



## **SPEECH OF THE KHALIFATULLAH**

HAZRAT MUNIR A. AZIM (ATBA)

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(Summary of Speech)

*After greeting all his disciples (and all Muslims) worldwide with the greeting of peace Hazrat Muhyi-ud-Din Al-Khalifatullah (atba) read the Tashahhud, Ta'uz, Surah Al-Fatiha, and then he began his speech on "The Sacrifices of the Prophet <sup>(pbuh)</sup> & The First Believer of Islam":*

### **THE SACRIFICES OF THE PROPHET <sup>(pbuh)</sup> & THE FIRST BELIEVER OF ISLAM**

**THE CALL OF THE SEAL OF THE PROPHETS <sup>(pbuh)</sup> TOWARDS A UNIQUE GOD**

*"Proclaim therefore openly the commands you have received and turn away from the idolaters."*  
(Quran 17: 95)



The Holy Prophet of mankind, Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> received the divine order to establish the oneness of God in the heart of people. The call of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> to the Unique God and his rejection of other gods surprised the Meccans of his time, although they knew very well that from a very young age, he had never venerated the Meccan deities, and had never offered them sacrifices, and had never sworn on their behalf, nor had he venerated them in any other way. Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> had publicly condemned these deities after he was commissioned by God as the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of all Prophets. His statement, that the deities so worshiped by the Meccans could not do them any good or even hurt them, met with much opposition. The Meccans of the time had lost all

connection with the Abrahamic tradition, and therefore they did not appreciate that Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> was essentially inviting them to the religion of Ibrahim (as), their ancestor.

For some time, the Meccans tolerated Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>. Over time, they began to show themselves impatient and employed shabby tactics to destroy his mission. They began to mock him. Some said he was a sorcerer. Others said he was crazy. Others, again, thought he was a poet. Gradually, they employed tactics increasingly malicious to frustrate him but they knew deep inside that he was verily a very admirable man. They began to put obstacles in his way every day, harmed him physically and tortured his supporters.

### **BELIEF, PATIENCE AND PERSEVERENCE OF KHADIJA (RA)**

Imagine how a woman of high social status would feel if people began to treat her husband as a crazy person? Instead of getting upset, she (Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup>) became a support for her husband and affirmed her trust in his mission at a time when all other people asked him to prove the truthfulness of his words and his sanity. Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> had therefore the great honour of being the first person, even before all men, to embrace the mission of the Prophet <sup>(pbuh)</sup> and showed her loyalty as a Muslim until the end of her life on earth.

When Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> returned home wounded and bleeding, she consoled him and nursed his wounds. She removed the dust from his face, washed his feet full of blood and continued to reassure him: *"Allah will never disgrace you!"*

She said that one who had the support of Allah <sup>(swt)</sup> had nothing to fear from anyone or anything. With such support and such care, the resolution of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> was restored and confidence in his mission was strengthened. He began his mission every morning with a fresh mind. He ignored the bad people from his people and continued to perform his mission as per dictated by Divine Revelations.

### **PROCLAMATION OF THE MESSAGE AND TRIALS**

***"Proclaim therefore openly the commands you have received and turn away from the idolaters."***  
(Quran 17: 95)

Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> used to go to public places in Mecca to preach monotheism. He was regularly abused physically and verbally. Once while praying inside the Ka'aba, Abu Jahl and some of his friends brought intestines of a sacrificed camel and placed those on the back of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> when he prostrated.

Uqbah ibn Abi Mu'ayt accomplished this evil act. When someone informed the family of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> about this, his daughter Fatima <sup>(ra)</sup>, who was still a child at that time, came running from home and removed the intestines from the back of her father.

This proves that as little by little the message of *Tawhid* spread, the Meccans became increasingly frustrated and wicked.

One of the fiercest opponents of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> was his uncle Abu Lahab. The house of Abu Lahab was adjacent to the residence of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> and Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup>. The wife of Abu Lahab, Umm Jamil, used to collect thorny branches and placed them on a daily basis the way of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>. Abu Lahab also threw his garbage on the doorstep of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>. Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup>, her daughters and their servants had to regularly clean the entrance of their home. Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> gently complained about this to Abu Lahab, that he was not showing himself to be a good neighbour, but in vain. His uncle persisted in his display of wickedness.

### THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF KHADIJAH (RA) IN THE HISTORY OF ISLAM

In such circumstances, Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> and other household members played an important role in support of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>. Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> was continually at his service. She cooked and served him personally.

It is said that one day the Archangel Jibril (as) visited Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> when he was with Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> and the latter was bringing him food. Jibril (as) said to Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> to greet Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> from Allah and from him also (i.e., Jibril) and promised her a palace made of pearls in Paradise, wherein there would be no noise or trouble. (Bukhari)

The palace made of pearls had been promised to Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> in Paradise because she had preceded all people in responding to the call of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>. Allah also promised her a place free of noise and difficulties because she did everything to make the life of the prophet <sup>(pbuh)</sup> and his mission be peaceful and as comfortable as possible, without problems.

It is even reported that Aisha <sup>(ra)</sup> said she had not envied any of the other wives of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> more than she envied Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup>, although the latter had died before Aisha <sup>(ra)</sup> has even married Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>. It was because he spoke a lot of Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> and often remembered her. Aisha <sup>(ra)</sup> also told that Allah <sup>(swt)</sup> told him to promise Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> that she will receive a palace made of pearls in Paradise.

It is reported that Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> had expressed his desire to marry Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> as follows:

*"O cousin, I want to marry you because of our family relationships, your good reputation among people, your truthfulness, your good manners and your honesty."*

Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> was impressed by his sublime character from the beginning. His initial impressions were confirmed later by living with him on a daily basis. Therefore, she was highly motivated to help in all possible ways.

## THE MECCANS SOUGHT TO RIP THE PEACE OF THE FAMILY OF THE PROPHET <sup>(pbuh)</sup>

When the Meccans realized that Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> spent his time spreading the message and that more and more people were responding to his call, they conspired to break the peace that reigned at his place so that he might be stopped in his mission. One of the daughters of the Holy Prophet <sup>(pbuh)</sup>, Zaynab was married to Abu Al-As ibn Rabi. Ruqqayah and Umm Kulthum were married to the sons of Abu Lahab, but their marital lives had not yet started because they were minors (had not yet reached the age of puberty). The opponents of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> urged his sons-in-law to divorce his daughters and told them that they could, in turn, marry the Meccan girls of their choice. Abu Al-As, the husband of Zaynab, rejected this proposal.

However, the sons of Abu Lahab divorced Ruqqayah and Umm Kulthum. This should have given a heavy blow to the household of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>. The Meccans wanted to teach him a lesson so that he might abandon his preaching, but instead, it was a blessing to the family of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> as his daughters were freed from the idolaters and opponents of Islam (Abu Lahab and his sons) even before their marital lives began.

The attempt to destroy the peace of Muhammad's <sup>(pbuh)</sup> household failed. Soon after the sons of Abu Lahab had divorced Ruqqayah Umm and Kulthum, Uthman ibn Affan <sup>(ra)</sup> asked for the hand of Ruqqayah. Uthman <sup>(ra)</sup> thereafter married Umm Kulthum also (after the death of Ruqqayah). Allah <sup>(swt)</sup> had intended dishonour for Abu Lahab and his sons.

Uthman <sup>(ra)</sup>, on the other hand, was among the blessed Companions of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>. He was among the first converts to Islam. Abu Bakr <sup>(ra)</sup> had introduced the Message of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> which preached Islam to Uthman <sup>(ra)</sup>, who quickly responded to the invitation of Abu Bakr <sup>(ra)</sup> and joined the ranks of the *Al-Sabiqun al-Awwalun*, i.e., the first people who responded to the call of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> to monotheism.

The fraternal feelings and affinities shared by Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> and Uthman <sup>(ra)</sup> further augmented after the conversion of the latter and Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> accepted on behalf of Ruqqayah the marriage proposal of Uthman. He was a wealthy Meccan known for his modesty and humble ways. Ruqqayah was also blessed with great beauty and noble character. They were blessed and considered a great couple.

Abu Lahab and his sons thought they would give a blow to the mission of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> by divorcing his daughters. But the mission of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> was to continue. As for his daughters, Allah <sup>(swt)</sup> had better plans for them.

