



# Hazrat Uthmaan bin Affaan

(radhiyallhu ‘anhu)

**Ihyaad-Deen**

An Effort to Revive Deen in Totality

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Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ was the third khalifah of Islam. He was among the Asharah Mubasharah (the ten Sahaabah who received the special promise of Jannah), Similarly, he was granted the honour of being married to two daughters of Rasulallah ؐ. It is for this reason that Rasulallah ؐ had bestowed him with the title ‘Zun-Noorain’ (the possessor of two lights). ‘Two lights’ refers to the two daughters of Rasulallah ؐ, Hazrat Ruqayyah and Hazrat Ummu Kulthoom ؓ.

Hazrat Nazaal ؓ narrates, “We asked Hazrat Ali ؓ, ‘Tell us something regarding Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ.’ Hazrat Ali ؓ responded, ‘He was a man who would be referred to in the high assembly of angels by the title ‘Zun-Noorain’.” (Isaabah 4/378)

## THE ISLAM OF HAZRAT UTHMAAN ؓ

After Hazrat Zubair bin Awwaam ؓ had accepted Islam, Hazrat Uthmaan and Hazrat Talhah ؓ went to Rasulallah ؐ to embrace Islam. Rasulallah ؐ presented Islam to them and also recited a portion of the Qur’aan Majeed before them. He informed them of the rights of Islam and promised them that they would receive great honour from Allah ؓ if they upheld the Deen of Islam in their lives. They both immediately brought Imaan and accepted the message of Rasulallah ؐ.

Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ thereafter said to Rasulallah ؐ, “O Rasul of Allah ؐ! I just arrived from Shaam (Syria). During the journey, on reaching a place between Mu’aan and Zarqaa’, we rested, and while asleep, we heard a person announce, ‘O people who are asleep! Wake up, for Ahmed ؓ has appeared in Makkah Mukarramah!’ Thereafter, when we arrived in Makkah Mukarramah, we heard of you (claiming to be the Nabi of Allah ؐ).” (Ibn Sa’d 3/40)

## PERFORMING TWO HIJRATS FOR THE SAKE OF ALLAH ؓ

When Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ intended performing Hijrah to Abyssinia, Rasulallah ؐ said to him, “Take Hazrat Ruqayyah ؓ with you. I feel that each of you will support and encourage the other to persevere.”

Some time after their departure, Rasulallah ؐ asked Hazrat Asmaa ؓ, the respected daughter of Hazrat Abu Bakr ؓ, to enquire regarding them. After enquiring, she found Rasulallah ؐ with her respected father, Hazrat Abu Bakr ؓ. She said, “O Rasul of Allah ؐ! I received information that Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ is presently travelling in the direction of the sea in the condition that his respected family, Hazrat Ruqayyah ؓ is seated on a saddled donkey.” Rasulallah ؐ became pleased and said, “O Abu Bakr ؓ! They are the first people in the world to perform Hijrah in the path of Allah ؓ after the two Ambiyaa, Nabi Lut and Nabi Ebrahim ؑ, performed Hijrah.” (Mustadrak Haakim #6849)

Just as Allah ؓ blessed Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ with the honour of making Hijrah to Abyssinia, Allah ؓ blessed him with the honour of making hijrah to Madinah Munawwarah. It is reported that when Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ and his respected family, Hazrat Ruqayyah ؓ, returned to Makkah Mukarramah from Abyssinia, they thereafter performed Hijrah to Madinah Munawwarah. When Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ arrived in Madinah Munawwarah with his respected family, he was hosted by Hazrat Aws bin Thaabit ؓ, the brother of Hazrat Hassaan bin Thaabit ؓ. (Usdul Ghaabah 3/216)

## BEING ALLOTTED A SHARE OF THE BOOTY OF BADR

Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ was not present for the Battle of Badr. The reason is that his respected wife, Hazrat Ruqayyah ؓ, who was the blessed daughter of Rasulallah ؐ, became extremely ill and was on the verge of passing away. Hence, Rasulallah ؐ instructed Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ to remain with her in Madinah Munawwarah in order to attend to her. Hazrat Ruqayyah ؓ eventually passed away on the same day in which the news arrived that Rasulallah ؐ and the Muslims were victorious in the battle against the disbelievers.

