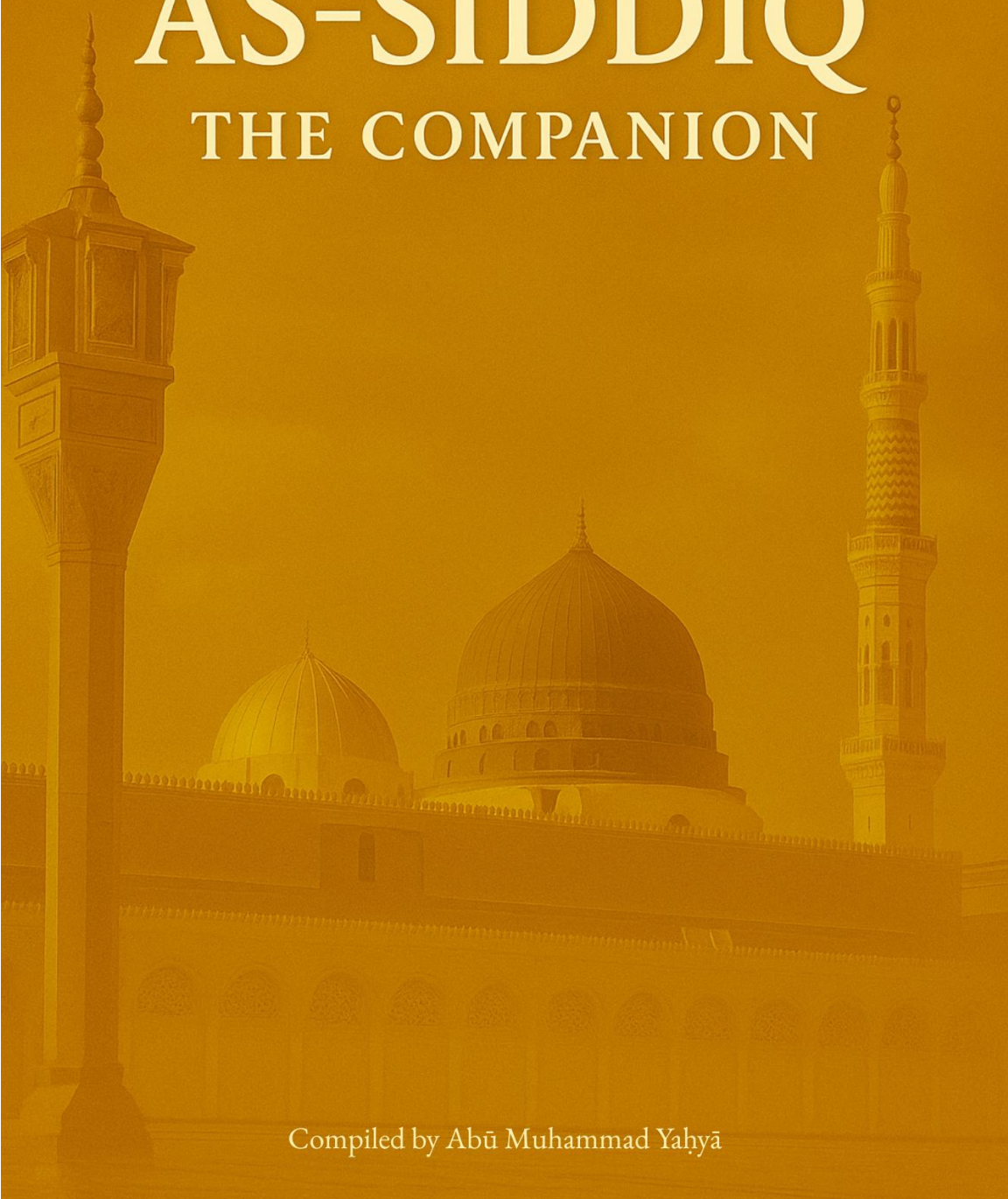


# ABU BAKR AS-SIDDIQ THE COMPANION



Compiled by Abū Muhammad Yahyā

# Abu Bakr as-Saddiq: The Companion

Compiled by Abū Muhammad Yaḥyā



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### **Author's Preface (Muqaddimah)**

All praise is due to Allah alone, Lord of all that exists. I begin this humble work with the sincere intention to seek His pleasure alone, to serve His Book and the guidance of His Messenger ﷺ, to teach myself and my fellow believers, and to deepen my own understanding of His Revelation. I remind myself, before anyone else, that this writing is not for status, fame, nor recognition — but solely to seek His Face, His acceptance, and His forgiveness.

This reminder is for my own heart before it is for others, and I ask Allah to purify my intention from any hidden desires or worldly attachments, and to make every word a testimony for me and not against me on the Day when no soul will benefit except by what Allah has accepted from them.

