

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ وُلْدِ آدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيَرْضَى بِأَنْ يُصَلِّيَ عَلَيْهِ

Allah Almighty, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,  
The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah Almighty, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon  
His Beloved Messenger – *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* – his family & his  
companions – *may Allah be pleased with them all*

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# The Justice of ‘Umar bin Abdul Aziz

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It is reported that when Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar bin Abdul Aziz - *may Allah be pleased with him* - became the leader of the Muslims, he began to make major changes in the government. The first thing that he did was to remove those people who he considered as open and clear oppressors. These were those people who had been in the employment of Sulayman bin Abdul Malik and had caused undue stress to the general masses. The first person he called was someone named Shuraik bin Arda.

Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar bin Abdul Aziz - *may Allah Almighty be pleased with him* - then told him, “Got out of my sight, O tyrant. I saw that you used to keep people in the hot burning sun and also use the whip against them. You used to also starve them and make them suffer from thirst. While at the same time, you used to wear silk clothing and other expensive clothing.”

Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar bin Abdul Aziz - *may Allah Almighty be pleased with him* - then called another of these tyrants and informed him, “Get out of my sight. I swear by Allah Almighty that you have no right to enjoy any official position in government. I used to also see with my own eyes that you murdered people without any cause simply to satisfy the wishes and whims of Sulayman bin Abdul Malik.”

In this manner, Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar bin Abdul Aziz - *may Allah Almighty be pleased with him* – picked out each one and expelled them from their official positions. He then chose his own ministers and officials and made sure that everyone knew what his Islamic duty were.

Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar bin Abdul Aziz - *may Allah Almighty be pleased with him* - then wrote a special note to the eminent ‘Ulama of the period, among them such luminaries as Hadrat Sayyiduna Hasan Basri, Hadrat Sayyiduna Mutarraf bin Abdullah, Hadrat Sayyiduna Saalim bin Abdullah - *may Allah Almighty be pleased with them*. He then asked them to guide him on his new role. He told them that he will follow their specific advice so that on the Day of the Judgement, he is not included among the oppressors. These ‘Ulama also sent specific instructions to him without any fear.

Hadrat Sayyiduna Hasan Basri - *may Allah be pleased with him* - wrote back, “O Ameerul Mo’mineen! Spend your days in fasting so that you can open your fast on the Day of Judgement. As you refrain yourself from all evil and bad deeds, in like manner, bear in mind the rights of the people as well. In this manner, you will not destroy the reward for your fasting. Bear in mind that the Allah Almighty listens to the Du’a of a person during the time of Iftaar, therefore, you should make the effort to fulfil the right of the common people so that they do not make Du’a against you at this moment. Inculcate in them good behaviour and living. Propagate good and prohibit evil both publicly and privately. Treat each one equally. Uproot all forms of oppression in inequality. If you protect yourself against the common people today, on the Day of Judgement, you will not have to answer for any of their accusation. If you continue in this manner, on the Day of the Judgement, you will certainly be entitled for Jannah.”

Hadrat Sayyiduna Saalim bin Abdullah - *may Allah be pleased with him* - advised, “O Ameerul Mo’mineen! You are the last in the line of the rightly guided Khulafah. And at the end, you will also have to appear in front of Allah Almighty.”

Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar bin Abdul Aziz - *may Allah be pleased with him* - also chose seven eminent ‘Ulama who would be able to advise him after Esha on various issues of the state. The conditions of these meetings were:

1. No back-biting against any Muslim would be allowed.
2. No Muslim would be made fun of. No wrong impression would be created about any Muslim.
3. There will be no laughing or joking in any of the meetings. Only religious issues would be discussed and nothing else.

He then choose the best people for the job. He also chose a person named Muzaahim who used to always display immense fear for Allah Almighty.

When this person, who was actually his servant, asked him why he was being chosen as his minister, he replied, “One day, I noticed you reading your Salaah in a very quiet and secluded spot and no one was watching you read your Salaah. I also noticed that you have immense love for the Qur’an, therefore, I felt that someone like you should be near me.”

Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar bin Abdul Aziz - *may Allah Almighty be pleased with him* - then took hold of a Register of Land Deeds which were in the control of the past ministers of the government and all of them were sitting in the front row. They had stolen land and property from innocent citizens. He then declared, “O Bani Marwan! These are the various pieces of lands and property which was stolen by Abdul Malik on your behalf. Without doubt the Allah Almighty is true and Abdul Malik is false”. He then torn up all of these record of deeds. He then called for all the deeds which were issued to the Bani Ummayyah and made sure that all of these were also torn in public.

Hadrat Sayyiduna ‘Umar bin Abdul Aziz - *may Allah Almighty be pleased with him* - called for the deeds in the possession of various ministers and had all of these torn up making it clear that no one had the right to own the property of other innocent Muslims. (Al Bidaayah wan Nihaayah)

