

The Golden Series of the Prophet's Companions

Jabir bin Abdullah رضي الله عنه

# The Example Of Sacrifice

Abdul Hameed

**By: Abdul Basit Ahmad**

Edited by: Aqeel Walker

Muhammad Ayub Sapra

*The Golden Series of the Prophet's Companions*

جابر بن عبد الله ﷺ - مثال التضحية

*Jabir bin Abdullah* ﷺ

**The Example of Sacrifice**





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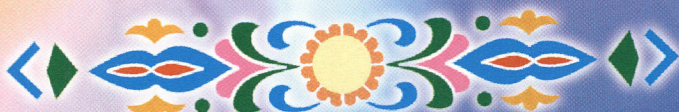
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In the Name of Allâh,  
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

“Among the believers are men who have been true to their covenant with Allâh [i.e., they have gone out for *Jihâd* (holy fighting), and showed not their backs to the disbelievers]; of them some have fulfilled their obligations (i.e., have been martyred); and some of them are still waiting, but they have never changed (i.e., they never proved treacherous to their covenant which they concluded with Allâh) in the least.” (33:23)



## Publishers Note

All praises are due to Allâh, the Lord of all that exists. May Allâh's peace and blessings be upon His final Prophet and Messenger, Muhammad, his family and his Companions.

Darussalam is pleased to present this valuable series, '*The Golden Series of the Prophet's Companions*', to the Muslim youth. The purpose of these books is to enlighten our youth about the lives of the greatest heroes of Islam, the Prophet's Companions. Also, we wish to increase the enthusiasm of the Muslim youth for following and adhering to their religion. In this way, these books achieve two very important tasks: educating our youth and encouraging them to be good Muslims.

The story you are about to read, '*Jabir bin Abdullah – The Example of Sacrifice*', is an inspiring story of the life of one of the Muslim who should be followed. He supported his seven sisters and sacrificed his happiness for their welfare. He accepted Islam while he was still very young. He lost his father but found brothers of Islam who helped him in supporting his



family. In spite of the dire food he had, he made a meal for the Prophet ﷺ and his Companions on the day when they were digging the trench. When the Prophet ﷺ asked him why he did not marry a virgin to be happier in his life, he explained that he preferred his sisters' happiness to his own. He married an experienced widow who would be more capable to care for his sisters.

We hope that these books are beneficial to our Muslim youth, as they are the future of Islam. We, at Darussalam realize the importance of good Islamic literature for Muslim youth, especially in the West where non-Islamic influences are so strong. For this reason, we feel that the availability of this series will be a valuable aid in instilling a genuine love for Islam in our youth. We would like to thank the author, Mr. Abdul Basit Ahmad, the editors, Mr. Aqeel Walker and Mr. Muhammad Ayub Sapra for their diligent work in preparing this series. As Allāh says:

“Is there any reward for good other than good?” (55:60)

**Abdul Malik Mujahid**  
General Manager



## Foreword

The Hijaz region of the Arabian Peninsula was the centre of trade and civilization for the Arabs before and during the Islamic era. Makkah was a very important city. Arabs from all over the Arabian Peninsula came to Makkah to visit the Ka‘bah and trade with its inhabitants.

Another important town of the Arabian Peninsula was called Yathrib. Two major tribes inhabited Yathrib. These tribes were Al-Aws and Al-Khazraj. In addition, there were three Jewish tribes living in the suburbs of the town. Although the two major tribes were relatives, they were involved in endless wars. Some of these wars were waged for very trivial causes and others were plotted by the Jews in order to keep the two tribes weak and under their control.

The Jews were always threatening the Arabs of the close appearance of a Prophet in the Arabian Peninsula. They told them that they would follow him and overpower them.

The Arabs of Yathrib remembered these





threats very well. They visited Makkah every year and when they heard of the appearance of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, a group of them met him and believed in the message that he was preaching. They promised the Prophet ﷺ that they would come the following year with the chiefs of their tribes and make an agreement to protect Islam and its followers. This meant that the Muslims would eventually migrate to Yathrib (Al-Madinah) and be able to spread the message of Islam.

Mus‘ab bin ‘Umair ؓ was sent by the Prophet ﷺ to Al-Madinah to teach the people about the true religion of Allâh. So, Islam spread in Al-Madinah peacefully.

In Makkah, the Muslims received a great deal of oppression at the hands of the pagans, who did not want to give up their false gods that their forefathers had worshipped and to accept the true religion of Allâh. At the same time they were greatly angered when many people turned to Islam and abandoned their false deities.

The Prophet ﷺ asked his Companions to leave Makkah to Al-Madinah so that they could find protection against the oppression of the Quraish.



Some time later, when the Muslims settled in Al-Madinah, the Prophet ﷺ and his Companion, Abu Bakr ؓ, also left to join the rest of the Muslims in Al-Madinah.

