour be?' He said: 'The one who is being asked about it does not know more than the one who is asking.' He asked: 'Then what are its signs?' he said: 'When the slave woman gives birth to her mistress' (Waki' said: This means when non-Arabs will give birth to Arabs") 'and when you see barefoot, naked, destitute shepherds competing in constructing tall buildings.' The Prophet (ﷺ) met me three days later and asked me: 'Do you know who that man was? I said" 'Allah and his Messenger know best.' He said: 'That was Jibril, who came to you to teach you your religion.'" (Sunan Ibn Majah)*

- Extensive worship
  - Closer to his death, the Prophet (ﷺ) would increase in his recitation of the Qur'an. He also spent his time praising Allah and seeking His forgiveness.
  - In the last year of his life, he did extra worship to Allah.
- Verbal indication during Hajj
  - The Prophet (ﷺ) verbally indicated during Hajj that he would be departing this world.
    - Jabir reported: I saw Allah's Apostle (ﷺ) flinging pebbles while riding his camel on the Day of Nahr, and he was saying:

"لَتَأْخُذُوا مَنَاسِكَكُمْ فَإِنِّي لَا أَدْرِي لَعَلِّي لَا أَحُجُّ بَعْدَ حَجَّتِي هَذِهِ " .

*Learn your rituals (by seeing me performing them), for I do not know whether I would be performing Hajj after this Hajj of mine. (Sahih Muslim)*

- During the return journey from Hajj, the Prophet (ﷺ) delivered a sermon at Ghadir Khumm, a place near the city of Madinah, where he introduced Ali ibn Abi Talib as his Mawla.
  - The Prophet (ﷺ) said:

"مَنْ كُنْتُ مَوْلَاهُ فَعَلَيْ مَوْلَاهُ "

*"For whomever I am his Mawla then 'Ali is his Mawla." (Jami` at-Tirmidhi)*

- Despite the honor given to Ali and Ahl al-Bayt, the Shia deduction from this narration that Ali should have been appointed as the first Khalifah due to the incident at Ghadir Khumm, however, is far from the reality and utterly false.
  - Yazid b. Hayyan reported, I went along with Husain b. Sabra and 'Umar b. Muslim to Zaid b. Arqam. Zaid b. Arqam narrated what he heard from the Prophet (ﷺ) at Ghadir Khumm:

قَامَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَوْمًا فِينَا خَطِيبًا بِمَاءٍ يُدْعَى حُمًّا بَيْنَ مَكَّةَ وَالْمَدِينَةِ فَحَمِدَ اللَّهُ وَأَتَى عَلَيْهِ وَوَعَّظَ وَذَكَرَ ثُمَّ قَالَ " أَمَّا بَعْدُ أَلَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ فَإِنَّمَا أَنَا بَشَرٌ يُوْشِكُ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ رَسُولُ رَبِّي فَأَجِيبَ وَأَنَا تَارِكٌ فِيكُمْ ثَقَلَيْنِ أَوَّلُهُمَا كِتَابُ اللَّهِ فِيهِ الْهُدَى وَالنُّورُ فَخُذُوا بِكِتَابِ اللَّهِ وَاسْتَمْسِكُوا بِهِ " . فَحَثَّ عَلَي كِتَابِ اللَّهِ وَرَغَّبَ فِيهِ ثُمَّ قَالَ " وَأَهْلُ بَيْتِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ اللَّهُ فِي أَهْلِ بَيْتِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ اللَّهُ فِي أَهْلِ بَيْتِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ اللَّهُ فِي أَهْلِ بَيْتِي " . فَقَالَ لَهُ حُصَيْنٌ وَمَنْ أَهْلُ بَيْتِهِ يَا زَيْدُ أَلَيْسَ نِسَاؤُهُ مِنْ أَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ قَالَ نِسَاؤُهُ مِنْ أَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ وَلَكِنْ أَهْلُ بَيْتِهِ مَنْ حُرِمَ الصَّدَقَةُ بَعْدَهُ . قَالَ وَمَنْ هُمْ قَالَ هُمْ آلُ عَلِيٍّ وَآلُ عَقِيلٍ وَآلُ جَعْفَرٍ وَآلُ عَبَّاسٍ . قَالَ كُلُّ هَؤُلَاءِ حُرِمَ الصَّدَقَةُ قَالَ نَعَمْ