#### **Du‘ā:**

O Allah, I ask You by Your Beautiful Names and Perfect Attributes to make this work sincerely for Your sake, and to accept it from me even with its shortcomings and deficiencies. Make it a means for me and those who read it to draw nearer to You, to reflect deeply upon Your Words, and to act upon what is contained therein.

O Allah, grant us beneficial knowledge, hearts that are humbled before You, and actions that are pure and righteous. Do not make this knowledge a proof against us, but rather a light in our graves, a companion in our loneliness, and a witness for us on the Day we meet You. Ameen.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## Abu Bakr as-Siddiq رضي الله عنه The Companion

### His Full Name:

His full name was Abdullah ibn Uthman ibn Aamir ibn Amr ibn Ka'ab ibn Sa'd ibn Taym ibn Murrah ibn Ka'ab ibn Lu'ayy al-Qurashi at-Taymi. His kunyah was Abu Bakr.

### Lineage and Tribe:

He belonged to the Banu Taym clan of the Quraysh tribe—one of the noblest tribes of Makkah.

### Birth and Early Life:

He was born in 573 CE in Makkah. Approximately 2 years and 6 months after the Year of the Elephant, making him around 2.5 years younger than the Prophet ﷺ.

His father, Uthman (nicknamed Abu Quhafa), lived to accept Islam on the day Makkah was conquered, and his mother Salma bint Sakhar (Umm Al-Khayr) was an early convert who migrated to Madinah. From a noble and respected family, Abu Bakr grew up with good character and was admired among Quraysh for his knowledge of tribal lineages, his honest trading business, and his polite, gentle nature.

### Titles and Nicknames:

He became known as “Abu Bakr”, which in Arabic means “Father of the Young Camel,” possibly due to his early love for camels as a child. Later, the Prophet ﷺ gave him the honorific “As-Siddiq” (الصَّادِق, “the Truthful” or “Ever-Confirming”). This title was earned after the miraculous Night Journey (Isra’ and Mi’raj), when Abu Bakr instantly and unwaveringly affirmed the Prophet’s account of traveling overnight to Jerusalem and beyond. When skeptics confronted him about this unbelievable news, Abu Bakr replied, “If he said that, then he has spoken the truth!” – explaining that he believed the Prophet ﷺ in matters even more extraordinary (revelation from heaven). Due to this incident, he was given the epithet As-Siddiq,

for his steadfast belief in the Prophet's truthfulness. He was also known as "Al-Atiq", meaning "the one freed (from the Fire)." According to one narration, the Prophet ﷺ said to him: "You are Allah's 'Atiq (freed one) from the Fire," and thereafter he was called Atiq. These titles reflect Abu Bakr's eminent status in Islam – he was the foremost in affirming truth and earned glad tidings of salvation.

### **Physical Appearance and Character:**

Abu Bakr (RA) was a slender, fair-skinned man with a slight build. He had a thin face, sunken eyes, and a prominent forehead; his shoulders sloped and his hands were free of heavy hair. His daughter `Aisha (RA) described him as naturally gentle and kind in disposition. Even before Islam, Abu Bakr was known for his virtuous habits and aversion to vice. He never drank intoxicants to preserve his honor and dignity.

In a society steeped in idol-worship, Abu Bakr never prostrated or worshipped an idol in any way. This, though related before prophethood, reflected the innate purity of his belief in one God. Quiet, polite, and honest, Abu Bakr earned respect among the Quraysh. He became a successful merchant (cloth trader) and traveled with caravans to Yemen and Syria, gaining business acumen and a wide network of contacts. His fair dealing and knowledge made him a chief of Banu Taym and a beloved member of his community even prior to Islam.

### **Acceptance of Islam:**

When Prophet Muhammad ﷺ received the first revelation and began preaching Islam—and as soon as the Prophet ﷺ confided in Abu Bakr about his mission, Abu Bakr accepted it without hesitation. Hence, he was the first adult man to embrace Islam and (later) to be given the title 'as-Siddiq.'

The Prophet ﷺ later said: "Whenever I invited someone to Islam, he had some hesitation – except Abu Bakr. He accepted immediately with no reluctance." This immediate acceptance would mark the beginning of Abu Bakr's lifelong devotion to true faith.

The Prophet ﷺ also said: "Allah sent me to you and you said, 'You lie,' while Abu Bakr said, 'He speaks the truth,' and he consoled me with himself and his wealth..." Sahih al-Bukhari (3661)

Not only did Abu Bakr accept Islam early, but he became a caller to Islam in his own right. Through his efforts and influence, many of the eminent Sahabah embraced Islam – including Uthman ibn Affan, Abdur-Rahman ibn Awf, Sad ibn Abi Waqqas, Az-Zubayr ibn al-Awwam, and Talhah ibn Ubaidillah (may Allah be pleased with

them). These five were among the earliest converts and all became legends of Islam; significantly, all were introduced to the Prophet ﷺ by Abu Bakr's persuasion. This means that Abu Bakr was directly responsible for bringing some of the "Asharatul Mubashsharah" (the ten promised Paradise) to Islam, a testimony to his sincere missionary zeal even in those early days.

