



WIFĀQUL 'ULAMĀ (SA)

ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN 'ULAMA

**ASPIRING TO PRESERVE THE ESSENCE OF SUNNAH**

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## Can a Muslim Ever...?

*Sayyidunā Abdullāh bin Mughaffal raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu narrates: Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam said: “(Fear) Allah! (Fear) Allah regarding my Companions! Do not make them the target (of abuse) after me. Whoever loves them, it is out of love for me that he loves them. Whoever hates them, it is out of hatred for me that he hates them. And whoever harms them he has harmed me, and whoever harms me, he has offended Allāh, and whoever offends Allah, [then] he shall soon be punished.” [Tirmidhi 3826]*

We respond with extreme revolt at the news that Khalid Sayed, a senior member of the ANC in the Western Cape, has blasphemed the Noble Ṣaḥābah of Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam. In a recording, he brazenly and shamelessly labels Sayyidunā Abu Bakr, Sayyidunā ‘Umar and Sayyidunā ‘Uthmān raḍiyallāhu anhum as hypocrites and accuses them of usurping the Khilafah of Sayyiduna Alī raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu. (Na’ūdhubillāh - May Allah forbid / we seek the protection of Allāh Ta’ālā)

We condemn these abuses in the strongest possible terms. Regarding it permissible to vilify the companions of Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam, removes a person from the fold of Islam. Speaking ill of Sayyidunā Abū Bakr and Sayyidunā ‘Umar raḍiyallāhu anhuma is most definitely Kufr (disbelief) according to the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jama’ah.

Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam himself guaranteed Jannah for these noble companions. Who can then deny them this honour?

Upon the demise of Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam, the Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum appointed Sayyidunā Abū Bakr raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu as the Khalīfah. This decision was at the behest and according to the desire of Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam.

Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam appointed Sayyidunā Abū Bakr raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu as the Amīr of Hajj in his absence. Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam also gave him the flag of the army during the expedition of Tabūk, indicating that the military affairs will soon be handled by Sayyidunā Abū Bakr raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu.

A woman once came to Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam. Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam requested her to return at a later date. She enquired: "What if I do not find you here? (i.e., what if you have passed away by then?). Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam said: "If you do not find me, then go to Abū Bakr!"

During his final illness, Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam appointed Sayyidunā Abū Bakr raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu to lead the ṣalāh in Masjīd un Nabawī.

Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam said during his last few days: "Allāh Ta’ālā and the believers will never (appoint anyone as Khalifah), besides Abū Bakr (raḍiyallāhu anhu)."

Labelling the Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum as hypocrites is an attack on Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam himself. This challenges the very edifice of Nubuwwah. The claim of love for Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam is shallow, hollow, and useless if it is accompanied by taunts of his blessed companions.

History bears testimony to the fact that Sayyidunā Abū Bakr raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu was the best leader the Muslims could have chosen, and his firmness upon Sharī’ah preserved Dīn in its pristine form.

The Khilāfat of Sayyidunā ‘Umar and Sayyidunā ‘Uthmān raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum was also unanimously accepted by all the Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum.

The allegations against these revered Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum do not diminish their lofty status in the least bit. The Qur’an Kareem is replete with the praise of the Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum. Allāh Ta’ala repeatedly praises them for their Īmān, good deeds and striving for His Dīn.

Allāh Ta’ālā has declared His pleasure for them Himself. Therefore, it is our duty and a great means of honour for us to defend them.

Vilifying the Noble Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum is one of the outstanding traits of the Shī’ah and it is a reflection of what they actually are. Let alone the Noble Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum, hurling unjustified abuses at anyone is a reflection of poor character.

The blatant disregard that has been shown by this statement for the fundamental beliefs of the Muslims in this country and around the world is appalling. Anyone who honours or rubs shoulders with him proclaims their betrayal to the Noble Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum.

Furthermore, these statements are a clear indication to those who call for unity with the Shī’ah. The Muslim Ummah can never have unity with an alien people who vilify those that they hold dear to their hearts. The honourable companions of Rasūlullāh ṣallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam are not spared their venom, so what regard would they have for us, whose faith is based on love for those very Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum.

May Allāh Ta’ālā increase the Honour of the Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum and instill in us true love for them. May we never be negligent in our duty to rise in their defence. Āmīn

A withdrawal and an apology for such a grossly incorrect statement can only be considered if together with the apology, the offender (Khalid Sayed) and his hosts in their own words repent and thereafter acknowledge, praise and promote the Ṣaḥābah raḍiyallāhu ‘anhum they disparaged.

An apology without acknowledging their rightful position as Khulafā e Rāshidīn according to their order of succession (firstly Abubakr raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu, secondly Umar raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu, thirdly Uthmaan raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu and then Ali raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu) is not sufficient.