*One day Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) stood up to deliver sermon at a watering place known as Khumm situated between Mecca and Medina. He praised Allah, extolled Him and delivered the sermon and exhorted (us) and said: Now to our purpose. O people, I am a human being.*



*I am about to receive a messenger (the angel of death) from my Lord and I, in response to Allah's call, (would bid good-bye to you), but I am leaving among you two weighty things: the one being the Book of Allah in which there is right guidance and light, so hold fast to the Book of Allah and adhere to it. He exhorted (us) (to hold fast) to the Book of Allah and then said: The second are the members of my household. I remind you (of your duties) to the members of my family. He (Husain) said to Zaid: Who are the members of his household? Aren't his wives the members of his family? Thereupon he said: His wives are the members of his family (but here) the members of his family are those for whom acceptance of Zakat is forbidden. And he said: Who are they? Thereupon he said: 'Ali and the offspring of 'Ali, 'Aqil and the offspring of 'Aqil and the offspring of Ja'far and the offspring of 'Abbas. Husain said: These are those for whom the acceptance of Zakat is forbidden. Zaid said: Yes. (Sahih Muslim)*

- Uhud and Baqi'
  - When the Prophet (ﷺ) returned to Madinah, he visited the martyrs of Uhud and Badr, performing funeral prayers and seeking forgiveness for them before his illness and death.
  - In Uhud, it looked like he was saying goodbye to both the dead and the living. He then ascended the pulpit and addressed the people saying:
    - "I am to precede you and I have been made witness upon you. By Allah, you will meet me at the Hawd (Tank) very soon. I have been given the keys of the treasures of the earth or the keys of the earth. By Allah, I do not fear for you a return to polytheism after me, but I do fear that you will compete with each other in acquiring worldly riches."
  - At midnight, he went to the cemetery of al-Baqi' and begged Allah to forgive the Islamic martyrs. He said:
    - "Peace be upon you, inhabitants of the grave! The morning that dawn upon you is more relieving than that which dawns upon the living. Afflictions are approaching like cloudy lumps of a dark night, the last of which follows the first. The last one is bearing more evil than the first." He comforted them saying: "We are also coming to you."
  - On the way back he had a headache and this was the beginning of his illness.



- Istighfar for his family
  - In the last days of his life, the Prophet (ﷺ) would constantly pray for forgiveness for his family in the middle of the night.

## Fatal Illness

- Early signs of his sickness
  - On the last day of Safar, 11 A.H., the Prophet (ﷺ) fell ill. He led the Muslims in prayer for ten days although he was sick. The total number of days in which he was sick was either thirteen or fourteen.
  - His sickness started with a headache.
    - Narrated Al-Qasim bin Muhammad:

قَالَتْ عَائِشَةُ وَإِرَاسَاهُ. فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " ذَاكَ لَوْ كَانَ وَأَنَا حَيٌّ، فَأَسْتَغْفِرُ لَكَ وَأَدْعُو لَكَ ". فَقَالَتْ عَائِشَةُ وَاثْكَلِيَاهُ، وَاللَّهِ إِنِّي لَأُظَنُّكَ تُحِبُّ مَوْتِي، وَلَوْ كَانَ ذَاكَ لَظَلَلْتُ آخِرَ يَوْمِكَ مُعَرَّسًا بِبَعْضِ أَرْوَاجِكَ. فَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " بَلْ أَنَا وَإِرَاسَاهُ لَقَدْ هَمَمْتُ أَوْ أَرَدْتُ أَنْ أَرْسِلَ إِلَى أَبِي بَكْرٍ وَابْنِهِ، وَأَعْهَدَ أَنْ يَقُولَ الْقَائِلُونَ أَوْ يَتَمَنَّى الْمُتَمَنُّونَ، ثُمَّ قُلْتُ يَا أَبَى اللَّهِ وَيَدْفَعُ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ، أَوْ يَدْفَعُ اللَّهُ وَيَأْبَى الْمُؤْمِنُونَ ".  
 `Aisha, (complaining of headache) said, "Oh, my head"! Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said, "I wish that had happened while I was still living, for then I would ask Allah's Forgiveness for you and invoke Allah for you." Aisha said, "Wa thuklayah! By Allah, I think you want me to die; and If this should happen, you would spend the last part of the day sleeping with one of your wives!" The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Nay, I should say, 'Oh my head!' I felt like sending for Abu Bakr and his son, and appoint him as my successor lest some people claimed something or some others wished something, but then I said (to myself), 'Allah would not allow it to be otherwise, and the Muslims would prevent it to be otherwise'. (Sahih al-Bukhari)

- Nursed in Aisha's home
  - After spending the night at Maimuna's house, the Prophet's health deteriorated.
  - At this time, he expressed a desire to stay in Aisha's home, and his wives allowed him to do so.
  - The Prophet (ﷺ) moved to Aisha's room while he was leaning on Al-Fadl ibn Al-`Abbas and Ali ibn Abi Talib.

- Narrated Az-Zuhri: Ubaidullah bin `Abdullah told me that `Aisha had said,

لَمَّا ثَقُلَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَاشْتَدَّ وَجَعُهُ اسْتَأْذَنَ أَزْوَاجَهُ أَنْ يُمَرَّضَ فِي بَيْتِي، فَأْذِنَ لَهُ، فَخَرَجَ بَيْنَ رَجُلَيْنِ، تَحُطُّ رِجْلَاهُ الْأَرْضَ، وَكَانَ بَيْنَ الْعَبَّاسِ، وَبَيْنَ رَجُلٍ آخَرَ. فَقَالَ عُبَيْدُ اللَّهِ فَذَكَرْتُ لِابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ مَا قَالَتْ عَائِشَةُ، فَقَالَ لِي وَهَلْ تَدْرِي مَنِ الرَّجُلُ الَّذِي لَمْ تُسَمِّ عَائِشَةُ قُلْتُ لَا. قَالَ هُوَ عَلِيُّ بْنُ أَبِي طَالِبٍ.

*"When the Prophet (ﷺ) became sick and his condition became serious, he requested his wives to allow him to be treated in my house, and they allowed him. He came out leaning on two men while his feet were dragging on the ground. He was walking between Al- `Abbas and another man." 'Ubaidullah said, "When I informed Ibn `Abbas of what `Aisha had said, he asked me whether I knew who was the second man whom `Aisha had not named. I replied in the negative. He said, 'He was `Ali bin Abi Talib.'"(Sahih al-Bukhari)*

- The Prophet's temperature rose so high that the heat could be felt over his clothing and blanket.
  - Abu Sa'eed Al-Khudri said:

دَخَلْتُ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ - وَهُوَ يُوعَكُ فَوَضَعْتُ يَدِي عَلَيْهِ فَوَجَدْتُ حَرَّهُ بَيْنَ يَدَيَّ فَوْقَ اللَّحَافِ فَقُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ مَا أَشَدَّهَا عَلَيْكَ قَالَ " إِنَّا كَذَلِكَ يُضَعَّفُ لَنَا الْبَلَاءُ وَيُضَعَّفُ لَنَا الْأَجْرُ " . قُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ أَيُّ النَّاسِ أَشَدُّ بَلَاءً قَالَ " الْأَنْبِيَاءُ " . قُلْتُ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ثُمَّ مَنْ قَالَ " ثُمَّ الصَّالِحُونَ إِنْ كَانَ أَحَدُهُمْ لَيَبْتَغِي بِالْفَقْرِ حَتَّى مَا يَجِدُ أَحَدُهُمْ إِلَّا الْعَبَاءَةَ يُحَوِّيَهَا وَإِنْ كَانَ أَحَدُهُمْ لَيَفْرَحُ بِالْبَلَاءِ كَمَا يَفْرَحُ أَحَدُكُمْ بِالرَّخَاءِ " .