In Al-Madinah, the Prophet ﷺ received a warm welcome and a new Islamic State was established marking a strong bond of brotherhood between the *Muhajireen* (migrants) and the *Ansar* (supporters).

At that time, our hero Jabir bin Abdullah ؓ was still a young boy. He witnessed the day when all the people of Al-Madinah went outside the town to welcome the Prophet ﷺ and his Companion, Abu Bakr ؓ. The boy became a young man and a prominent Companion of the Prophet ﷺ. He joined his brothers in Islam in all their efforts to spread Islam.

Let us read the splendid story of this young man, which reflects an example of sacrifice, in spite of all difficulties, and steadfastness in faith.

**Abdul Basit Ahmad**



## **Introduction**

### **Population of Al-Madinah**

Al-Madinah (the Illuminated City), was known as Yathrib before the Prophet ﷺ changed its name, there in lived two major relative tribes: Al-Aws and Al-Khazraj, along with some small tribes and clans. There were also the Jews who lived in the suburbs of the city. The two major tribes were engaged in constant wars against each other. These wars continued until a short time before the Prophet ﷺ and his Companions migrated to Yathrib. After shedding blood and wasting resources for many years, the two tribes, through the good efforts of some wise men, reached a peace agreement.

### **The Jews in Yathrib**

Three Jewish clans, namely Banu An-Nadheer, Banu Quraithah and Banu Qaynuqa' settled in Yathrib. They had come to it from Iraq a long time before the rise of Islam. They followed a forged version of the Taurât (the sacred book revealed to the Prophet Mûsâ عليه



(السلام). They mainly worked as merchants and usurers. Being strangers in the land and for fear of facing a unified front of Arabs, they kept adding fuel to the fire of war that the inhabitants of the city were entangled in. In addition, they earned much of their resources as a result of the continuation of this war. They were selling arms to the fighting parties and lending them money for high interests. They, drawing on the true parts of their Taurât, already had knowledge of a Prophet that would appear in the Arabian Peninsula. They even knew the signs that distinguished the promised Prophet. When any clashes took place between them and the people of Yathrib, they would threaten them that they would follow the coming Prophet and overcome them as Mûsâ overcame the Pharaoh. However, these same Jews were filled with grudge when they became certain that the Prophet was not one from among them. Although the Prophet ﷺ made mutual support agreements with them, they did not respect any terms and plotted to kill him. They even conspired with the chiefs of Makkah and

supported them in their war against the Muslims. Therefore, the Muslims had no choice but to expel them out of their city or even wage a war against them until they were completely subdued.

### **The people of Yathrib and the Call of Islam**

Makkah was the capital of Al-Hijaz region before the advent of Islam. All Arabs from all parts of the Arabian Peninsula visited the city to make pilgrimage to the Ka'bah, to trade with the people of Makkah and to attend annual festivals of the Arabs held during those days.

Thirteen years after proclamation of Islam, a group of people from Yathrib visited Makkah. The Prophet ﷺ approached them and called them to accept Islam and provide him with necessary protection in order to propagate the message of Islam. The group accepted the call and promised to come with their chiefs the next year to conclude an agreement with the Prophet ﷺ.

The same group of men began calling their people to Islam and met tremendous success. The next year, seventy-three men and women



including the hero of this story met the Prophet ﷺ secretly and agreed with him to protect him and his Companions inside their city.

Immediately after making this agreement, the oppressed Muslims began migrating to Yathrib. Four months later, the Prophet ﷺ and his close Companion, Abu Bakr ؓ, left to Al-Madinah to join both the migrants and the supporters.

### **Establishing the new Islamic State**

As soon as the Prophet ﷺ arrived in Al-Madinah, he maintained ties of Islamic brotherhood between the migrants and the supporters. Hence, tribal or blood kinship ties became of no importance. It was Faith that combined all Muslims together as one unit. To foster this spirit of solidarity, the supporters gave some of their property to their migrant brothers to help them resuming their life in their city. The Prophet ﷺ also urged the Muslims to build a mosque which was meant to be a place for prayers, a school for teaching the Muslims the principles of Islam and a base from where



armies would march to subdue the strongest nations on earth at that time.

In this ideal society, both the migrants and the supporters established a way of life guided by the Qur'ân and the teachings of the Prophet ﷺ. No one of the Muslims, rich or poor, felt any discrimination.

This city (now Al-Madinah) was attacked several times by the Quraish and other tribes but it kept steadfast in the face of all attackers. Three main battles were fought near its borders but the Muslims who had established it on bases of solidarity and equality, defeated anyone who tried to blemish its pure face.

The city keeps a live example of solidarity and equality among all the Muslims. You can not distinguish the poor from the rich because they all come to the city with humble hearts to recall past days and to instill in their hearts an impetus to foster their religion based on the principles that the Prophet ﷺ taught to his Companions when they had established this illuminated and blessed city.