From the start, Abu Bakr displayed courage in publicly supporting the Prophet ﷺ. He was reportedly the first to invite people to Islam openly in the Ka'bah courtyard, where he was beaten by idolaters until he fell unconscious – all for defending the Messenger ﷺ. Despite persecution, his faith only strengthened. He dedicated his wealth to serve Islam: one of his early noble acts was liberating oppressed Muslim slaves. The most famous example is Bilal ibn Rabah (RA), a slave who was brutally tortured by his master for accepting Islam. Abu Bakr purchased Bilal's freedom with a large sum of money, as well as freeing several other slaves who were punished for their faith. In doing so, he spent an immense portion of his wealth *fi sabilillah* (in the cause of Allah), demonstrating generosity and compassion for the weak.

### **Companionship with the Prophet ﷺ:**

Throughout the 13 years in Makkah after the Prophet's ﷺ call, Abu Bakr stood by Rasulullah ﷺ through every triumph and trial. The Qur'an hints at Abu Bakr's close companionship in several places. For example, when some early Muslims emigrated to Abyssinia to escape persecution, Abu Bakr initially set out to go as well, but was persuaded to stay under the protection of a local chief – because his presence at the Prophet's side in Makkah was so crucial. Over the years, Abu Bakr was a constant source of comfort and counsel to the Prophet ﷺ.

One of the most pivotal moments in Makkah was the Night Journey and Ascension (Isra' wa Mi'raj). As mentioned, when Quraysh mocked the Prophet's account of traveling to Jerusalem and the heavens in one night, it was Abu Bakr who vindicated him, earning the title "*As-Siddiq*." This incident not only shows Abu Bakr's trust, but also his profound understanding – he told the doubters that he believed the Prophet in things far greater (the revelations from God), so believing this miraculous journey was easy by comparison. Such was his unshakeable faith and truthfulness.

Surah at-Tawbah, 9:40, was revealed about the Prophet's escape from Makkah to Madinah. When the Prophet ﷺ migrated, Abu Bakr was chosen to accompany him on this dangerous journey. The two secretly left Makkah at night and hid in the Cave of Thawr to evade the Quraysh who were tracking them. Allah describes this moment in the Qur'an: "When they both were in the cave, he (Muhammad ﷺ) said to his companion, 'Do not grieve; indeed Allah is with us.' Then Allah sent down His tranquility upon him..."



Here “the second of the two” in the cave and “his companion” clearly refer to Abu Bakr, highlighting the immense honor of being the Prophet’s sole companion in exile. Authentic Hadiths elaborate that as they hid, Abu Bakr could see the pursuers’ feet at the cave’s entrance and whispered in anxiety, “O Messenger of Allah, if one of them looks down at his feet he will see us!” The Prophet ﷺ replied calmly, “What do you think of two people, when Allah is the third with them?” Such words further soothed Abu Bakr’s heart, as Allah miraculously shielded them. For three nights Abu Bakr and the Prophet ﷺ stayed there, with Abu Bakr’s son Abdullah sneaking out each night to bring news, and his servant Amir ibn Fuhayrah bringing food and tending their mounts. This dear experience in the cave is forever a part of Abu Bakr’s legacy, and the Qur’anic verse 9:40 is recited by Muslims to remember his faith and Allah’s protection.

### **His Status in Islam:**

Abu Bakr was the best of the Ummah After the Prophet ﷺ and his closest companion.

Ibn Taymiyyah رحمه الله said: “Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa’ah are agreed that the best of this Ummah after its Prophet ﷺ is Abu Bakr, then ‘Umar, then ‘Uthman, then ‘Ali.” Minhaj as-Sunnah an-Nabawiyyah

The Prophet ﷺ said: “If I were to take a Khalil (close friend) other than my Lord, I would have taken Abu Bakr.” Sahih al-Bukhari (3656), Sahih Muslim (2383)

### **Life in Madinah:**

In the Madinah period (622–632 CE), Abu Bakr was an active participant in all major events and battles alongside the Prophet ﷺ. He fought in the first great Battle of Badr (624 CE), where the Muslims faced the Quraysh of Makkah. Abu Bakr’s son, ‘Abd al-Rahman, was then still a non-Muslim fighting on the Quraysh side. After ‘Abd al-Rahman accepted Islam, he once said to his father, “Father, at Badr you were in my reach but I avoided you.” Abu Bakr replied, “Had you been in my reach, I would not have spared you” – such was his faithful loyalty to Allah and His Messenger ﷺ, above even family ties. At Badr, Abu Bakr remained close by the Prophet’s ﷺ side. He stood as a guard at the entrance of the makeshift hut where the Prophet ﷺ fervently prayed for victory. Abu Bakr witnessed the Prophet’s ﷺ intense dua and was the first to rejoice when Allah’s help manifested in the Muslims’ victory.

