

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## Ibn Qutaybah (d. 276H) رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ

(Compiled by Abu Muhammad Yahya)

Ibn Qutaybah (213–276 AH/828–889 CE) was a renowned Islamic scholar, historian, and author, noted for his significant contributions to Arabic literature and Islamic sciences.



### 1. Name and Lineage

His full name was Abū Muḥammad ‘Abdullāh ibn Muslim ibn Qutaybah al-Dīnawarī al-Marwazī. He was born in Kufa, Iraq, and was of Persian descent; his father hailed from Merv in Khorasan.

### 2. Birth and Upbringing

Born in 213 AH (828 CE) in Baghdad, Ibn Qutaybah spent his early years in Kufa, a prominent center of learning. He later held a judicial position in Dinawar, which led to his nisbah (attribution) "al-Dīnawarī."

### 3. Teachers and Students

Ibn Qutaybah studied under several eminent scholars, including:

- Ishaq ibn Rahwayh: A prominent hadith scholar.
- Muhammad ibn Ziyad ibn Ubaydillah al-Ziyadi: Known for his expertise in Arabic linguistics.
- Ziyad ibn Yahya al-Hasani: A respected narrator of hadith.

His students included:

- Ahmad ibn Abdullah: His son, who served as a judge in Egypt and memorized his father's works.
- Ubaydullah al-Sukri: A noted scholar who transmitted Ibn Qutaybah's teachings.
- Abdullah ibn Ja'far ibn Durustawayh al-Nahawi: A grammarian and linguist.

### 4. Contributions and Legacy

Ibn Qutaybah was a prolific writer, with works spanning various disciplines:

- 'Uyun al-Akhbar: An anthology covering topics like governance, warfare, nobility, character, prayer, and knowledge.

- Kitab al-Ma'arif: An encyclopedic work detailing historical and cultural knowledge.
- Kitab al-Shi'r wa al-Shu'ara': A biographical encyclopedia of over 200 Arab poets from the pre-Islamic period to the early Abbasid era.
- Gharib al-Qur'an: A lexicon explaining rare words in the Qur'an.

His works are considered foundational in Arabic literature and Islamic studies, influencing subsequent generations of scholars.

## 5. Death

Ibn Qutaybah passed away on 15 Rajab 276 AH (13 November 889 CE) in Baghdad, leaving behind a rich legacy that continues to be studied and revered in the Islamic world.

## Conclusion

Ibn Qutaybah's dedication to knowledge and his extensive writings have cemented his place as a pivotal figure in Islamic intellectual history. His works remain valuable resources for understanding Arabic literature, history, and the sciences of the Qur'an and Hadith.