

HISTORY OF ISLAM SERIES

# HADHRAT ALI IBN ABU TALIB

رضي الله عنه

SHAIKH MIR ASEDULLAH QUADRI

# **HADHRAT ALI IBN ABU TALIB**

**(رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ)**

Written By

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## PREFACE

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الحمد لله رب العالمين، والصلاة والسلام على سيدنا محمد وعلى آله وصحبه أجمعين

Shia groups claim excessive love of Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) and members of Ahle Bait and in the process use abusive language for the majority of Sahabah. Salafis hide their hate for Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) and other members of Ahle Bait, but openly hold them responsible for the tribulations in Islamic State. The majority of the people among Muslims are Ahle Sunnah wal Jamaa, who walk on the middle path.

**It is in Hadith** - Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) narrated that ‘the Apostle of Allah (صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم) called me and told me : You are like Jesus (Isa - عليه السلام). Jews hated him till they slandered his mother, and Christians loved him till they put him in the position that is not for him. With regard to me (Hadhrat Ali - رضى الله تعالى عنه), two categories of persons will be ruined, namely he who loves me too much and the love takes him away from rightfulness, and he who hates me too much and the hatred takes him away from rightfulness. Verily, I am not a prophet, and there is nothing revealed to me. But I work according to the Book of Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and the Sunnah of His Apostle (صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم) as much as I can. So whatever I have asked you in regards to obeying Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ), it is your duty to obey me whether you like it or not.’ (Ahmad)

Correct comprehension of Islamic issues is very important because a slight misunderstanding will have profound effect on Sahih Iman. It is important that we safeguard our Iman from the extreme opinions.

This book is aimed at clearing the misunderstanding about important personalities of Islam. We hope our readers will greatly benefit from this effort.

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## HADHRAT ALI IBN ABU TALIB (رضى الله تعالى عنه)

Hadhrat Ali Ibn Abi Talib (رضى الله تعالى عنه) was born on Rajab 13, 22 BH (30 al-Fil) (600 AD) inside Ka'ba. Almost all Awliya Allah have mentioned in their books that Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) was "Maulud-e-Kaaba". Shah Waliyullah has mentioned in his book, Izalatul Khifa that Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) was born inside ka'ba and he backed his statement by a report by al-Hakim in his Mustadrak.

Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) accepted Islam when he was 9 years old. He was first among the children who accepted Islam. Ummul Momineen Khadeeja (رضى الله تعالى عنها) was the first woman to accept Islam while in men this honor goes to Hadhrat Abu Bakr Siddique (رضى الله تعالى عنه). Hadhrat Ali's (رضى الله تعالى عنه) father Hadhrat Abu Talib (رضى الله تعالى عنه) and mother Fatimah Bint Asad (رضى الله تعالى عنها) were father and mother figures for the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) as he grew up under their guardianship.

**It is in Hadith** - Narrated by Sa`d Ibn Abi Waqqas (رضى الله تعالى عنه) : When Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) revealed the verse - **فَمَنْ حَاجَّكَ فِيهِ مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَكَ مِنَ الْعِلْمِ فَقُلْ تَعَالَوْا نَدْعُ أَبْنَاءَنَا وَأَبْنَاءَكُمْ وَنِسَاءَنَا وَنِسَاءَكُمْ وَأَنْفُسَنَا وَأَنْفُسَكُمْ ثُمَّ نَبْتَهِلْ فَنَجْعَلْ لَعْنَتَ اللَّهِ عَلَى الْكَاذِبِينَ** [Come! We will summon our sons and your sons, and our women and your women, and ourselves and yourselves, then we will pray humbly and invoke the curse of Allah upon those who lie] (Aal-e-Imran - 61), the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) summoned Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه), Sayyida Fatima (رضى الله تعالى عنها), Imam Hasan (رضى الله تعالى عنه), and Imam Hussain (رضى الله تعالى عنه), and said : "O Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ)! These are my Family. **(Muslim, Ahmad, Tirmidhi, and Hakim)**

Islam's continuance in its original form even today is greatly because of the sacrifices of Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه), his sons and other members of Ahle Bait. They sacrificed their lives to keep the purity of Islam from worldly politics. We the Muslims of the world are greatly indebted to the Ahle Bait e Rasool (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم). They showed us the right path and set an example of piety in the midst of confusion, chaos and

anarchy created by evil doers, selfish politicians and those who committed Ijtehadi (interpretation) mistakes during the first century Hijri.

Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) is a glittering star among Sahabah. Imam Ahmad said : 'There is no Companion about whom are reported as many merits as Hadhrat Ali Ibn Abi Talib (رضي الله تعالى عنه)!. (al-Hakim Mustadrak 3-107).

**It is in Hadith** - Narrated by Sa'd Ibn Abi Waqqas (رضي الله تعالى عنه). The Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) left Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) behind, in the campaign of Tabuk. The latter said : "O Apostle of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم)! Are you leaving me behind with the women and children?" The Apostle (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) replied : "Are you not happy to stand next to me like Hadhrat Harun (عليه السلام) next to Hadhrat Musa (عليه السلام), save that there is no Prophet after me. (Bukhari, Muslim).

**It is in Hadith** - Narrated by Ali Ibn Abi Talib, Zayd Ibn Arqam, S'ad bin Abi Waqqas, Buraida bin Husaib, Abu Ayyub al Ansari, Bara bin Azib, Abdullah Ibn Abbas, Anas bin Malik, Abu Sa'eed and Abu Hurraira (رضي الله تعالى عنه) - The Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) said : For whosoever I am Mawla then Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) is his Mawla. O' Allah befriend those who befriend Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) and be enemy of those who are enemy to Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه). [Ahmed (4/370), Ibn Hibban (2205), Ibn Abi Asim (1367, 1368) Haythami (9/104) Tirmidhi (2/298)]

All Khulafa-e-Rashideen preceding Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) (Hadhrat Abu Bakr, Hadhrat Umar and Hadhrat Uthman - رضي الله تعالى عنهم اجمعين) depended heavily on Hadhrat Ali's (رضي الله تعالى عنه) advice in running the day to day administration of the Caliphate. Hadhrat Umar (رضي الله تعالى عنه) used to say, " Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) is the best judge among us." Everytime, when Umar (رضي الله تعالى عنه) had to leave Medina, he left Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) in the capital as In-charge Caliph.

**It is in Hadith** - When the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) sent Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) to Yemen the latter said : "O Apostle of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) , you are sending me to people who are older than me so that I judge between them!" The Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) said : "Go, for verily Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) shall empower your tongue and guide your heart." Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) said : "After that I never felt doubt as to what judgment I should pass between two parties.(Ahmad)

It is in Hadith - Narrated by Ibn Abbas (رضي الله تعالى عنه) : Hadhrat Umar (رضي الله تعالى عنه) said : Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) is the best in judgment among us, and Ubayy (رضي الله تعالى عنه) is the most proficient at the Qur'anic readings. **(Ibn Sa`d in his Tabaqat (2:339), Ibn `Abd al-Barr in al-Isti`ab (3:39-41), Ibn Asakir in Tarikh Dimashq (42:404), and Abu Nu`aym in the Hilya).**

It is in Hadith - Narrated Anas (رضي الله تعالى عنه) (part of a long Hadith) The Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) said : "The most compassionate of my Community towards my Community is Abu Bakr (رضي الله تعالى عنه); the staunchest in Allah's (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) Religion is Umar (رضي الله تعالى عنه); the most truthful in his modesty is Uthman (رضي الله تعالى عنه), and the best in judgment is Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه). **(Ibn Majah)**

**It is in Hadith - Ibn Mas`ud (رضي الله تعالى عنه) said : "We used to say that the best in judgment among the people of Madina was Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه). [al-Hakim (3:135), Ibn Sa`d in his Tabaqat (2:338), and Ibn `Asakir (42:404)]**

Hadhrat Ali's (رضي الله تعالى عنه) bravery, knowledge and eloquence were distinct among Sahaba.