In the Battle of Uhud (625 CE), when some Muslims fled in confusion after a sudden attack, Abu Bakr was among the few who remained with the Prophet ﷺ on the battlefield. He shared in the sorrow of that day when the Muslims suffered losses,



but his resolve never wavered. In the Battle of the Trench (Al-Khandaq, 627 CE), he worked alongside the Prophet ﷺ in digging the trench and endured the siege patiently. No expedition or battle was ever led by the Prophet ﷺ except that Abu Bakr was at his right hand, offering counsel or courage as needed.

Abu Bakr's prestige among the Sahabah grew immensely in Madinah. The Prophet ﷺ often consulted him and 'Umar (RA) as his two closest advisors. In fact, the Prophet ﷺ said regarding his Sahabah:

“If I were to take an intimate friend (khalil) from among my followers, I would have taken Abu Bakr, but the brotherhood of Islam is sufficient.” In another famous hadith narrated by Abu Sa'ïd Al-Khudri, the Prophet ﷺ publicly said: “The one who has favored me most with his companionship and wealth is Abu Bakr. If I were to choose anyone as my dearest friend, I would choose Abu Bakr. But (the Islamic) brotherhood is above all. Let no door of the masjid remain open except that of Abu Bakr.” This announcement, made toward the end of the Prophet's ﷺ life, was a clear testimony of Abu Bakr's special status. (Many companions had doorways from their homes opening into the Prophet's ﷺ Mosque; by the Prophet's ﷺ order, all these were closed off except Abu Bakr's – a symbolic exclusivity for Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه.)

### **Abu Bakr's Role in Key Battles During the Life of the Prophet ﷺ summarized:**

Despite his gentle nature, Abu Bakr رضي الله عنه was present in all the major battles of Islam, always in the first ranks.

#### **Battle of Badr (2 AH)**

- One of the few senior Sahabah who fought with the Prophet ﷺ on the day of Badr.
- Fought valiantly despite the odds being against the Muslims (313 vs. 1000).

Ibn Hisham and Ibn Kathir note that Abu Bakr stayed close to the Prophet ﷺ throughout the battle, guarding him and praying for victory.

#### **Battle of Uhud (3 AH)**

- When many fled after the initial Muslim setback, Abu Bakr remained steadfast and close to the Prophet ﷺ.
- Anas ibn Malik said that among those who stayed by the Prophet ﷺ were: Abu Bakr, Umar, Ali, Talhah, and az-Zubayr.

#### **Battle of Tabuk (9 AH)**

- This was a test of sincerity and sacrifice.

- Abu Bakr came with all of his wealth.

Umar ibn al-Khattab رضى الله عنه said: “I said to myself: ‘Today I will surpass Abu Bakr if I ever surpass him.’ So, I brought half of my wealth... The Prophet ﷺ asked Abu Bakr, ‘What did you leave for your family?’ He said: ‘I left Allah and His Messenger.’” Sunan At-Tirmidhi (3675), Hasan Sahih

Result: The Prophet ﷺ acknowledged that no one had surpassed Abu Bakr.

### **Abu Bakr’s virtues in times of peace:**

Abu Bakr’s virtues shone in times of peace as well. He was known for his knowledge, his wisdom in settling disputes, and his generosity to the poor. Perhaps one of the most striking examples of his charity came during the Tabuk Expedition (630 CE), which was one of the last campaigns of the Prophet ﷺ. The Muslims faced a difficult long march to the north, and the Prophet ﷺ called for contributions to equip the army. Umar ibn al-Khattab (RA) came with a large donation – half his wealth – thinking he would outdo Abu Bakr on that day. When the Prophet ﷺ asked Umar what he left for his family, he answered, “I have left an amount similar to this.” Then Abu Bakr arrived with an almost modest bundle – yet it turned out to be his entire fortune! The Prophet ﷺ asked, “O Abu Bakr, what have you left for your family?” Abu Bakr replied with calm faith, “I have left Allah and His Messenger for them.” Hearing this, even Umar remarked, “I will never be able to surpass Abu Bakr.” This authentic narration (found in Tirmidhi, Abu Dawud, etc.) highlights Abu Bakr’s total trust in Allah and love for the Prophet ﷺ – he literally gave all that he owned for the sake of Islam, confident that Allah would care for his dependents.

Beyond courage and charity, Abu Bakr was distinguished by his deep knowledge and gentle leadership even during the Prophet’s life. He often led the prayers in Madinah when the Prophet was away. In 631 CE (9 AH), the Prophet appointed Abu Bakr as the Amir (leader) of the Hajj to Makkah. He led the pilgrimage that year on the Prophet’s behalf (before the Farewell Hajj), and later Ali (RA) was sent to publicly recite the newly revealed verses of Surah al-Tawbah to the pilgrims. This showed the trust the Prophet placed in Abu Bakr’s religious authority.