*"I entered upon the Prophet (ﷺ) when he was suffering from a fever, I placed my hand on him and felt heat with my hand from above the blanket. I said: 'O Messenger of Allah, how hard it is for you!' He said: 'We (Prophets) are like that. The trial is multiplied for us and so is the reward.' I said: 'O Messenger of Allah, which people are most severely tested?' He said: 'The Prophets.' I said: 'O Messenger of Allah, then who?' He said: 'Then the righteous, some of whom were tested with poverty until they could not find anything except a cloak to put around themselves. One of them will rejoice at calamity as one of you would rejoice at ease.'"* (Sunan Ibn Majah)



- Supplications during sickness
  - When the Prophet (ﷺ) grew weaker, he could no longer recite Al-Mu'awwidhat. Thus, Aisha assisted him in recitation.
    - Narrated `Aisha:

أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ كَانَ إِذَا اشْتَكَى يَقْرَأُ عَلَى نَفْسِهِ بِالْمُعَوِّذَاتِ وَيَنْفُثُ، فَلَمَّا اشْتَدَّ وَجَعُهُ كُنْتُ أَقْرَأُ عَلَيْهِ وَأَمْسَحُ بِيَدِهِ رَجَاءَ بَرَكَتِهَا.

*Whenever Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) became sick, he would recite Mu'awwidhat (Surat Al-Falaq and Surat An- Nas) and then blow his breath over his body. When he became seriously ill, I used to recite (these two Suras) and rub his hands over his body hoping for its blessings. (Sahih al-Bukhari)*

- During this time, the Prophet (ﷺ) would fall in and out of consciousness.
- Final interaction with Uthman ibn Affan
  - The Prophet (ﷺ) called Uthman ibn Affan and whispered to him something in privately, which made his face turn red. Then, the Prophet (ﷺ) placed his hand on his shoulder.
  - This advice was with regards to the turmoil Uthman experienced during his Khilafah.
    - Narrated 'Aishah: that the Prophet (ﷺ) said:

" يَا عُثْمَانُ إِنَّ وَلَاكَ اللَّهُ هَذَا الْأَمْرُ يَوْمًا فَأَرَادَكَ الْمُنَافِقُونَ أَنْ تَخْلَعَ قَمِيصَكَ الَّذِي قَمَّصَكَ اللَّهُ فَلَا تَخْلَعْهُ " . يَقُولُ ذَلِكَ ثَلَاثَ مَرَّاتٍ . قَالَ النُّعْمَانُ فَقُلْتُ لِعَائِشَةَ مَا مَنَعَكَ أَنْ تُعَلِّمِي النَّاسَ بِهَذَا قَالَتْ أُنْسِيَتْهُ وَاللَّهِ

*"O 'Uthman, if Allah places you in authority over this matter (as the caliph) some day and the hypocrites want to rid you of the garment with which Allah has clothed you (ie, the position of caliph), do not take it off". He said that three times. (One of the narrators) Nu'man said: "I said to 'Aishah: 'What kept you from telling the people that?' She said: 'I was made to forget it'." (Sunan Ibn Majah)*

- Five days before his death
  - The Prophet's (ﷺ) temperature rose very high signaling the severity of his disease. He fainted and suffered from pain.