If you get a chance to visit Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah, remember your righteous predecessors there, who sacrificed all their resources and lives to build a lofty Islamic State. They ruled nearly most of the populated countries worldwide for hundreds of years. When you leave Al-Madinah to your country of origin, keep in mind that you have a role to play; namely, to propagate Islam whenever you have a chance to do so.





## In the Orchards of Al-Madinah

Jabir bin Abdullah was the only son of Abdullah bin Haram. Abdullah felt very happy to have Jabir after having several daughters. He brought him up as best as he could to make him a man of honour and dignity.

The boy spent most of his time amongst the beautiful gardens of Yathrib. Beautiful palm trees and colorful roses were all around. He used to listen to the singing of birds and chase beautiful butterflies.

Jabir's father was a farmer. Jabir would always accompany him to the farm. At the farm, Jabir would feel that he was at the heart of nature. He would also feel a sense of calmness and satisfaction whenever he was in the orchard owned by his father. The sound of water coming from between rocks and taking courses under palm trees added to the beauty of nature and tranquillity of Jabir's soul.

Jabir used to spend most of the day at the farm. He often spent the time thinking about the



things that he saw around him. Whenever he tasted the sweet dates, he would ask himself a big question, to which he had no answer. ‘How could a tree give such a sweet fruit?’ Many thoughts raced through his little mind now and then. ‘Who created these trees? Who made the dates, grapes and figs so sweet and who made this huge sky?’ His father always told him that Allâh is the Only Creator of everything.

### **Jabir and Islam**

Jabir would see his father standing calmly and peacefully and whispering some words. He would also see him performing some acts that Jabir could not understand. When Jabir would ask his father what he was doing, his father would tell him that he was praying to Allâh.

One day, Jabir’s father was sitting under a high palm tree. He asked Jabir to sit beside him. He gently told his son that he was going to leave on a long journey, and he would like Jabir to take care of the farm while he was away. However, Jabir told his father that he too wanted to travel with him. His father told him that the journey was too long and it would be



hard for him to travel long distances under the heat of the sun. Abdullah tried his best to convince his son to stay behind and look after the farm, but all in vain. Young Jabir was very eager to travel with his father. Finally his father agreed to take him with him on his journey to Makkah.

One year before this journey, a group of pilgrims from Yathrib visited Makkah. While in Makkah, they found out that a man from the Quraish named Muhammad was preaching his people to worship Allâh Alone and to abandon worship of stone idols. He urged them to be kind and to stop fighting each other.

The people of Makkah, especially the chiefs, opposed him and oppressed all men and women who believed in the message of Islam. Not only this, but they also told people of other tribes that Muhammad was a lunatic or a liar. They did their best to defame him although they knew that he was a trustworthy and good man.

As the Prophet ﷺ saw that it was a hopeless case to request his tribesmen to believe in the message of Islam, he began calling the people



from outside of Makkah to Islam. He sought to have protection of any tribe to be able to call to Islam in peace.

The Prophet ﷺ visited the group of men from Yathrib. He preached to them the principles of Islam and asked them to provide him with protection in their city.

The group of men discussed the Prophet's invitation to Islam. However, they were afraid to be hurt by the Quraish people. They were convinced that Muhammad ﷺ was the true Messenger of Allâh. They had many times heard the Jews speaking of a Prophet who would appear in Arabia and call to the worship of Allâh Alone.

The group of men promised the Prophet ﷺ to come back the next year with the chiefs of their tribes to make a pledge with him to provide him protection in their city.

Upon their return to Yathrib, these persons called their people to Islam. Many men and women accepted Islam and pledged to support the Prophet ﷺ in his call to Islam.



## **The Journey to Makkah**

Jabir's father was going to travel to Makkah along with about seventy-three men and women. They all set off on the journey to meet the Prophet ﷺ whom they believed in and followed the message he preached to them. Jabir was quite shocked to see that their caravan of camels did not carry any goods or weapons.

Makkah was a famous trade center. A caravan heading to Makkah should normally carry goods. The purpose of this journey seemed to be different. Jabir asked his father what the purpose of the journey was. His father looked at him and said: "You will know later on."

After ten days and nights, the camels crossed the deserts and mountains that Jabir had never seen before. The caravan stopped at the outskirts of Makkah. A messenger was sent to the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. The Prophet ﷺ set a time and a place to meet with the people from Yathrib.

## **Meeting with the Prophet ﷺ**

At the set time, the Prophet ﷺ went to meet the people with his uncle Al-Abbas. There, for



the very first time Jabir saw the Prophet ﷺ shaking hands with the men from Yathrib.