### **His Worship and Deeds:**

He was Known for his deep taqwa, excessive weeping in salah, and generosity e.g., freeing of several slaves for the sake of Allah, including Bilal ibn Rabah رضى الله عنه.

Allah Said in Surah Al-Layl 92:18-20 “The one who gives his wealth to purify himself... and not giving for any favor to be repaid, but only seeking the countenance

of his Lord...” It is said that these verses were revealed regarding Abu Bakr, according to the tafsir from Ibn Kathir and Tafsir At-Tabari.

His deeds can be summarized in a hadith when The Prophet ﷺ once asked his companions: ‘Who among them had that day visited a sick person, given charity, attended a funeral, and fasted.’ Four different virtuous deeds. Remarkably, Abu Bakr had done all four by that point in the day. The Prophet ﷺ responded with joy: “Anyone in whom (these good deeds) are combined will certainly enter Paradise.” Indeed, Abu Bakr’s multi-faceted goodness led the Prophet ﷺ to hope that Abu Bakr would be among those called from every gate of Jannah.

In a hadith agreed upon by Bukhari and Muslim, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: “Whoever spends a pair (of anything) in the way of Allah will be called from the gates of Paradise... whoever is of the people of prayer will be called from the gate of Prayer; whoever is of the people of Jihad will be called from the gate of Jihad; whoever is of those who fast will be called from the gate of Rayyan; whoever is of those who give charity will be called from the gate of Charity.” Upon hearing this, Abu Bakr asked, “Will anyone be called from all these gates, O Allah’s Messenger?” The Prophet ﷺ replied, “Yes – and I hope that you will be one of them.” Such glad tidings illustrate the Prophet’s ﷺ recognition of Abu Bakr’s unmatched extensiveness of goodness.

### **Beloved by the Prophet ﷺ and the Muslims:**

It was well known among the Sahabah that no man was dearer to the Prophet ﷺ than Abu Bakr. When Amr ibn Al-‘As (RA) once directly asked the Prophet, “Who is the most beloved person to you?”, the Prophet replied, “Aishah.” Amr said, “I meant among men.” The Prophet ﷺ responded, “Her father (Abu Bakr).” Then, “Who next?” He said, \*\*“Umar.” This hadith (in Bukhari and Muslim) makes it clear that Abu Bakr was the closest man to the Prophet’s heart. Abu Bakr’s daughter Aishah (RA) was of course the beloved wife of the Prophet ﷺ – an additional bond between the two men. Abu Bakr was a frequent guest in the Prophet’s ﷺ household even before the marriage, and afterward he became both friend and father-in-law to the Prophet ﷺ. The affection and respect between them was mutual; the Prophet ﷺ would visit Abu Bakr’s home often, and even during the Prophet’s ﷺ final illness, he chose to rest in Aishah’s apartment (which was adjacent to Abu Bakr’s dwelling).

There are numerous hadiths highlighting Abu Bakr’s preeminent rank among the companions. For example, the Prophet ﷺ said on Mount Uhud when it trembled underfoot: “Be firm, O Uhud! For upon you are a Prophet, a Siddiq, and two martyrs.” The Prophet was referring to himself, to Abu Bakr as the Siddiq, and to Umar and Uthman (who would later be martyred). In another narration, the Prophet

ﷺ said: “No one’s wealth benefited me as much as Abu Bakr’s wealth.” Abu Bakr, hearing this, wept out of joy and humility. The Prophet ﷺ also testified, “Abu Bakr’s faith (iman) outweighs the faith of the rest of my Ummah combined” – a statement reported from some early authorities. Whether this is taken literally or figuratively, it underlines how immense Abu Bakr’s belief and good deeds were perceived to be. Indeed, later scholars concurred that apart from prophets, no one in Islamic history is ranked above Abu Bakr as-Siddiq (RA).

### **The Prophet’s Passing and Abu Bakr’s Leadership:**

In 632 CE (11 AH), during the Prophet’s ﷺ last sickness, the unique role of Abu Bakr became manifest. When the Prophet ﷺ grew too weak to lead the daily prayers, he instructed: “Tell Abu Bakr to lead the people in prayer.” Despite some hesitation from Aishah (who thought her father might be overcome with emotion), the Prophet ﷺ insisted, and Abu Bakr led the congregational prayers in the Prophet’s ﷺ mosque during those final days. This, in hindsight, was a clear indicator that Abu Bakr was the Prophet’s ﷺ chosen successor, as he was spiritually leading the community even while the Prophet ﷺ was **alive**.