On account of his deep desire to participate in the battle, Rasulallah ؐ allotted him a share of the booty and also promised him that he would enjoy the reward of those who had participated. Hence, his name is included among the participants of Badr, even though he did not physically take part in the battle of Badr. (Usdul Ghaabah 3/216, Ibn Sa’d 3/41)

## MARRIAGE TO HAZRAT UMMU KULTHOOM ؓ

After Hazrat Ruqayyah ؓ passed away, Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ married Hazrat Ummu Kulthoom ؓ, another blessed daughter of Rasulallah ؐ. After the demise of Hazrat Ummu Kulthoom ؓ, Rasulallah ؐ mentioned to Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ, “If I had a third daughter (who was unmarried), I would have married her to you (as well).”

Hazrat Ali ؓ reports that he heard Rasulullah ﷺ mention, “If I had forty daughters, I would have given them in marriage to Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ, one after the other, until no daughter remained.” (Usdul Ghaabah 3/216)

## GLAD TIDINGS OF JANNAH

Hazrat Abu Moosa ؓ narrates the following: I was once in the blessed company of Rasulullah ﷺ in one of the orchards of Madinah Munawwarah when a person came and sought permission to enter the orchard. Hearing the person’s request, Rasulullah ﷺ said to me, “Allow him to enter and give him the glad tidings of a high stage in Jannah.” I thus opened the door for the person and found him to be none other than Hazrat Abu Bakr ؓ. I conveyed to him the glad tidings which Rasulullah ﷺ had mentioned, at which he praised Allah ﷻ in gratitude.

Soon thereafter, another person came and requested to enter the orchard. Hearing his request, Rasulullah ﷺ said to me, “Allow him to enter and give him the glad tidings of a high stage in Jannah.” I thus opened the door for the person, and found that he was none other than Hazrat Umar ؓ. I conveyed to him the glad tidings which Rasulullah ﷺ had mentioned, at which he praised Allah ﷻ in gratitude.

After some time, another person sought permission to enter the orchard. Rasulullah ﷺ said to me, “Allow him to enter, and give him the glad tidings of a high stage in Jannah, together with a trial that he will face.” When I opened the door, I found that the person was none other than Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ. I informed him of what Rasulullah ﷺ had mentioned, at which he praised Allah ﷻ in gratitude and then said, “From Allah ﷻ alone do we seek assistance.” (Bukhaari #3693)

## GLAD TIDINGS OF MARTYRDOM

Hazrat Anas ؓ reports that Rasulullah ﷺ once ascended the Mountain of Uhud with Hazrat Abu Bakr ؓ, Hazrat Umar ؓ and Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ. The mountain then began to tremble and shake (out of the excitement of these blessed personalities placing their feet on it). Rasulullah ﷺ stamped his mubaarak foot on the mountain and addressed it saying, “Be still, O Uhud, for upon you are none other than a Nabi, a Siddeeq and two martyrs (the two martyrs referred to Umar ؓ and Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ whom Allah ﷻ blessed with martyrdom).” (Bukhaari #3686)

## GLAD TIDINGS OF BEING THE SPECIAL COMPANION OF RASULULLAH ﷺ IN JANNAH

Just as Hazrat Abu Bakr and Hazrat Umar ؓ received glad tidings from Rasulullah ﷺ of being his companions in Jannah, Rasulullah ﷺ also gave Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ the glad tidings of him being his special companion in Jannah. Rasulullah ﷺ said, “Every Nabi will have a special friend (in Jannah), and my special friend (in Jannah) will be Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ.” (Tirmizi #3698)

## THE SUBLIME CHARACTER OF HAZRAT UTHMAAN ؓ

Hazrat Abdur Rahmaan bin Uthmaan ؓ reports that on one occasion, Rasulullah ﷺ entered the home of his daughter, Hazrat Ruqayyah ؓ, while she was serving her husband, Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ, and washing his hair. Rasulullah ﷺ addressed her saying, “O my beloved daughter! Serve your husband, Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ, well for he possesses excellent character and resembles me the most in sublime character from all my Sahaabah ؓ.” (Majma’uz Zawaa’id #14500, 14501)

**SIMPLICITY** - Hazrat Shurahbeel bin Muslim ؓ mentions that Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ would feed the people the food of rulers (i.e. food of a superior quality). After feeding the people, Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ would enter his home and partake of simple foods such as vinegar and olive oil.” (Hilyatul Awliyaa 1/98)