When Jabir saw the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ, his heart was filled with affection and love for him. He listened carefully to the commandments given by the Prophet ﷺ to his tribesmen. Although he was too young, he was somewhat aware of the strong bond that the Prophet ﷺ made with his tribesmen. After the meeting was over with the Prophet ﷺ, the people of Yathrib headed back to their city.

“Who is that man, father?” Jabir asked. His father replied:

“He is the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ, Jabir. Allâh, Who gives us water and Who makes every seed grow into the big trees that give us fruits, has sent him to guide us to the worship of the One Allâh and to abandon worship of stone idols. He is the Messenger of the Creator of all these stars and the One Who keeps them balanced.”

Jabir whispered something that his father could not understand. He asked him: “What is it Jabir?” Jabir replied:



“I loved this man who taught us how to love Allâh, the Creator and Sustainer of everything.”

Jabir had become a new human being. He felt that his heart was filled with the love of Allâh. As soon as the caravan stopped for a rest, he asked his father to teach him how to pray. Jabir had now felt a great sense of peace and calmness in his heart. He had found the True Allâh and Creator of everything around him. Jabir had become a Muslim! His heart was filled with joy. Jabir ﷺ realized that the purpose of the journey was to meet the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

Jabir ﷺ was a witness to the pledge that his people made to the Prophet ﷺ. In the meeting it was agreed that the Prophet ﷺ and his Companions would leave the city of Makkah, where they were being tortured at the hands of the disbelievers, and migrate to Yathrib. The people of Al-Madinah promised to help and protect the Muslims.

When the caravan arrived in Yathrib, Jabir ran to his mother and told her everything that



had happened during the journey.

“Mother, he was a very kind gentleman. He taught us how to be good to others. He told us to worship One Allâh and to abandon idols. I liked him.”

Jabir’s mother was very happy. She hugged him and thanked Allâh for blessing her with such a good boy.

The Prophet ﷺ had sent Mus‘ab bin ‘Umair رضي الله عنه to Al-Madinah to teach the people of Al-Madinah the principles of Islam. Jabir رضي الله عنه always went to Mus‘ab bin ‘Umair رضي الله عنه to learn about Islam. He listened carefully to what Mus‘ab bin ‘Umair رضي الله عنه taught. Everyday he was learning something new about the religion of Allâh.





## The New Islamic State

### People of Yathrib welcome the Prophet ﷺ

The day had arrived when the Prophet ﷺ was expected to come to and live in Yathrib. It was morning time, the people of Yathrib gathered outside the city to meet the Prophet ﷺ and his Companion, Abu Bakr ؓ. They waited until noontime but the two men did not arrive.

Jabir ؓ got worried and thought that the Prophet ﷺ would not come. His father took hold of his hand and sighed: ‘Let us go back home, son.’ Jabir ؓ let his father’s hand go and refused to go home. Suddenly he heard a man from the top of a hill announcing the arrival of the Prophet ﷺ. Jabir shouted joyfully:

“Father! the Prophet ﷺ has arrived.”

He and the other Muslims, both migrants and supporters received the Prophet ﷺ with warm welcome. Jabir ؓ walked beside the Prophet’s camel to Yathrib.

### Keeping close to the Prophet ﷺ

The whole crowd was filled with happiness and joy. They began glorifying Allâh and



cheering with joy as never before. Two big drops of tears rolled down Jabir's cheeks. His heart was filled with joy. He wished very much that the Prophet ﷺ would be a guest in his house. Jabir ؓ really wanted to spend his time close to the Prophet ﷺ.

Since the day the Prophet ﷺ had arrived in Yathrib, Jabir ؓ spent as much time as he could close to the Prophet ﷺ. The first thing the Prophet ﷺ did was to change the name of the city from Yathrib to Al-Madinah and to join the hands of migrants and supporters in Islamic brotherhood under the banner of Islam. The Muslims had together built a new mosque. Jabir ؓ participated in building the first mosque of Islam. He always went to the mosque with his father to perform prayers and learn more about Islam. As days went by, Jabir ؓ was growing up under the guidance of the Prophet ﷺ. The Muslims of Al-Madinah and Makkah worked together as Muslim brothers and sisters. This helped them to establish their Islamic State in Al-Madinah. The people of Al-Madinah were very helpful towards the Muslims who migrated from Makkah. They gave them some



of their property so that they could settle in Al-Madinah quite easily.

### **The First Challenge**

In the second year after the Muslims had settled in Al-Madinah, they began patrolling outside Al-Madinah for security purposes. They received the news of a Quraish caravan nearby, they went towards it to check it. Abu Sufyan, the caravan leader, fearing of them quickly took a different route. At the same time, however, Abu Sufyan sent a message to Makkah warning the rest of the Quraish that their caravan was in danger.

The Quraish chiefs were very angry that the Muslims were threatening their economical interests. Therefore, they organized a heavily armed army of about one thousand fighters and headed toward Al-Madinah to put an end to Islam and its followers.