On Monday, 12 Rabial-Awwal 11 AH, the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ passed away. At that moment, shock and grief enveloped Madinah. Even the strong Umar ibn al-Khattab was in denial, unsheathing his sword and declaring that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ had not died. The situation was becoming chaotic when Abu Bakr – who had been out of town – returned. He entered the Prophet’s ﷺ room, uncovered his blessed face, kissed him and wept, saying, “By my father and mother, you have tasted the death that Allah decreed – a second death will never overtake you.” He then went out to the crowd and calmed the tumult with what became an immortal/memorable speech. After praising Allah, Abu Bakr said: “O people, whoever worshipped Muhammad, let them know that Muhammad is indeed dead. But whoever worships Allah, (let them know) Allah is Alive and never dies.” He then recited the verse revealed earlier at Uhud: “Muhammad is no more than a Messenger; indeed many Messengers have passed away before him. So if he dies or is killed, will you turn back on your heels (in retreat)?...” (Qur’an 3:144).

Hearing this, the people felt as if they had never heard the verse before until Abu Bakr recited it, and all were consoled and convinced. Umar’s anger subsided as he himself said, “It was then that I knew the Prophet ﷺ had indeed died.” Thus, at this darkest moment, Abu Bakr’s steadfastness and wisdom saved the Ummah from falling into disarray. His words put everything in perspective.

Immediately after the Prophet’s ﷺ funeral, the Muslim community faced the critical question of succession. The Ansar (locals of Madinah) met at the *Saqifah* (courtyard) of

*Banu Sa'idah* to discuss a new leader, and there was a concern of disagreement between some Ansar and the Muhajirun (Meccan immigrants). Abu Bakr, along with Umar and other senior companions, hastened to the gathering to prevent any division. In that meeting, Abu Bakr addressed the Ansar with diplomacy and gratitude, praising their merits. He reminded everyone that the Prophet ﷺ had said the leaders should be from the Quraysh (the Prophet's tribe). He then publicly nominated Umar or Abu 'Ubaydah ibn al-Jarrah for the leadership, but Umar (RA) immediately took Abu Bakr's hand and pledged allegiance to him instead. Umar proclaimed that none was more qualified to succeed the Prophet ﷺ than Abu Bakr, the "Siddiq" and the Prophet's ﷺ chosen imam in prayer. The Ansar and Muhajirun in attendance all agreed and rushed to give bay'ah (pledge of allegiance) to Abu Bakr. The following day in the Prophet's ﷺ Mosque, a general bay'ah was taken from the broader community. Thus Abu Bakr as-Siddiq (RA) became the first Khalifat Rasulillah – the Successor of the Messenger of Allah.

It is worth noting that at the time of bay'ah, *Ali ibn Abi Talib* (RA) and some of the Prophet's family were occupied with the Prophet's burial arrangements and were not present at Saqifah. However, within a short time, Ali (RA) and all the remaining companions also accepted Abu Bakr's leadership. There are numerous reports of Ali cooperating fully with Abu Bakr and later publicly affirming Abu Bakr's superiority. In one authentic narration, Ali's son Muhammad bin al-Hanafiyah asked him, "Who is the best of people after Allah's Messenger?" Ali replied, "Abu Bakr." Then who? "Umar." Muhammad asked, "Then is it you?" Ali responded, "I am only a man among the Muslims." Ali (RA) thus acknowledged the precedence of Abu Bakr and Umar – a consensus echoed by other Sahabah as well. All the senior companions, including *Zubair*, *Talhah*, *Sa'd*, *Abd al-Rahman bin Anaf*, etc., united behind Abu Bakr. The Muslim Ummah was now in the capable hands of as-Siddiq.

### **The Caliphate of Abu Bakr (11–13 AH / 632–634 CE)**

Abu Bakr's caliphate lasted a little over two years (and three months) – a brief reign, but one of the most crucial in Islamic history. It was filled with monumental decisions that preserved the very core of Islam. Despite the short duration, his leadership was tested by enormous challenges that he met with remarkable faith and firmness. In his very first address as Caliph, Abu Bakr set the tone for his rule with a profound and humble speech:

"O people! I have been appointed over you, though I am not the best among you. If I do well, then help me; and if I do wrong, then correct me. Truthfulness is a trust, and lying is treachery. The weak among you is strong in my sight, until I restore his right to him, Insha'Allah; and the strong among you is weak in my sight, until I take from him what is due, Insha'Allah... Obey me so long as I obey Allah and His

Messenger; but if I disobey Allah and His Messenger, then I have no right to your obedience.”

With these words, Abu Bakr reaffirmed that the rule of law and justice would be the foundation of his governance. He also demonstrated exemplary humility by admitting he was not the best of them (even though in truth he was the most virtuous). Such humility was not mere rhetoric – Abu Bakr lived simply and justly. He initially continued his work as a merchant to avoid burdening the public treasury until the companions urged that he devote himself full-time to leadership and accept a modest stipend. He took only a minimal allowance, just enough to meet basic needs, and even that he would later account for and repay.