- He ordered the companions to pour on him seven Qirab (water skin pots) of water. After this he began to feel well enough to enter the Masjid.
  - Aisha narrated:

"هَرِيقُوا عَلَيَّ مِنْ سَبْعِ قِرَابٍ لَمْ تُحْلَلْ أَوْكِيتُهُنَّ، لَعَلِّي أَعْهَدُ إِلَى النَّاسِ". قَالَتْ فَأَجْلَسْنَاهُ فِي مِخْضَبٍ لِحَفْصَةَ زَوْجِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ ثُمَّ طَفِقْنَا نَضُبُّ عَلَيْهِ مِنْ تِلْكَ الْقِرَابِ، حَتَّى جَعَلَ يُشِيرُ إِلَيْنَا أَنْ قَدْ فَعَلْتُنَّ. قَالَتْ وَخَرَجَ إِلَى النَّاسِ فَصَلَّى لَهُمْ وَخَطَبَهُمْ.

*When the Prophet entered my house and his disease became aggravated, he said, "Pour on me seven water skins full of water (the tying ribbons of which had not been untied) so that I may give some advice to the people." So we made him sit in a tub belonging to Hafsa, the wife of the Prophet (ﷺ) and started pouring water on him from those water skins till he waved us to stop. Then he went out to the people and led them in prayer and delivered a speech before them. (Sahih al-Bukhari)*

- He entered the Masjid with his head wrapped and a blanket, then he sat on the pulpit for the last time and gave a speech to the people who were gathering around him.
  - Narrated Abu Sa'id Al-Khudri: The Prophet (ﷺ) delivered a sermon and said,

"إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَيَّرَ عَبْدًا بَيْنَ الدُّنْيَا وَبَيْنَ مَا عِنْدَهُ، فَاخْتَارَ مَا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ". فَبَكَى أَبُو بَكْرٍ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - فَقُلْتُ فِي نَفْسِي مَا يُبْكِي هَذَا الشَّيْخَ إِنْ يَكُنِ اللَّهُ خَيَّرَ عَبْدًا بَيْنَ الدُّنْيَا وَبَيْنَ مَا عِنْدَهُ فَاخْتَارَ مَا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ، فَكَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ هُوَ الْعَبْدُ، وَكَانَ أَبُو بَكْرٍ أَعْلَمَنَا. قَالَ "يَا أَبَا بَكْرٍ لَا تَبْكُ، إِنْ أَمَنَّ النَّاسُ عَلَيَّ فِي صُحْبَتِهِ وَمَالِهِ أَبُو بَكْرٍ، وَلَوْ كُنْتُ مُتَّخِذًا خَلِيلًا مِنْ أُمَّتِي لَاتَّخَذْتُ أَبَا بَكْرٍ، وَلَكِنْ أَخُوهُ الْإِسْلَامَ وَمَوَدَّتُهُ، لَا يَبْقَيْنَ فِي الْمَسْجِدِ بَابٌ إِلَّا سُدَّ إِلَّا بَابَ أَبِي بَكْرٍ".

*"Allah gave a choice to one of (His) slaves either to choose this world or what is with Him in the Hereafter. He chose the latter." Abu Bakr wept. I said to myself, "Why is this Sheikh weeping, if Allah gave choice to one (of His) slaves either to choose this world or what is with Him in the Hereafter and he chose the latter?" And that slave was Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) himself. Abu Bakr knew more than us. The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "O Abu Bakr! Don't weep. The Prophet (ﷺ) added: Abu- Bakr has favored me much with his property and company."*



*If I were to take a Khalil from mankind I would certainly have taken Abu Bakr but the Islamic brotherhood and friendship is sufficient. Close all the gates in the mosque except that of Abu Bakr. (Sahih al-Bukhari)*

- The Prophet (ﷺ) went on saying: “I admonish you to be good to the Ansar (Helpers). They are my family and with them I found shelter. They have acquitted themselves credibly of the responsibility that fell upon them and now there remains what you have to do. You should fully acknowledge and appreciate the favor that they have shown, and should overlook their faults.”
- The Prophet (ﷺ) also appointed the young Usama ibn Zayd as commander of an army, to invade the Byzantine territory, a decision that was met with some resistance from the companions. This angered the Prophet (ﷺ) and he insisted on Usama’s leadership.
- Four days before his death
  - Though the Prophet (ﷺ) was suffering from severe pain, he requested: “Come here. I will have you write something through which you will never fall into error.” When the Prophet (ﷺ) heard the companions including `Umar ibn al-Khattab debating over this matter, he ordered them to go away and leave him alone.
  - In the evening, the Prophet (ﷺ) grew so sick that he could not overcome the strains of his illness or go out to the Masjid. He sent a message to Abu Bakr to lead the prayer and thus, Abu Bakr led the prayers during those days.
    - Narrated `Aisha:

أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ لَهَا " مُرِّي أَبَا بَكْرٍ يُصَلِّي بِالنَّاسِ ". قَالَتْ إِنَّهُ رَجُلٌ أَسِيفٌ، مَتَى يَقُمْ مَقَامَكَ رَقِي. فَعَادَ فَعَادَتْ، قَالَ شُعْبَةُ فَقَالَ فِي الثَّالِثَةِ أَوْ الرَّابِعَةِ " إِنَّكَ صَوَاحِبُ يُوسُفَ، مُرُّوا أَبَا بَكْرٍ ".

*That the Prophet (ﷺ) said (to her). "Order Abu Bakr to lead the people in prayer." She replied, "Abu Bakr is a soft-hearted person and when he stands at your place, he will weep (so he will not be able to lead the prayer)." The Prophet (ﷺ) repeated the same order and she gave the same reply. The narrator, Shuba said that the Prophet (ﷺ) said on the third or fourth time. "You are (like) the female companions of Joseph. Order Abu Bakr to lead the prayer. " (Sahih al-Bukhari)*

- A day or two prior to his death
  - On Saturday or on Sunday, the Prophet (ﷺ) felt that he was well enough to perform the prayer. So, he went out leaning on two men in order to perform the Dhuhr prayer. This was his final prayer.
  - Abu Bakr, who was leading the people in the prayer withdrew when he saw him coming; but the Prophet (ﷺ) made a gesture for him to stay where he was and said: "Seat me next to him." They seated him on the left-hand side of Abu Bakr.
  - The Prophet (ﷺ) led the prayer, and Abu Bakr followed him and raised his voice at every 'Allahu Akbar' the Prophet (ﷺ) said, so that the people may hear clearly.
- His final day
  - The Prophet (ﷺ) witnessed the Muslims praying in congregation during Fajr one last time, as they were being led by Abu Bakr.
    - Narrated Anas ibn Malik:

أَنَّ الْمُسْلِمِينَ، بَيْنَا هُمْ فِي صَلَاةِ الْفَجْرِ مِنْ يَوْمِ الْإِثْنَيْنِ وَأَبُو بَكْرٍ يُصَلِّي لَهُمْ لَمْ يَفْجَأْهُمْ إِلَّا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَدْ كَشَفَ سِتْرَ حُجْرَةِ عَائِشَةَ، فَنَظَرَ إِلَيْهِمْ وَهُمْ فِي صُفُوفِ الصَّلَاةِ. ثُمَّ تَبَسَّمَ يَضْحَكُ، فَتَكَبَّرَ أَبُو بَكْرٍ عَلَى عَقْبِيهِ لِيَصِلَ الصَّفَ، وَظَنَّ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يُرِيدُ أَنْ يَخْرُجَ إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ فَقَالَ أَنَسٌ وَهُمْ الْمُسْلِمُونَ أَنْ يَفْتَتِنُوا فِي صَلَاتِهِمْ فَرَحًا بِرَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَأَشَارَ إِلَيْهِمْ بِيَدِهِ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ أَنْ أَتَمُّوا صَلَاتَكُمْ، ثُمَّ دَخَلَ الْحُجْرَةَ وَأَرْخَى السِّتْرَ.



