

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ (d. 60H) Alqamah ibn Qays

(Compiled by Abu Muhammad Yahya)

1. Name and Lineage

Alqamah ibn Qays ibn Abdullah ibn Malik al-Nakha'i was a prominent figure among the Tabi'un—the generation following the Sahabah (companions of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ). He hailed from the Nakha' tribe, a well-known Arab tribe, and was based in Kufa, Iraq.



2. Birth and Upbringing

Born during the lifetime of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, Alqamah did not have the opportunity to meet him, thus being classified as a Tabi'i rather than a Sahabi. He grew up in an environment that highly valued knowledge and piety, which significantly influenced his future scholarly pursuits.

3. Teachers

Alqamah was a distinguished student of several notable Sahabah, including:

- Abdullah ibn Mas'ud (رضي الله عنه): A close companion of the Prophet ﷺ, renowned for his deep understanding of the Qur'an and Hadith. Alqamah was considered one of his closest students and was noted for his resemblance to Ibn Mas'ud in conduct and knowledge.
- Ali ibn Abi Talib (رضي الله عنه): The fourth Caliph and cousin of the Prophet ﷺ. Alqamah narrated traditions from him, enriching his understanding of Islamic jurisprudence.
- Umar ibn al-Khattab (رضي الله عنه): The second Caliph, known for his just rule and profound knowledge. Alqamah benefited from his insights and leadership.

4. Students

Alqamah's dedication to teaching produced several eminent scholars, including:

- Ibrahim al-Nakha'i: His nephew, who became a leading jurist in Kufa and played a crucial role in the development of Islamic jurisprudence.
- Aswad ibn Yazid al-Nakha'i: A prominent scholar known for his piety and knowledge.
- Amr ibn Shurahbil al-Sha'bi: A renowned scholar who frequently highlighted Alqamah's resemblance to Ibn Mas'ud in conduct and knowledge.

5. Contributions and Legacy

Alqamah is credited with founding the School of Kufa in Islamic religious sciences. He meticulously followed Ibn Mas'ud's teachings in prayer, conduct, and overall practice of Islam. His contemporaries often remarked on his resemblance to Ibn Mas'ud in behavior and attitudes.

Imam Abu Hanifa, the esteemed founder of the Hanafi school of thought, held Alqamah in high regard, asserting that Alqamah possessed profound knowledge of hadith and fiqh, perhaps even surpassing some companions.

6. Asceticism and Piety

Alqamah was renowned for his deep piety and asceticism. He led a simple life, avoiding worldly luxuries, and was constantly engaged in worship and reflection. His humility was evident in his interactions, and he was known to avoid positions of authority, fearing the associated responsibilities and potential for moral compromise.

7. Death

Alqamah ibn Qays passed away in 62 AH (681–682 CE), leaving behind a legacy of scholarship and piety that continues to influence Islamic jurisprudence.

Conclusion

Alqamah ibn Qays al-Nakha'i's life exemplifies dedication to knowledge, piety, and humility. His contributions to Islamic jurisprudence and his role in mentoring future scholars have left an indelible mark on Islamic scholarship. His legacy continues to inspire students and scholars in their pursuit of knowledge and spiritual excellence.