The Migrants were zealous to fight the pagans. They urged the Prophet ﷺ to fight the pagan army and to defeat them. However, the Prophet ﷺ was waiting for the supporters to say their word. The agreement he had already made



with them stated that they would provide him and his followers with protection inside the borders of Al-Madinah. The Prophet ﷺ feared that they might object to fighting the pagans in an open battle outside the borders of the city.

Sa'ad bin Mu'adh ؓ, a tribal chief, understood what the Prophet ﷺ meant. He said:

“O Messenger of Allâh! It seems that you a word from us.”

The Prophet ﷺ replied affirmatively. Sa'ad advanced toward the Prophet ﷺ and said:

“O Messenger of Allâh! We have believed in you and supported you. Even if you order us to cross this sea, no one of us would keep behind. Go forward with the blessing of Allâh. Tomorrow, you will know that we are sincere in belief and steadfast in war.”

The Prophet ﷺ was very happy to hear these words. He immediately foretold that Allâh would bring victory for the Muslims as long as they were sincere to their faith.

The Muslims gathered an army of three



hundred and thirteen men. Jabir's father prepared himself to join the army too. Jabir ﷺ wanted to go to the battlefield to take part in the battle against the pagans. However, his father told him that the Prophet ﷺ was the leader of the army and that he should ask the Prophet ﷺ for permission to take part in the battle.

The Prophet ﷺ listened to the request of the young Jabir. He saw sincerity in his eyes. However, he told him that it would be better for him to stay in Al-Madinah because he was too young. Jabir ﷺ obeyed the Prophet's orders and stayed in Al-Madinah waiting for the news from the battlefield. The Muslim army marched to a place called Badr where they met face to face with the pagan army.

The Muslims fought a fierce battle and defeated the army of the Quraish. Jabir's father fought with all his might and showed the pagans how a true Muslim should fight for the sake of Allâh.

Jabir ﷺ stayed in Al-Madinah waiting for the news from the battlefield. He was sure that Allâh would support the believers and help



them in defeating the pagans.

Every day he, with other boys, was going to the outskirts of Al-Madinah hoping for some one to appear from the battlefield and bring them good news.

Two days later, Jabir رضي الله عنه received very good news. He heard that the Muslims had won the battle. He was overcome with happiness and joy for the victory that the Muslims had achieved in this battle. He waited for his father at the outskirts of Al-Madinah. His father hugged him with joy and told him how the Muslims were very brave and sincere to their Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم and religion. He saw the prisoners of war from the pagans passing with chains on their hands and feet. They wanted to challenge the religion of Islam but they received a heavy blow. They were now aware that Allâh had supported the Muslims and gave them victory over their enemies.



## The Orphan

Having lost the battle of Badr, the chiefs of the Quraish went back to Makkah deeply saddened by their loss. A number of their chiefs were killed in the battle and others were taken as prisoners of war. It was not long before the pagans planned to wage another war against the Muslims.

Some chiefs of the Quraish met Abu Sufyan and asked him to spend the money they got from the caravan which escaped the Muslims' capture to prepare for another battle against the Muslims. They wanted to revenge themselves against the Muslims. Abu Sufyan agreed to their request and bought all the weapons and supplies necessary for the army.

A heavily armed army of three thousand soldiers marched toward Al-Madinah. This time the pagans were determined to destroy Islam altogether. The army of the Quraish arrived at a place called Uhud Mount.

The Muslims discussed this great threat to their faith and state. Some of them advised the



Prophet ﷺ to keep inside the city and defend it against the aggressors. However, others were zealous to fight the pagans in an open battle. They feared that the pagans might think that the Muslims were afraid to fight them in an open battle. After much discussion, the Prophet ﷺ agreed to fight the pagans in an open battle. He prepared himself and ordered the Muslims to prepare for the coming battle.

Jabir ؓ wanted to take part in the battle this time. He asked his father to allow him to take part in this battle, but once again his father told him to stay in Al-Madinah with his family. Jabir's father also told him that he felt that he would not come back from this battle and it was best for him to stay with his mother and sisters and look after them.

### **Jabir ؓ partakes in Uhud Battle**

However, Jabir ؓ was very sad to hear these words from his father. He could not bear the idea of losing this chance to take part in the battle. He immediately went to the Prophet ﷺ and asked him to allow him to take part in the battle. The Prophet ﷺ was sure that the young man was strong enough to take part in the





battle. Hence he allowed him to join the Muslim army.

Upon arriving at the battlefield, the Prophet ﷺ positioned fifty archers on a small hill behind the Muslim army so as to protect them against charge from behind. He told the archers that they should keep to their positions whatever the result of the battle might be.