While the Muslims were offering the Fajr prayer on Monday and Abu Bakr was leading them in prayer, suddenly Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) lifted the curtain of `Aisha's dwelling and looked at them while they were in the rows of the prayers and smiled. Abu Bakr retreated to join the row, thinking that Allah's Apostle wanted to come out for the prayer. The Muslims were about to be put to trial in their prayer (i.e. were about to give up praying) because of being overjoyed at seeing Allah's Messenger (ﷺ). But Allah's Apostle beckoned them with his hand to complete their prayer and then entered the dwelling and let the curtain fall. (Sahih al-Bukhari)

- That same morning, Abu Bakr had sought permission to leave town. While he was away, the Prophet's pangs of death began.
- The Prophet (ﷺ) left one final advice to the people.
  - Ali reported: The final words of the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) were,

الصَّلَاةُ الصَّلَاةُ اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ فِيمَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُكُمْ

*"The prayer, the prayer! Fear Allah regarding those under custodianship of your right hands!" (Sunan Abi Dawud)*

- Before he passed away, he was resting between Aisha's chest and neck. He signaled for the miswak when he saw it. So, Aisha softened it for him and he cleaned his teeth.
  - Narrated Ibn Abu Mulaika: `Aisha said,

تُوفِّي النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فِي بَيْتِي، وَفِي نَوْبَتِي، وَبَيْنَ سَخْرِي وَنَحْرِي، وَجَمَعَ اللَّهُ بَيْنَ رِيقِي وَرَيْقِهِ. قَالَتْ دَخَلَ عَبْدُ الرَّحْمَنِ بِسِوَاكِ، فَضَعَفَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ عَنْهُ، فَأَخَذَتْهُ فَمَضَّغَتْهُ ثُمَّ سَنَنْتُهُ بِهِ.

*"The prayer, the prayer! Fear Allah regarding those under custodianship of your right hands!" (Sunan Abi Dawud)*

"The Prophet (ﷺ) died in my house on the day of my turn while he was leaning on my chest closer to my neck, and Allah made my saliva mix with his Saliva." `Aisha added,

"`AbdurRahman came with a Siwak and the Prophet (ﷺ) was too weak to use it so I took it, chewed it and then (gave it to him and he) cleaned his teeth with it." (Sahih al-Bukhari)

- In his final moments, after cleaning his teeth, the Prophet (ﷺ) lifted his hand and said:

"اللَّهُمَّ الرَّفِيقَ الْأَعْلَى"

*"O Allah! (with) the highest companion."*

- The Prophet (ﷺ) then collapsed while in that state, and Aisha could not even perceive that he had died.
- Al-Abbas, recognizing the reality of the situation, said:

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

*"Indeed, we belong to Allah, and indeed to Him we shall return"*

- The Prophet (ﷺ) passed away on Monday 12 at night Rabi al-Awwal in 11 AH. He was buried on Tuesday afternoon.

## Reactions of the companions

- The great news was soon known by everyone in Madinah; it was the darkest day of their lives.
- 'Umar was so stunned that he almost lost consciousness; he stood before the people and said: "Some of the hypocrites claim that Allah's Messenger has died. Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) has not died, but has gone to his Lord in the same way as Moses bin `Imran did. He stayed away for forty nights, but finally came back though they said he had been dead. By Allah, Allah's Messenger will come back and he will cut off the hands and legs of those who claim his death."
- Abu Bakr returned and went straight to the Masjid until he entered `Aisha's room, and went directly to where the Prophet (ﷺ) was. He uncovered the Prophet's face, leaned over, kissed him, and cried. He said, "O Messenger of Allah, may my own father and mother be your ransom! You were beautiful when you were alive; you are still beautiful though you are dead".
- Then Abu Bakr went out and found `Umar talking to people. He said: "'Umar, be seated." `Umar refused to do so. The people left `Umar and came towards Abu Bakr who began to say: "He who worships Muhammad should know that Muhammad is dead. But he who worships Allah, He is Ever Living and He never dies."