## THE DEATH OF THE PROPHET'S SONS AND THE CRITICS AGAINST HIM

The loss of a child is not easy to bear. Afflicted by the death of his sons and the response of the Meccans against him, Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> was doubly challenged. It was in these circumstances that the Surah Al-Kawthar, the 108<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Qur'an was revealed:

**“Verily, We have sent thee loaded with favours (*al-Kawthar*). Therefore requests your Lord and sacrifice with humility! It's your enemy to be, in truth, deprived of posterity (*Abtar*).”**  
(Quran 108: 2-4)

By revealing this surah, Allah <sup>(swt)</sup> consoled Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> and his family. They were reassured to know that He was the recipient of abundant goods and that his opponents were in fact those who were not going to leave any descendant or be celebrated in history. Therefore, Allah had decreed that those who had insulted Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> for not having male offspring to be killed during the Battle of Badr, and to be only known in history as bad people. Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> and his family, on the other hand had been immortalized in the history of humanity and Islam in particular.

Destined to become an important woman in the history of humanity, Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> was tested in the toughest circumstances, but she remained remarkably patient and full of grace in dealing with these difficulties.

## EMIGRATION TO ABYSSINIA

When things became too difficult for some members of the new community, Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> advised them to migrate to Abyssinia. The Negus of Abyssinia of the time was known as a just ruler who protected the subjects of his kingdom from all kinds of injustices. Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> and Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> were very saddened when people left their houses and went to Abyssinia. They even had to say goodbye to their daughter, Ruqqayah, and her husband Uthman ibn Affan <sup>(ra)</sup>. Following the advices of the Prophet <sup>(pbuh)</sup>, the couple was relieved from difficulties upon their arrival in Abyssinia. They were finally safe and free to practice their faith. Ruqqayah was very young at that time. Her departure from Mecca was another trial for Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup>, but she bore it with patience.

To thwart the mission of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>, all plans that were developed by the Meccans to stop the spread of Islam had failed. The more they opposed Islam, the more Islam was spreading.

The opponents of Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> also gathered to discuss their future plans. It was obvious to them that murder (of the Prophet) was not an option because it would lead to a bloodbath between the clans of the Quraysh. They found a new idea to put pressure on the Banu Hashim and Banu Muttalib who had sworn to protect Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>. They prepared a plan to force all the Meccans to boycott the members of the Banu Hashim and of the Banu Muttalib. None of the Meccans should maintain socio-economic link with these two families. Moreover, the peace offering of the Banu Hashim was not taken into account. The terms of this agreement were put in writing and pinned to the Ka'aba. Abu Talib and the other members of Banu Hashim and Banu Muttalib were forced to retreat in a valley in the surroundings of the cave of Hira, near Mecca. The valley is commonly called *Shi'b Abi Talib*, or even *Shi'b Bani Hashim* as this land was the property of the Banu Hashim.

### KHADIJA'S (RA) EXILE AT SHI'B ABI TALIB AND HER DEATH

Khadijah <sup>(ra)</sup> joined Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup> and other members of Banu Hashim and Banu Muttalib in exile. This was probably the phase of her life which was most difficult for this woman who had lived in affluence since childhood. Her father was a wealthy merchant, just as were her two husbands before Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>.

She had inherited a large fortune from each of them. Her capital and trade volume exceeded all those possessed by all the merchants of Mecca.

When she recognized the Divine Light shining on the Elect of God, she agreed to give everything in the way of that Merciful God. She even sacrificed her time, energy, and went through many hardships for the cause of Islam. The three-year boycott which the Meccans forced upon the prophet and his family was a blow on the companion (wife) of the Prophet and the first Muslim. She died materially poor but spiritually rich forever. Her name and her memory will always remain alive on the lips and minds of Muslims because her life and sacrifice and devotion to Allah and to the Prophet of Allah <sup>(pbuh)</sup> will remain as a perfect example for subsequent people till the Day of Judgement.

May Allah be always pleased with her and grant her the best rewards of the hereafter as well as His love and mercy. *Ameen, Summa, Ameen*. And may the choicest greetings and blessings of God be upon the seal of all the prophets, Muhammad <sup>(pbuh)</sup>.