### **Battling the Apostates – Hurub al-Riddah**

After the Prophet ﷺ died, several tribes revolted, refusing to pay zakah or falsely claiming prophethood (e.g. Musaylimah al-Kadhdhab).

Abu Bakr:

- Declared war against all apostates.
- Refused to separate salah and zakah, saying: "By Allah, if they withhold from me even a rope, they used to give to the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, I will fight them for it." Sahih al-Bukhari (6924)
- Appointed Khalid ibn al-Walid as commander, who led decisive victories against Musaylimah in Yamamah.

Result: The unity of Islam was preserved and central authority upheld.

### **Compilation of the Qur'an**

During the battle of Yamamah, many huffaz (memorizers of Qur'an) were martyred. Umar suggested compiling the Qur'an.

- Abu Bakr was hesitant at first, fearing to innovate.
- Eventually saw the wisdom and tasked Zayd ibn Thabit to lead the compilation.

Zayd said: “By Allah, if they had ordered me to move a mountain, it would not have been harder than compiling the Qur'an.” al-Bukhari (4986). This preserved the Qur'an in a single Mushaf, a huge milestone.

### **Preparation and Dispatch of Usamah's Army**

Before his death, the Prophet ﷺ had appointed Usamah ibn Zayd, a young companion, to lead an army against the Romans (Byzantines).

- After the Prophet ﷺ passed, some hesitated due to Usamah's young age.
- Abu Bakr insisted on honoring the Prophet's ﷺ command: He said: "By Allah, I will not untie a knot the Messenger of Allah ﷺ tied." Ibn Kathir in Al-Bidayah wan-Nihayah

Result: The army was sent, morale was raised, and the Muslims displayed unity and strength.

### Personality Traits of Abu Bakr as-Siddiq رضي الله عنه

#### Truthfulness

- His title "as-Siddiq" was earned when he immediately believed the Prophet ﷺ during Isra' wal Mi'raj, when others mocked him.
- He said: "If he said it, he has spoken the truth." Sira Ibn Hisham

#### Deep Humility

- Despite being the Khalifah, he said in his first khutbah: "O people, I have been appointed over you, and I am not the best among you. If I do well, help me; if I go astray, correct me."

#### Asceticism (Zuhd)

- He wore patched clothing, lived simply, and engaged in serving others.
- Continued to milk the goats of his neighbors even after becoming Khalifah.

#### Courage and Firmness

- Took the boldest decisions (e.g., fighting tribes, sending Usamah's army) when others hesitated.

#### Generosity

- Freed slaves, spent all his wealth in the path of Allah.

The Prophet ﷺ said: "The person who has done most favor to me with his wealth and companionship is Abu Bakr." Sahih al-Bukhari (3671)

### Lessons from the Life of Abu Bakr as-Siddiq رضي الله عنه

#### Leadership with Taqwa

- True leadership is not in power or dominance, but in sincerity, justice, and humility.



## Stand for Truth Even When Alone

- Abu Bakr stood firm when many hesitated—especially during Riddah wars.

## Support the Prophet ﷺ Wholeheartedly

- He gave his wealth, time, and heart to the cause of Islam.

## Balance Between Mercy and Strength

- Gentle by nature but fierce in protecting the Deen.

## Don't Delay Good Actions

- Immediately carried out the Prophet's ﷺ last instructions and made quick but thoughtful decisions as Khalifah.

## Interactions with Specific Sahabah

### With Umar ibn al-Khattab رضي الله عنه

They complemented each other: Abu Bakr's calmness and softness, Umar's strength and firmness.

Umar later said: "Abu Bakr is our master and the best of us." Sahih al-Bukhari (3662)

After the Prophet's ﷺ death, Umar initially denied it. Abu Bakr entered and kissed the Prophet ﷺ, then said: "Whoever used to worship Muhammad, then Muhammad is dead. But whoever worships Allah, then Allah is Ever-Living, never dies." Sahih al-Bukhari (1242)

Then he recited: "*Muhammad is no more than a Messenger...*" (Aali Imran 3:144)

It calmed the Ummah.

### With Ali ibn Abi Talib رضي الله عنه

- After the Prophet's ﷺ death, there was temporary delay in Ali giving bay'ah due to mourning and family matters (especially regarding Fatimah رضي الله عنها).
- Later, he gave bay'ah openly and praised Abu Bakr.

In Sahih al-Bukhari (4240), it's narrated that Ali said: "We recognize the virtue of Abu Bakr and Umar, and no one comes to me with something that I dislike regarding them except that I punish them for it."

This authentic narration affirms harmony between Abu Bakr and Ali, contrary to what deviant sects claim.