The battle began with a clear victory for the Muslims. However, some of the archers thought that the pagan army was finally defeated. Therefore, they left their positions and joined the rest of the Muslims in collecting war booty. There were some pagan horsemen led by Khalid bin Al-Waleed, who was a very clever and skilled leader. He took this great advantage to attack the Muslims from behind. The battle turned against the Muslims and many of the Muslim soldiers were killed. Jabir's father stood firm in the battle. He sacrificed his soul for the sake of his faith. Jabir ﷺ searched the battlefield for his father and found his body. Jabir ﷺ was very sad to find his father's body mutilated by the disbelievers. All the Muslims that were killed at battle Uhud were buried at Uhud. Jabir ﷺ went



home to his mother and sisters deeply saddened by his father's death.

### **Poor Jabir** ﷺ

Jabir ﷺ was heartbroken by the loss of his father. This event had changed his whole life. He could not forget how kind his father was to him. His father had left him seven sisters and a big debt. Jabir ﷺ found it very difficult to cope with all these calamities.

The Prophet ﷺ noticed that Jabir ﷺ was sad and miserable. He asked him:

“Why are you sad, Jabir?”

Jabir ﷺ told the Prophet ﷺ that he was very poor, that his father left him a big debt that he could not pay back and seven sisters who needed care and living. The Prophet ﷺ told Jabir ﷺ that his father was a martyr and that he should be happy that his father died as a martyr. The Prophet ﷺ asked his Companions to help Jabir ﷺ pay his debts. Everyone helped Jabir ﷺ as much as they could. Jabir ﷺ was very happy with the help and support he got from his fellow brothers in Islam.



## The Soldier of Islam

Jabir ؓ had a close relationship with the Prophet ﷺ. He was prepared to do anything he could to spread the message of Islam in the Arabian Peninsula.

He took part in all battles in defense of Islam and never hesitated to do anything in serving the cause of Allâh. After losing his father in the battle of Uhud, Jabir ؓ worked hard and would sacrifice his soul and property in serving the message of Islam. He would even sacrifice the little food he had to please the Prophet ﷺ.

### Little Blessed Food

The Quraish thought that the Muslims would not withstand another battle. Therefore, they made an alliance with the other tribes of Arabia and the Jews to attack the Muslims and put an end to Islam. The Quraish gathered ten thousand soldiers to invade Al-Madinah.

The Muslims were not strong enough to fight such a huge army. The Prophet ﷺ and his Companions discussed the best way to deter the invaders. Some of the Muslims thought it



would be better to keep inside the city and defend it against the aggressors. Others told the Prophet ﷺ that they were ready to fight the pagans in an open battle. However, the Prophet ﷺ did not like any of these ideas. A Muslim from Persia, named Salman Al-Farisi ؓ, suggested digging a wide trench around weak points of Al-Madinah. He told the Prophet ﷺ that his people used to do so when they were attacked by armies that outnumbered them. The Prophet ﷺ welcomed the idea and ordered the Muslims to begin digging the trench.

Jabir ؓ helped the Muslims in digging the trench to protect their city. As they were digging the trench, there was a huge rock which stopped them from digging any further in the trench. The Prophet ﷺ took an axe, tied two stones to his stomach because of hunger and went down into the trench. He hit the boulder and in second hit it became a pile of sand.

Jabir ؓ saw the stones tied to the Prophet's stomach. He felt sad for the Prophet ﷺ to be hungry. He wanted the Prophet ﷺ to have a full meal, even if it was just once in his lifetime. Jabir ؓ had nothing to offer as a meal to the



Prophet ﷺ except a sheep and some wheat. He asked his wife to slaughter the sheep and grind the wheat to make a meal for the Prophet ﷺ. He went back to the Prophet ﷺ and secretly asked him to accept his invitation.

When it was evening, the Prophet ﷺ and the Muslims stopped digging the trench so that they could take some rest and resume work on the next day.

To Jabir's surprise, the Prophet ﷺ asked all the Muslims who were participating in the digging of the trench to follow him to Jabir's house. This was a real shock for Jabir ؓ. More than three hundred men were waiting for food.

The Prophet ﷺ went inside Jabir's house, called for the food and prayed to Allâh to bless the food and began eating. Group after group of the Prophet's Companions came in, took food and left. All the people who came to the invitation, ate to their fill. Jabir ؓ knew that it was not his sheep that made all these people eat to their fill, but that Allâh had blessed the food because of the Prophet's prayer.

Since that day, Jabir ؓ felt the blessings of



Allâh upon him and the other Muslims. His belief in the truth of Islam became deeper. He never felt the pressure of poverty. Jabir ؓ knew that Allâh's help and support were always there.

### **The Debt Paid**

Jabir ؓ owed a Jew some money. The Jew wanted his money back. Jabir ؓ asked the Jew to give him more time to repay him, but the Jew refused to give him time. Sad and helpless, Jabir ؓ told the Prophet ﷺ about the situation. The Prophet ﷺ asked him to take him to his palm tree orchard.

