

Chapter Twelve

Chapter in relation to the Blessed Name of the Prophet صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ being carved upon old stones

1. Imam Ibn Asaakir (d. 571 AH) رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ extracted a narration from the chain of Sayyiduna al Hasan رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ, from Sayyiduna Sulayman عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام who stated that (Sayyiduna) ‘Umar Ibn Khattab (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ) stated to (Sayyiduna) Ka’b (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ), “Inform us in relation to the virtues of the Messenger of Allah (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ) prior to his birth (Mawlid).” (Sayyiduna) Ka’b (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ) said, “Yes, O leader of the believers! I read amongst what I read that (Sayyiduna) Ibrahim al Khalil (عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام) found a stone upon which there were four lines:

The first one had written on it,

‘I am Allah (عَزَّوَجَلَّ) there is none worthy of worship but Me, so worship Me.’

The second line had written on it,

‘Indeed I am Allah (عَزَّوَجَلَّ). There is none worthy of worship but Me. Muhammad (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ) is My Messenger. Blessed is he who believed in him and followed him.’

The third line had written on it,

‘Indeed I am Allah (عَزَّوَجَلَّ). There is none worthy of worship but Me. Whoever trusted Me will be saved.’

The fourth line had written on it,

‘Indeed I am Allah (عَزَّوَجَلَّ). There is none worthy of worship but Me. The Haram (the Sacred City) belongs to Me. The Ka’bah is My House. Whoever entered My House will be saved from My Punishment.’

2. Imam Bukhari (d. 256 AH) رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ extracted a narration in at-Taarikh (history) and Imam Al Baihaqi (d. 458 AH) رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ from the chain of Muhammad Ibn Aswad Ibn Khalf Ibn ‘Abd Yaghooth from his father that they found a writing below the Maqam¹ (place of Ibrahim عَلَيْهِ السَّلَام). So the Quraysh called a man from Hameer who said, “Indeed there are such words that if I was to mention to you, you would kill me.” So we thought that the mentioning of Muhammad (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ) is in there so we hid it.

3. Imam Abu Nu’aym (d. 430 AH) رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ extracted a narration from the chain of Huraysh Ibn Abi Huraysh from Sayyiduna Talhah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ who said, “During the first excavation, a stone with words carved upon it was found in the Ka’bah. A man was called who read it and it was written on it, ‘My chosen servant, the trusting, the one who turns to Allah (عَزَّوَجَلَّ) and the one who is given authority, his place of birth is Makkah and his place of migration is Taiba (Madinah). He will not go until he straightens the crooked ways and he will testify that there is none-worthy of worship but Allah (عَزَّوَجَلَّ).’

¹ Near the Ka’bah.

His Ummah are the Hammadoon. They praise Allah (عَزَّوَجَلَّ) at every elevated place. They tie Izaar (lower garment) upon their waists and they purify their hands and feet.'

4. Imam Ibn Asaakir (d. 571 AH) رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ extracted a narration from Abu Tayyib Abdul Mun'im Ibn Ghalboon, the leader of recitation, who stated, "When Umuriyyah was conquered, the people found a church from its churches had written upon it in gold, 'The worst of successors are the successors who swear at the predecessors. One of the predecessors is better than a thousand successors. O companion of the cave, you have attained honour and pride as the Almighty King praises you as He states in His Book that is revealed upon His Prophet (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ) who was sent:

ثَانِي اثْنَيْنِ إِذْ هُمَا فِي الْغَارِ

"... two men - when they were in the cave,..."²

O 'Umar (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ), you are not a ruler but rather a father. O 'Uthman (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ), they killed you as an act of oppression and they did not visit your grave. O 'Ali (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ), you are the leader of the pious and you push away disbelievers from the area in front of the blessed face of Allah's Messenger (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ). This is the companion of the cave, this is one of the pious sages, this is the helper of the cities and this is the leader of the pious. There is the curse of the Almighty Compeller (عَزَّوَجَلَّ) upon the one who belittles them."

The narrator states, "I said to the person in the church whose eyebrows were drooping down due to his old age, 'Since when has this been written upon the door of your church?' He said, "Two thousand years prior to the arrival of your Prophet (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ)."

5. Imam Abu Muhammad Al Jawhari (d. 454 AH) رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ extracted a narration in his Amaali (dictation) from Sayyiduna Yahya Ibn Yamaan رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ who stated that the Imam of Bani Sulaym informed me and stated, "Our elders took part in the war against Rome and they found in one of the churches a stanza in which it was written:

أَتَرْجُو أُمَّةً قَتَلَتْ حُسَيْنًا شَفَاعَةَ جَدِّهِ يَوْمَ الْحِسَابِ

'Does the nation who killed Husain (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ) desire the intercession of his grandfather (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ) on the day of reckoning?'

They asked, "Since when did you find this written on your church?" They said, "Six hundred years prior to the arrival of your Prophet (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ)."



² Surah Tawba. Surah No:9. Verse: 40.