



# **Life of Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>**

**BY**

**HADRAT MIRZA BASHIRUDDIN  
MAHMUD AHMAD<sup>ra</sup>**

# 'IKRIMA<sup>ra</sup> BECOMES MUSLIM

Of those who had been excepted from the general amnesty, some were forgiven on the recommendation of the Companions.

Among those who were thus forgiven was 'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup>, a son of Abu Jahl. 'Ikrima's<sup>ra</sup> wife was a Muslim at heart.

She requested the Prophet<sup>sa</sup> to forgive him. The Prophet<sup>sa</sup> forgave.

At the time 'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup> was trying to escape to Abyssinia.

# 'IKRIMA<sup>ra</sup> BECOMES MUSLIM

His wife pursued him and found that he was about to embark.

She reproved him. "Are you running away from a man as gentle and soft as the Prophet<sup>sa</sup>?" she said.

'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup> was astonished and asked whether she really thought the Prophet<sup>sa</sup> would forgive him.

'Ikrima's<sup>ra</sup> wife assured him that even he would be forgiven by the Prophet<sup>sa</sup>

'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup> gave up his plan of escaping to Abyssinia and returned to see the Prophet<sup>sa</sup>.

"I understand from my wife that you have forgiven even one like me," he said.

"Your wife is right. I have really forgiven you," said the Prophet<sup>sa</sup>

# 'IKRIMA<sup>ra</sup> BECOMES MUSLIM

'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup> decided that a person capable of forgiving his deadliest enemies could not be false.

He, therefore, declared his faith in Islam. "I bear witness that God is One and has no equal and I bear witness that you are His Servant and His Messenger<sup>sa</sup>."

The Prophet<sup>sa</sup> [ said] " 'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup>, "I have not only forgiven you, but as proof of my regard for you, I have decided to invite you to ask me for anything I can give."

'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup> replied, "There is nothing more or better I can ask you for than that you should pray for me to God and ask for His forgiveness and whatever excesses and enormities I have committed against you."

# 'IKRIMA<sup>ra</sup> BECOMES MUSLIM

Hearing this entreaty, the Prophet<sup>sa</sup> prayed to God at once and said: "My God, forgive the enmity which 'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup> has born against me.

The Prophet<sup>sa</sup> then stood up and put his mantle over 'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup> and said, "Whoever comes to me, believing in God, is one with me. My house is as much his as mine."

The conversion of 'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup> fulfilled a prophecy which the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> had made many years before.

# 'IKRIMA<sup>ra</sup> BECOMES MUSLIM

The conversion of 'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup> fulfilled a prophecy which the Holy Prophet<sup>sa</sup> had made many years before. The Prophet<sup>sa</sup>, addressing his Companions, once had said: "I have had a vision in which I saw that I was in Paradise.

- I saw there a bunch of grapes. When I asked for whom the bunch was meant, someone replied saying, 'For Abu Jahl'."
- Referring to this vision on this occasion of the conversion of 'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup>, the Prophet<sup>sa</sup> said he did not understand the vision at first.
- How could Abu Jahl, an enemy of believers, enter Paradise and how could he have a bunch of grapes provided for him.
- "But now," said the Prophet<sup>sa</sup>, "I understand my vision; the bunch of grapes was meant for 'Ikrima<sup>ra</sup>."
- ... instead of the son I was shown the father, a substitution common in visions and dreams"

# 'IKRIMA<sup>ra</sup> BECOMES MUSLIM

Of the persons who had been ordered to be executed as exceptions to the general amnesty was one who had been responsible for the cruel murder of Zainab<sup>ra</sup>, a daughter of the Prophet<sup>sa</sup>.

This man was Habbar<sup>ra</sup>. He had cut the girths of Zainab's<sup>ra</sup> camel, on which Zainab<sup>ra</sup> fell to the ground and, being with child, suffered [ a miscarriage]. A little later she died.

This was one of the inhumanities which he had committed and for which he deserved the penalty of death.

# 'IKRIMA<sup>ra</sup> BECOMES MUSLIM

This man now came to the Prophet<sup>sa</sup> and said, "Prophet<sup>sa</sup> of God, I ran away from you and went to Iran, but the thought came to me that God had rid us of our pagan beliefs and saved us from spiritual death.

Instead of going to others and seeking shelter with them why not go to the Prophet<sup>sa</sup> himself, acknowledge my faults and my sins and ask for his forgiveness?"

The Prophet<sup>sa</sup> was moved and said, "Habbar<sup>ra</sup>, if God has planted in your heart the love of Islam, how can I refuse to forgive you? I forgive everything you have done before this."

One cannot describe in detail the enormities these men had committed against Islam and Muslims. Yet how easily the Prophet<sup>sa</sup> forgave them!

This spirit of forgiveness converted the most stone-hearted adversaries into devotees of the Prophet<sup>sa</sup>.