**HUMILITY** - Hazrat Maimoon bin Mahraan ؓ narrates from Hamdaani that he had seen Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ mounted on his mule while his slave, Naa’il, was mounted on the same mule behind him. This incident occurred at a time when Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ was the Khalifah of the Muslims. (Hilyatul Awliyaa 1/99)

**CONSIDERATION TO HIS SERVANTS** - Abdullah Roomi ؓ mentions that when Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ would perform wudhu during the night, he would not take assistance from anyone (in pouring the water over his limbs). When someone suggested to him that he appoint one of the servants to assist him and pour the water for him, he said, “No! I do not wish to take service from them at night as the night is the time for them to rest.” (Ibn Sa’d 3/44)

**ADOPTING A SOFT AND LENIENT APPROACH WHEN DEALING WITH PEOPLE** - Ataa bin Farrookh ؓ narrates that on one occasion, Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ purchased a plot of land from a certain person. However, despite Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ calling the person to receive payment for the land, the person was delaying. When Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ met the man thereafter, he asked him, “What prevents you from coming to collect your money?”

The man replied, “The reason that I delayed in coming to collect the money is that I felt that you have not paid me a fair price for the land! Every person that I meet is rebuking me over the price at which I sold you the land.” Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ asked, “Is this really the reason for you not coming to collect your money?” The man replied in the affirmative. Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ addressed the man saying, “The sale is complete, However, I give you an option to cancel the sale and take back your land or to leave the sale as is and take your money.”

Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ then explained the reason for giving him the option to cancel the sale or allow it to continue saying, “Rasulullah ﷺ had made dua saying, ‘May Allah ﷻ bless that person with Jannah who adopts a soft and lenient approach with people at the time of purchasing, selling, making payment and requesting payment.’” (Musnad Ahmed #410)



## FEAR OF THE HEREAFTER

Hazrat Haani ؓ mentions that when Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ would stand at a grave, he would weep so profusely that his beard would become wet with his tears. Someone asked Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ, “We notice that when you remember Jannah and Jahannam and discuss them, then you are not affected to the point that you begin to cry, yet when you stand at a grave, then we see you so overcome by fear that you begin to cry profusely. What is the reason for this?”

Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ replied, “Rasulullah ﷺ said, ‘The grave is the first stage from the stages of the Hereafter. If one passes this stage and gains salvation, then there is hope that the stages to come will be easier, and if one does not pass this stage and gain salvation, then the stages to come will be even more difficult and severe for him.’” (Tirmizi #2308)

## THE HAYAA OF HAZRAT UTHMAAN ؓ

Hazrat Anas ؓ reports that Rasulullah ﷺ said, “The most merciful of my ummah towards my ummah is Hazrat Abu Bakr ؓ, and the most staunch in (upholding) the command of Allah ﷻ is Hazrat Umar ؓ, and the most true in hayaa is Hazrat Uthmaan bin Affaan ؓ, and the most knowledgeable regarding halaal and haraam is Hazrat Mu’aaz bin Jabal ؓ, and the most knowledgeable regarding the masaa’il of inheritance is Hazrat Zaid bin Thaabit ؓ, and the most knowledgeable regarding the recitation of the Qur’aan Majeed is Hazrat Ubayy bin Ka’b ؓ, and every Ummah has a trustee, and the trustee of this ummah is Hazrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarraah ؓ.” (Tirmizi #3790)

## DONATING A LAND FOR MUSJIDUL HARAAM IN LIEU OF A PALACE IN JANNAH

On one occasion, Rasulullah ﷺ approached a certain person in Makkah Mukarramah and said to him, “O so-and-so! Why do you not sell your house to me, so that I can use the land to extend the masjid around the Ka’bah, and in reward for this good action (besides the money that you will receive for the house), I will guarantee you a palace in Jannah?” The man replied, “O Rasul of Allah ﷺ! By Allah, I do not possess any other house besides this house! If I sell you my house, there will be nothing to shelter my children and I in Makkah Mukarramah.”

Rasulullah ﷺ again encouraged the man saying, “Despite what you have mentioned, sell your house to me, so that I can use the land to extend the masjid around the Ka’bah, and in reward for this good action, I will guarantee you a palace in Jannah.” The man replied, “By Allah! I do not intend selling my house.”

Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ thereafter learnt of what had transpired. He thus went to the man, who was his friend from the pre-Islamic era, and said, “O so-and-so! I have learned that Rasulullah ﷺ intended buying your house, to use the land to extend the masjid around the Ka’bah, and in reward for this good action, he had guaranteed you a palace in Jannah, and you declined to accept his offer.” The man replied, “Yes, I did decline.” Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ then continued to encourage him to sell his house, until he eventually agreed and Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ purchased it from him for 10 000 dinars (gold coins).

Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ then proceeded to Rasulullah ﷺ and said, “O Rasul of Allah ﷺ! I learnt that you intended to buy the house of so-and-so, to use the land to extend the masjid around the Ka’bah, and you had guaranteed the owner a palace in Jannah. The house now belongs to me, as I have purchased it from the owner. Will you accept it from me for free and guarantee me a palace in Jannah?” Rasulullah ﷺ replied in the affirmative and accepted the house from Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ, guaranteeing him a palace in Jannah and making the Sahaabah ؓ witness to that. (Fazaa’il-us-Sahaabah lil Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal #784, Mirqaat 9/3922)

## DONATING A LAND FOR MUSJID-E-NABAWI IN LIEU OF A PALACE IN JANNAH

Just as Allah ﷻ had granted Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ the honour of donating a land to be included in Masjidul Haraam, in Makkah Mukarramah, similarly Allah ﷻ had blessed him with the honour of purchasing and donating a land to be included in Masjid-e-Nabawi.

During the era of Rasulullah ﷺ, there was a need to extend Masjid-e-Nabawi. For this purpose, Rasulullah ﷺ required a certain plot of land that was adjacent to the masjid. Hence, Rasulullah ﷺ approached an Ansaari Sahaabi ؓ who was the owner of this land and encouraged him to give it in the path of Allah for the masjid saying, “If you give this land for the masjid, you will receive a palace in Jannah.” However, the Ansaari Sahaabi ؓ did not wish to donate his land as he needed the land.

Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ then came to the Ansaari Sahaabi ؓ and offered to purchase the plot of land from him for ten thousand dirhams. The Ansaari Sahaabi ؓ accepted the offer and Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ purchased the land. Thereafter, Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ came to Rasulullah ﷺ and said, “O Rasul of Allah ﷺ! Accept from me the land that I purchased from the Ansaari Sahaabi ؓ, in exchange of a palace in Jannah! Indeed I purchased the plot of land for ten thousand dirhams.” Rasulullah ﷺ accepted the land from Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ in exchange of a palace in Jannah.

Thereafter, Rasulullah ﷺ commenced the foundation-laying by placing the first brick. He then called Hazrat Abu Bakr ؓ to lay the second brick, after which he called Hazrat Umar ؓ to lay the third brick. Hazrat Uthmaan ؓ was then asked to place the fourth brick. Finally, Rasulullah ﷺ instructed all the other Sahaabah ؓ to lay the bricks and commence the extension. (Majma’uz Zawaa’id #14524)

## PURCHASING A WELL IN JANNAH

When the Sahaabah ﷺ migrated to Madeenah Munawwarah, the water that was found in Madeenah Munawwarah was difficult for them to drink due it being bitter. However, there was a Jew who had a well of sweet water named Roomah, and he used to sell the water of this well to the Sahaabah ﷺ. Rasulallah ﷺ asked the Sahaabah ﷺ, "Who will buy the well of Roomah and donate it to the Muslims so that he will be equal to them in drawing its water, and he will receive a well in Jannah in exchange?" Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ went to the Jew who was the owner of the well and offered to purchase Roomah from him. However, the Jew refused to sell the entire well, and instead sold half of the well to Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ for twelve thousand dirhams. Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ immediately donated it to the Muslims, and then said to the Jew, "If you wish, we can hang two buckets (so that we can both use the well at the same time), or if you prefer, I will use it on one day and you will use it on the next day." The Jew replied that he preferred to alternate days with Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ. Thereafter, when it was the day of Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ, the Muslims would come to the well and draw sufficient water to last them for two days. Seeing that the Muslims were no longer buying water from him, the Jew said to Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ, "You have spoilt my well (as I can no longer sell the water to people)! Buy the other half from me." Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ thus purchased the other half of the well from him for eight thousand dirhams. (*Istee'aab* vol. 3 pg. 157)