**It is in Hadith - Narrated Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) and Jabir bin Abdullah (رضي الله تعالى عنه) - The Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) said : "I am the city of knowledge and Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) is its gate". **(Tirmidhi, al-Hakim, Bazzar, Tabarani)****

It is in Hadith - Narrated Abu Huraira (رضي الله تعالى عنه) - On the eve of the campaign of Khaybar, the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) said : "I shall give the standard (Flag) to a person who loves Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) and His Apostle (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم), and whom Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ) loves and also His Apostle (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم)." Umar (رضي الله تعالى عنه) said : "I never liked to be entrusted leadership before that day." The next day the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) summoned Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) and gave him the flag. **(Bukhari, Muslim)**

**It is in Hadith - Salama Ibn Amr narrated that on the day of Khaybar, the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) summoned Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) who came led by the hand, as he was suffering from inflammation of the eyes. The Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) then blew on his eyes and gave him the flag. **(Muslim).****



It is in Hadith - Narrated Abdullah Ibn Abi Laila (رضى الله تعالى عنه) - "I asked my father to ask Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) why he wore summer clothes in winter and winter clothes in summer"? Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) said : "On the day of Khaibar the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) summoned me when my eyes were sore. I said to him : O' Apostle of Allah (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم)! I have ophthalmic. He blew on my eyes and said: O' Allah (عَزَّ وَجَلَّ)! remove from him hot and cold. I never felt hot nor cold after that day. (Ahmad, Ibn Majah)

## HADHRAT ALI'S (رضى الله تعالى عنه) CALIPHATE

After Hadhrat Othman's (رضى الله تعالى عنه) martyrdom, there was no one to rule the Islamic State for 3 consecutive days. Ghafqi, the leader of the Egyptian rioters led prayers in the Prophet's (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) mosque. It was important that the chaos and lawlessness was ended and normalcy restored. Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) was the towering personality among Sahabah then. He was bravest, most experienced, knowledgeable and best judge among people. Whoever thought of a new Khalifa to rule the Islamic nation, the only name that came to their mind was that of Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه). Hadhrat Ali was the only choice in front of them who could restore the rule of law back into Islamic State. Also, the rioters did not object for him to be the new Khalifa. Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه), was persuaded by the senior Sahabah to come forward the save the nation. After initial reluctance, Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) agreed and everyone in Madinah pledged their allegiance to the new Khalifa.

In any federal set up, it is important that the Central Government remains strong. When Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) took over as Caliph, the central authority was weakened and crippled. The Caliph was attacked by the rioters who had come from provinces. And since Hadhrat Othman (رضى الله تعالى عنه) did not use force against the rioters, they were embolden and the entire structure of the Caliphate was in disarray. When we read Islamic History, we realize that it was a great conspiracy by the vested interest to occupy the Caliphate from the back door.

## Hadhrat Ali faced serious problems during his Caliphate.

The first was the demand to punish the people who were responsible for the assassination of Hadhra Uthman (رضي الله تعالى عنه). This culminated into the Battle of Camel. Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) won this crucial battle. We have covered details about the Battle of Camel in a separate book.

Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) successfully controlled the fitnah created by Kharijees in the last years of his Caliphate.

When Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) was chosen as Khalifa, there was near anarchy in the Islamic State. In order to bring back normalcy, Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) asked all Governors to formally resign from their positions. Later they could have been reshuffled or re-appointed again. In such a delicate and needy time when it was important to solidify the Unity of the State and strengthen the hands of the Khalifa, Muawiya (رضي الله تعالى عنه) staged a rebellion and proved the Prophet's (صلى الله عليه و آله) prophecy about him. **(Ad-Dahabi in Siyar A'alam Al-Nabulaa).**

Ad-Dahabi wrote in his book "Siyar A'alam Al-Nabula" as follows.

قلت: قتل بين الفريقين نحو من ستين ألفا. وقيل: سبعون ألفا. وقتل عمار مع علي، وتبين للناس قول رسول الله -صلى الله عليه وسلم-: تقتله الفئة الباغية.

[In my opinion about 60,000 thousand people died (in the battle of Siffeen) and Ammar Yasir (رضي الله تعالى عنه) was killed fighting on the side of Hadhrat Ali (رضي الله تعالى عنه) and this demonstrates what the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله) said : you will be killed by the rebels)!

The Hadith referred by Ad-Dahabi in his above statement is as follows.