### **With Aisha رضي الله عنها (his daughter)**

- She was the wife of the Prophet ﷺ, and thus the "Mother of the Believers."
- Their love and mutual respect were evident. He was deeply pained when she was slandered (incident of al-Ifk), but he remained patient.
- When Aisha was falsely accused, Abu Bakr had stopped giving charity to Mistah, one of those who participated in the slander.

Then Allah revealed: "Let not those among you who are blessed with wealth swear not to give..." (Surah An-Nur 24:22)

Abu Bakr said: "Yes, by Allah, I will never stop giving to Mistah." Sahih al-Bukhari (4757)

### **His Final Illness and Will**

#### **Death:**

- Died in Jumada al-Akhirah, 13 AH (approximately 2 years after the Prophet ﷺ).
- Was buried beside the Prophet ﷺ in the room of Aisha رضي الله عنها.

Became ill in Jumada al-Akhirah, 13 AH.

Died at the age of 63, the same age as the Prophet ﷺ.

- He requested: "Shroud me in the same clothes I wore during my illness. The living have more right to the new than the dead." Ibn Sa'd in at-Tabaqat
- Was washed and shrouded by Aisha and Asma (his daughters), and his body was buried next to the Prophet ﷺ.

### **Appointing Umar as His Successor**

After Shura (consultation), he appointed Umar ibn al-Khattab as the next Khalifah.

He said: "Do you accept the leadership of the one whom the Prophet was pleased with at the end of his life?" (Musannaf Ibn Abi Shaybah)

The companions agreed, and it ensured a smooth transition of power.

## His Will

- Requested to be buried beside the Prophet ﷺ.
- Wrote a brief wasiyyah that included reminders of taqwa and to hold firmly to the Qur'an and Sunnah.
- Left no wealth behind except a servant, a camel, and a single piece of cloth, all of which he ordered to be returned to Bayt al-Mal (the treasury).

## Summary of Abu Bakr as-Siddiq رضي الله عنه

### 1. First and Foremost Believer

- First adult male to accept Islam.
- Believed in the Prophet ﷺ immediately and wholeheartedly, earning the title as-Siddiq (The Truthful). E.g., “If he said it, then he has spoken the truth.” Sirat Ibn Hisham

### 2. Closest Companion to the Prophet ﷺ

- Accompanied the Prophet ﷺ during the Hijrah, mentioned in the Qur'an: “...when they were in the cave and he said to his companion: ‘Do not grieve; indeed, Allah is with us.’” Surah At-Tawbah (9:40)
- The only person referred to by name in the Qur'an as the Prophet's “companion.”

### 3. Best of the Ummah After the Prophet ﷺ

Ahlus-Sunnah unanimously agree: He is the best of the Ummah after the Prophet ﷺ.

- The Prophet ﷺ said: “The person who has done most favor to me with his wealth and companionship is Abu Bakr.” Sahih al-Bukhari (3671)
- Ibn Taymiyyah: “The best of this Ummah after its Prophet is Abu Bakr.” Minhaj as-Sunnah.

### 4. A Man of Absolute Sacrifice

- Gave all his wealth for the cause of Allah on several occasions.
- Freed slaves like Bilal رضي الله عنه, giving his own money.
- Surah Al-Layl (92:18-20) was revealed about him.

### 5. Gentle Yet Firm Leader

Though known for his gentleness, he showed unmatched firmness:

- Fought the apostates during the Riddah Wars.
- Refused to abandon zakah collection.
- Dispatched Usamah's army despite opposition.

“By Allah, I will fight those who differentiate between salah and zakah...” Sahih al-Bukhari (6924)

## 6. Established the Preservation of the Qur'an

- Oversaw the first compilation of the Qur'an after the death of many Huffaz in battle.

Entrusted Zayd ibn Thabit with this crucial task. Sahih al-Bukhari (4986)

## 7. Humble and Just in Leadership

- In his first speech as Khalifah: “I have been appointed over you, and I am not the best among you...”
- **Continued to milk goats for neighbors even as leader.**

## 8. Sound Decision-Making

- Chose Umar رضي الله عنه as his successor after shura.
- Ensured the stability of the Ummah and smooth leadership transition.

## 9. Role in Major Battles

- Present and active in Badr, Uhud, Khandaq, and Tabuk.
- At Tabuk, gave everything, showing unmatched sacrifice.

## 10. Deep Knowledge, Taqwa, and Zuhd

- Known for intense worship, weeping in salah, and extreme modesty.
- Left nothing behind—no wealth—except a servant, a camel, and a cloth, which he instructed to be returned to Bayt al-Mal.

## 11. His Death and Legacy

- Died at 63, buried next to the Prophet ﷺ.
- His leadership preserved Islam after the Prophet ﷺ's death.
- Revered and loved by all major Sahabah, including Ali رضي الله عنه.

Ali رضي الله عنه said: “We recognize the virtue of Abu Bakr and Umar...” Sahih al-Bukhari (4240)