## RECITING THE ENTIRE QUR'AAN MAJEED IN ONE RAKAAT

Hazrat Uthmaan bin Abdir Rahmaan ﷺ narrates the following: I once stood behind the Maqaam-e-Ebrahim performing salaah, and it was my intention that no person will surpass me in performing salaah at the Maqaam-e-Ebrahim that night. While I was there, I suddenly perceived that there was a man behind me. The man tapped me, but I did not glance to see who it was. When the man tapped me for a second time, I glanced and saw that he was none other than Hazrat Uthmaan bin Affaan ﷺ. Out of respect for him, I moved and made space for him. Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ then came forward. He commenced performing salaah and recited the entire Qur'aan Majeed in a single rakaat. After completing his salaah, he left. (*Musannaf Ibn Abi Shaybah* #8678)

## EQUIPPING THE EXPEDITION OF TABOOK

Hazrat Abdur Rahmaan bin Khabbaab ﷺ narrates the following: I was present when Rasulallah ﷺ was encouraging the Sahaabah ﷺ to equip the army and contribute towards the expedition of Tabook.

On that occasion, Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ stood and said, "O Rasul of Allah ﷺ! I undertake to contribute one hundred camels with their saddle blankets and saddles in the path of Allah." Thereafter, Rasulallah ﷺ encouraged the Sahaabah ﷺ once again to equip the army for the expedition of Tabook. Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ again stood and said, "O Rasul of Allah ﷺ! I undertake to contribute a further two hundred camels with their saddle blankets and saddles in the path of Allah."

Rasulallah ﷺ then encouraged the Sahaabah ﷺ to contribute to the expedition for a third time. Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ again stood and said, "O Rasul of Allah ﷺ! I undertake to contribute a further three hundred camels with their saddle blankets and saddles in the path of Allah (thus bringing his total contribution of camels to six hundred camels)." On that occasion, I saw Rasulallah ﷺ descend from the mimbar while he was extremely pleased saying, "Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ will not have to do any other virtuous nafl deed after this deed to purchase his Jannah." (*Tirmizi* #3700)

Hazrat Abdur Rahmaan bin Samurah ﷺ reports that when Rasulallah ﷺ was preparing for the expedition of Tabook, Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ also brought one thousand gold coins to him in a cloth and placed them in his blessed lap. Rasulallah ﷺ began to turn the coins with his blessed hand and continued to say, "Nothing will harm Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ after the action he has done today (i.e. nothing will harm him and prevent him from entering Jannah, as he has secured the divine acceptance of Allah ﷻ through this deed)." (*Musnad Ahmed* #20630)

## TEN SPECIAL VIRTUES OF HAZRAT UTHMAAN ﷺ

Hazrat Abu Thowr ﷺ narrates that he once came to Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ and heard him mention the following: There are ten good deeds which I have secured by Allah ﷻ and for which I hope to receive reward in the Hereafter; 1) I was the fourth person to accept Islam, 2) I never spoke a lie throughout my life, 3) I did not ever place my right hand on my private part since I used my right hand to pledge allegiance to Rasulallah ﷺ, 4) since the time I accepted Islam, no jumu'ah has passed without me freeing a slave, and if I did not possess a slave on the day of jumu'ah, I would free the slave afterwards, 5) I never committed adultery, neither before accepting Islam nor after accepting Islam, 6) I had equipped the army of Tabook, 7) I gathered the Quraan Majeed in the time of Rasulallah ﷺ, 8) Rasulallah ﷺ married his daughter to me, and when she passed away, he married his other daughter to me. 9) I never drank wine, neither in the period before Islam nor after Islam. 10) I was responsible for purchasing the piece of land to extend the masjid, which Rasulallah ﷺ promised that the one who purchases it will be blessed with Jannah. (*Siyar A'laamin Nubalaa* 2/151, *Taarekhul Madinah* 4/1156)

## THE THIRD GREATEST PERSON OF THIS UMMAH

Hazrat Abdullah bin Umar ﷺ mentioned, "Whilst Rasulallah ﷺ was alive amongst us, we would say (and Rasulallah ﷺ would not object, but approve of what we were saying), 'The greatest person of the ummah after Rasulallah ﷺ is Hazrat Abu Bakr ﷺ, thereafter Hazrat Umar ﷺ, and then Hazrat Uthmaan ﷺ.'" (*Sunan Abu Dawood* #4628)

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