

2. CATEGORIES OF SAHABA

The Companions of the Beloved Habbeeb (Sallallahu Alaihi Wassallam) are divided into various categories according to the extent of reporting Hadith by them.

So far as their merits in general are concerned, Ahl-e-Sunnat believe that the Great Caliphs (Khulafa-e-Rashideen) are superior to all other Sahaba, followed by the pious consorts of Sayyiduna Rasoolullah (Sallallhu Alaihi Wassallam) (Sallallahu Alaihi Wassallam), followed by the first Muslim migrants, followed by Ahl-e-Aqabah, followed by the people of Badr followed by other Sahaba as per their participation in the Islamic Battles in chronological order.

Allah says: *“Those who spent and fought before the Victory (of Makkatul Mukarrama) are not upon a level (with the rest of you). Such are greater in rank than those who spent and fought afterwards. Unto each hath **Allah** promised good. And **Allah** is informed of what ye do.”*