○ Narrated `Aisha:

أَقْبَلَ أَبُو بَكْرٍ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - عَلَى فَرَسِهِ مِنْ مَسْكِنِهِ بِالسُّنْحِ حَتَّى نَزَلَ، فَدَخَلَ الْمَسْجِدَ، فَلَمْ يُكَلِّمِ النَّاسَ، حَتَّى نَزَلَ فَدَخَلَ عَلَى عَائِشَةَ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا - فَتَيَمَّمُ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ وَهُوَ مُسَجَّى بِبُرْدٍ حَبْرَةٍ، فَكَشَفَ عَنْ وَجْهِهِ، ثُمَّ أَكَبَّ عَلَيْهِ فَقَبَّلَهُ ثُمَّ بَكَى فَقَالَ يَا أَبَايَ أَنْتَ يَا نَبِيَّ اللَّهِ، لَا يَجْمَعُ اللَّهُ عَلَيْكَ مَوْتَتَيْنِ، أَمَّا الْمَوْتَةُ الَّتِي كُتِبَتْ عَلَيْكَ فَقَدْ مُتَّهَا. قَالَ أَبُو سَلَمَةَ فَأَخْبَرَنِي ابْنُ عَبَّاسٍ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا - أَنَّ أَبَا بَكْرٍ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - خَرَجَ وَعُمَرُ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - يُكَلِّمُ النَّاسَ. فَقَالَ اجْلِسْ. فَأَبَى. فَقَالَ اجْلِسْ. فَأَبَى، فَتَشَهَّدَ أَبُو بَكْرٍ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - فَمَالَ إِلَيْهِ النَّاسُ، وَتَرَكُوا عُمَرَ فَقَالَ أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَمَنْ كَانَ مِنْكُمْ يَعْْبُدُ مُحَمَّدًا صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَإِنَّ مُحَمَّدًا صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَدْ مَاتَ، وَمَنْ كَانَ يَعْْبُدُ اللَّهَ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ حَيٌّ لَا يَمُوتُ، قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى {وَمَا مُحَمَّدٌ إِلَّا رَسُولٌ} إِلَى {الشَّاكِرِينَ} وَاللَّهُ لَكَانَ النَّاسَ لَمْ يَكُونُوا يَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ أَنْزَلَ الْآيَةَ حَتَّى تَلَاهَا أَبُو بَكْرٍ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - فَتَلَقَّاهَا مِنْهُ النَّاسُ، فَمَا يُسْمَعُ بَشَرٌ إِلَّا يَتْلُوهَا.

*Abu Bakr came riding his horse from his dwelling place in As-Sunh. He got down from it, entered the Mosque and did not speak with anybody till he came to me and went directly to the Prophet, who was covered with a marked blanket. Abu Bakr uncovered his face. He knelt down and kissed him and then started weeping and said, "My father and my mother be sacrificed for you, O Allah's Prophet! Allah will not combine two deaths on you. You have died the death which was written for you."*

*Narrated Abu Salama from Ibn `Abbas: Abu Bakr came out and `Umar, was addressing the people, and Abu Bakr told him to sit down but `Umar refused. Abu Bakr again told him to sit down but `Umar again refused. Then Abu Bakr recited the Tashahhud (i.e. none has the right to be worshipped but Allah and Muhammad is Allah's Messenger (ﷺ)) and the people attended to Abu Bakr and left `Umar. Abu Bakr said, "Amma ba'du, whoever amongst you worshipped Muhammad, then Muhammad is dead, but whoever worshipped Allah, Allah is alive and will never die. Allah said: 'Muhammad is no more than an Apostle and indeed (many) Apostles have passed away before him ..(up to the) grateful.'" (3.144) (The narrator added, "By Allah, it was as if the people never knew that Allah had revealed this verse before till Abu Bakr recited it and then whoever heard it, started reciting it.") (Sahih al-Bukhari)*

- When the Prophet (ﷺ) died, his daughter Fatima, grieved and wept for him, and said, "O my father, to Jibril we tell the news of his death, O my father, he answered the call of his Lord, O my father, in Paradise is his eternal abode."

- The Prophet (ﷺ) was the greatest of all humans and the most beloved of Allah and will always be the most beloved of Allah. Anyone who claims they love Allah, must love the Prophet (ﷺ) and follow the Prophet (ﷺ).