The orchard suffered a draught that year and because of that the production was very little. The Prophet ﷺ walked in the garden and prayed to Allâh to help Jabir. To Jabir's happiness, the harvest was so plenty that he could repay the Jew his money and keep dates for his family.

### **The Sincere Muslim**

Jabir ؓ participated in many battles against the enemies of Islam. He was with the Prophet ﷺ and the other Muslims on the day when the Quraish prevented them from visiting the



Ka'bah. He was very angry to be denied the right to visit the Ka'bah. However, he felt that the agreement made between the Muslims and the pagans would give the Muslims good time to call other tribes of Arabia to Islam in peace.

Jabir ؓ even marched with the Muslim army outside the borders of the Arabian Peninsula to deter the Romans who were planning to destroy and stop the spread of Islam. He shared in the battle of Mu'tah against the Romans and showed them how strong the Muslims were in defending their religion and land.

When the Quraish broke the agreement with the Muslims, the Prophet ﷺ felt that the promise given to him by Allâh to conquer Makkah was close. Jabir ؓ accompanied the Prophet ﷺ and ten thousand Muslims to Makkah to conquer the center of idolatry in the Arabian Peninsula. He knew that the Quraish would not respect any agreement with the Muslims, when they held a truce with the Muslims to stop fighting for ten years. They broke their promise and it was time to stop their aggression against the Muslims. However, Jabir ؓ saw how merciful and kind the Prophet ﷺ was to the people, who had forced him

to leave his homeland. He saw how the Prophet ﷺ treated the Quraish with mercy and showed them the true message of Islam on the day when the Prophet ﷺ conquered Makkah. Instead of revenging himself on those who fought many battles against him and instead of taking them as slaves, he told them in clear words:

“Go! you are free.”

Jabir ؓ realized how just, reasonable and gentle the religion of Islam was. It was on that day that he heard the Prophet ﷺ reciting the Words of Allâh in the Noble Qur’ân:

“O people, We have created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes that you may know one another. Verily, the most honorable of you with Allâh is that who has *At-Taqwâ*.”  
(49:13)

Since the time Jabir ؓ heard these words, he treated all human beings alike and equally.

### **The Dedicated Muslim**

Jabir’s life went on a devoted course of worship and hard work for the cause of Allâh.





He never missed a chance to serve Allâh's religion. In spite of the poverty that the Muslims were suffering, they all positively responded to the call of the Prophet ﷺ to spread Islam. Jabir ؓ was always ready to stand by his Muslim brothers.

The weather was very hot and draught left the Muslims no resources even to live. However, the Prophet ﷺ found it necessary to deter the Romans who were now and then threatening to destroy Islam. He ordered his Companions to prepare for the coming battle. Jabir ؓ could barely find a horse to ride and little food for the excursion. He marched with the Prophet ﷺ and the other Muslims to Tabuk, north to the Arabian Peninsula, to show the Romans that they were ready to fight them if they threaten the existence of the Muslims.

Jabir ؓ did not care about the joys of this life. His only concern was to do whatever he could for the sake of Islam. He tried to follow every word of the Qur'ân and every word the Prophet ﷺ taught to him and other fellow Muslims.

He narrated that he heard the Prophet ﷺ



saying:

“Every good deed is acceptable to Allâh, even smiling in the face of your brother Muslim.”

Once he was with the Prophet ﷺ on a journey. They saw some men helping a weak and tired man. The Prophet ﷺ asked about the man. He was told that the man was fasting. The Prophet ﷺ told them that it was not good to fast while one was traveling. From that day Jabir ؓ learned that the sincere Muslim was not the one who would exceed limits and make life difficult for himself and those around him, for Allâh would not be pleased with such acts. He learned to be moderate, for moderate Muslims were truly closer to Allâh.

He was very keen to memorize *Ahadith* (the Prophet’s sayings). He even wrote a handbook of many *Ahadith* he heard from the Prophet ﷺ and kept it for himself to adopt in his life.

Jabir ؓ also learned that a Muslim should be just and fair all the time, even against himself. He always remembered the Prophet’s saying:

“Beware of injustice, for injustice leads to

a bad end on the Day of Judgment.”

Jabir ؓ never had any grudges against any Muslim. He had a very clean heart. He always dealt with others in a good manner and with an open heart.

Jabir ؓ shared all he had with the other Muslims. There was no place in his heart for greed. Many times he heard the Prophet ﷺ advising the Muslims to keep their hearts and deeds clean from greed.

He was a good example of sacrifice. He loved his religion and was prepared to do anything to please Allâh. He was indeed a real soldier of Islam.

### **Sacrifice for his Seven Sisters**

One day Jabir ؓ came to the Prophet ﷺ smelling like perfume. He ﷺ asked him what could be the occasion. Jabir ؓ bashfully smiled.