**It is in Hadith Bukhari - Ibn 'Abbas (رضي الله تعالى عنه)** said to me and to his son Ali, "Go to Abu Sa'id (رضي الله تعالى عنه) and listen to what he narrates." So we went and found him in a garden looking after it. He picked up his Rida', wore it and sat down and started narrating till the topic of the construction of the mosque reached. He said, "We were carrying one adobe at a time while 'Ammar (رضي الله تعالى عنه) was carrying two. The Prophet (صلى الله عليه و آله وسلم) saw him and started removing the dust from his body and said, "May Allah be Merciful to 'Ammar (رضي الله تعالى عنه). He will be killed by a rebellious, aggressive group. He will be inviting

them to Paradise and they will invite him to Hell-fire." 'Ammaar (رضى الله عنه) said, "I seek refuge with Allah from affliction." (Bukhari)

The famous Ahle Sunnah **Imam al-Barzanji (1640-1703)**, the Chief Mufti of Madinah (buried in Jannat ul Baqi) wrote in his book "Ishrat al-Sa'a" as follows:

"It was a false pretext of Muawiya (رضى الله تعالى عنه) to justify his fight with Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) under the guise of revenge for the murder of Hadhrat Uthman (رضى الله تعالى عنه) because when he completely attained the power and became ruler of the whole State, he never opened the case of the murder of Hadhrat Uthman (رضى الله تعالى عنه) and did not arrest the murderers though he claimed earlier that the killers were still around. This proves that all his fight was for worldly rule under the deceit of revenge for the murder."

Amr Ibn Al-Aas's (رضى الله تعالى عنه) rebellion against the Caliphate reached to its peak during the caliphate of Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه). He became the right hand of Muawiya (رضى الله تعالى عنه). In the battle of Siffeen he played a key role in saving Muawiya (رضى الله تعالى عنه) from the clutches of defeat.

**The battle of Siffin** was fought in 657 AD on the banks of Euphrates river, in Raqqa, Syria. It was fought between Khalifa-e-Rashid, Ameer ul Momineen Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) and Muawiya (رضى الله تعالى عنه). Hadhrat Ali's (رضى الله تعالى عنه) forces had almost won the battle, but at the decisive moments of defeat, Muawiya's (رضى الله تعالى عنه) forces, on the advice of Amr bin al-Aas (رضى الله تعالى عنه) who was commanding the forces of Muawiya (رضى الله تعالى عنه), took the copies of Quran in their hands and pleaded to spare their lives. And their lives were spared by Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) forces.

It is reported that during the battle of siffeen, one day Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) attacked Amr bin al-Aas (رضى الله تعالى عنه) by throwing a spear. Amr (رضى الله تعالى عنه) fell down on the ground. Then he stood, (bent down) removed his Pajama and showed his ass to Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه). Looking at this pathetic sight (which meant he was begging for his life), Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) showed mercy and turned away and Amr bin al-Aas (رضى الله تعالى عنه) ran away. People who were with Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) informed him that he was Amr bin al-Aas (رضى الله تعالى عنه) who showed his ass. Hadhrat Ali (رضى الله تعالى عنه) replied he showed me his ass therefore (I spared his life and) turned away. When Amr bin Al-Aas (رضى الله تعالى عنه) went to Muawiya (رضى الله تعالى عنه)

(رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) and informed him about it, Muawiya (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) said, be thankful to your ass and to God. (Al-Bidayah wa al-Nihayah, Volume 7, page 293).

When Muawiya's (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) army took copies of Quran in their hands and pleaded to spare their lives, Hadhrat Ali's (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) forces stopped fighting. But Muawiya (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) did not surrender. An arbitration was organized between the Caliph and the Governor. History tells us that Amr bin al-Aas (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ), who was Muawiya's (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) representative in the arbitration, deceived Hadhrat Ali's (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) representative Abu Musa al-Ashari (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ), tricked him and unilaterally declared Muawiya (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) as the winner of Arbitration. In view of the open deception, Hadhrat Ali (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) rejected the outcome of the arbitration.

### MARTYRDOM OF HADHRAT ALI (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ)

Hadhrat Ali (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) was martyred in Kufa. A story was spread that three people, Ibn Muljam, al-Baruk Ibn Abdullah and Amr Ibn Bakr al-Tamimi together decided each one will kill Muawiya (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ), Amr Ibn al-Aas and Hadhrat Ali (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ). Ibn Muljam succeeded and the other two did not succeed.

When we read Islamic history, it becomes clear that the martyrdom of Hadhrat Umar (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ), Hadhrat Othman (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ), Hadhrat Ali (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) and Hadhrat Hasan (رضی اللہ تعالیٰ عنہ) were the anklets of the same Chain.