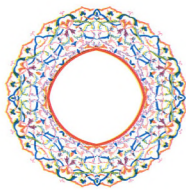
The Prophet ﷺ asked again:

“Have you got married, Jabir?”

Jabir ؓ replied that he had married a widow. The Prophet ﷺ told him that he was a young



man and that he should have married a virgin woman so that he could enjoy a better life. However, Jabir ؓ told the Prophet ﷺ that he preferred to marry an experienced woman who would care for his seven sisters. He sacrificed his joy and happiness for the sake of his seven sisters who needed a woman to care for them and provide them with necessary affection and love. Jabir ؓ led a happy life with his wife and seven sisters and thanked Allâh for choosing this wife.



## The Prophet ﷺ Passes Away

### The Farewell Pilgrimage

In the ninth year after migration to Al-Madinah, the Prophet ﷺ invited his Companions to perform pilgrimage. About one hundred thousand Muslims accompanied the Prophet ﷺ to Makkah to perform pilgrimage. Jabir ؓ accompanied the other Muslims to Makkah. He was dressed in two white garments and performed the rites of pilgrimage. During the pilgrimage, some Verses of the Qur'ân were revealed to the Prophet ﷺ. Those Verses implied that the Prophet ﷺ would leave this world shortly.

Jabir ؓ listened carefully to the final words revealed to the Prophet ﷺ:

“This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My Favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.” (5:3)

The Prophet ﷺ also addressed his Companions at Mina. He told them that they should abstain from taking usury. He said to



them that all human beings were equal and that the most honourable to Allâh was the most pious and righteous amongst them. He foretold that he might leave them after this year.

Like many other Muslims, Jabir ؓ knew that the life of the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ was about to come to an end.

When they returned from the pilgrimage, the Prophet ﷺ fell ill. Some days later he passed away like any other human being. Jabir ؓ felt the huge loss. All the Muslims were deeply saddened by the death of the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ. They wept for the Prophet ﷺ who taught them the real meaning of life. Some Muslims were not believing that the Prophet ﷺ had died. They thought that he would keep alive to guide them all the way.

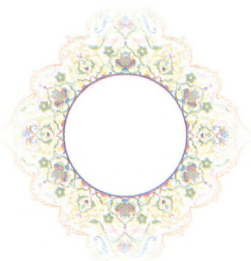
### **Fighting Against Apostates**

Upon knowing of the death of the Prophet ﷺ, some Arabs reverted back to paganism. Abu Bakr ؓ, the first Caliph, did not hesitate to take action against them. He was encouraged by many of the Prophet's Companions, like Jabir ؓ, to be firm against the apostates. So the



Muslims waged a war against the apostates and false prophets like Musailamah Kadhdhab (the liar). Jabir ؓ participated in these battles which were called the 'The war against Apostasy.' He and his other faithful brothers in Islam brought the apostates back to the rule of Islam.

When 'Umar bin Al-Khattab ؓ became the Caliph after the death of Abu Bakr ؓ, Jabir ؓ stayed beside him in both times of war and peace. Jabir ؓ never thought twice when he had to do something to protect the Word of Allâh.



## The Last Days

Jabir رضي الله عنه lived a long life. The people who knew him always went to him to learn about Islam. He always told people stories about the Prophet's sacrifices and dedication to preaching the religion of Islam.

When he became an old man, he stayed at home worshipping Allâh, and preaching to the Muslims to be loyal to their faith. He witnessed Islam spreading north and east and conquering the Romans who were adopting a false version of the Christian Bible and the Persians who were worshipping fire.

A chapter of Jabir's life was about to end and a new chapter was about to begin. He fell ill and passed away to meet his Creator in the life to come where he would be rewarded for his sacrifices, devotion and sincerity to the message of Islam and the Word of Allâh.

Jabir رضي الله عنه had been satisfied that the message for which he had fought in many battles and sacrificed everything was spreading in the four corners of the world.

When he died, his companions whom he had





taught the meaning of truth and perseverance were around him.

Jabir رضي الله عنه wanted to be with the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم in the hereafter. He loved him and deeply believed in him and in his message. Jabir رضي الله عنه was a great example of a Muslim. He was very loyal to his religion.

May Allâh bless the soul of Jabir رضي الله عنه for the services he rendered to Islam and the Muslims. He was really an example of patience and endurance. He sacrificed his own pleasure for the pleasure of his sisters and family.



You are still young like Jabir رضي الله عنه was, when the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم migrated to Al-Madinah. Hence, being the young generation of Muslims, you are expected to follow Jabir's example in devoting all your efforts to work for the sake of spreading Islam in your country. Nothing will help on the Day of Judgment except good deeds and devotion to your faith.

You are urged to follow the example of Jabir رضي الله عنه in sacrificing as much as you can for the help of your brothers and sisters in Islam.

