# Abu Bakr As-Siddeeg



by Umm Ilhaam



**DKLearn About Islam Series** 

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After the Prophets and Messengers, Allaah chose Abu Bakr to be the best of people.

Abu Bakr was the khalifah (successor) to the Messenger of Allaah.

His name was Abdullah bin Uthman.

His father was Uthman, but was known by his kunya, Abi Kuhafah.

His mother was Salma bint Sakhr, who was also called Ummul Khair, and she was his father's cousin.

Some reports say that Abu Bakr was his family name.

Abu Bakr's lineage is connected to the lineage of Muhammad by Murrah.

Murrah is their common ancestor.

He was born in Makkah, two years and a few months ofter our Prophet Muhammad and was the companion of the Prophet from a very young age.

His early life was in Makkah, but later he would go out of Makkah for trading.

He was a very wealthy man.

Abu Bakr was a truthful man, even during the days of Jahiliyyah, before revelation came to the Prophet.

Later he was to be given the title As-Siddeeq.

He was a man of great character, who used to help those in difficulty and need.

He used to respect the ties of kinship and was hospitable to his guest.

It was the common practice at that time to drink wine and to write poetry, But Abu Bakr would not drink wine, nor would he write poetry.

When he was asked why he did not drink wine, he said, "He who drinks wine will lose his honour and manliness."

His daughter A'isha when she was asked to describe her father said, that he was a fair man with a slender build and who had a stoop.

He had thin cheeks, deep set eyes and a prominent forehead. He used to dye his hair with henna and indigo (katam).

As he was thin, his lower garment kept slipping over his loins, and was afraid when the Prophet said, "Whoever trails his robe haughtily, Allaah will not look upon him on the Day of Rising."

So when he told the Messenger that he was unable to prevent his garment from trailing, the Prophet said to him, "You do not do it out of haughtiness."

As he had grown up with the Messenger, Abu Bakr had seen signs of his Prophethood even before the revelation was sent to him.



So when Muhammad told him about Islam,

Abu Bakr never hesitated or delayed in accepting, unlike others who disliked or opposed it.

It is said that Abu Bakr was the first man to accept Islam. Khadeejah the first woman and Ali the first child.

Once he had accepted Islam, he became a very strong believer and began calling others to Islam as well, which was not an easy thing to do, with the strong opposition from the Quraysh.

Five of the companions who were promised Jannah, accepted Islam from him.

They were Uthman bin Affan, Zubair bin al Awwam, Sa'd bin Abi Waqqas, Talhah bin Ubaydullah and Abdur Rahman bin Awf

His belief was further strengthened and he was given the title As-Siddeeq, after the night journey of the Prophet to Bayt ul Maqdis in Jerusalem.

When the disbelievers of the Quraysh came and said, "O Abu Bakr! Are you aware of the news regarding your friend?

He says that last night he went to the Bayt al Maqdis, prayed there and returned to Makkah."

Abu Bakr asked, "Did you hear this from him?" They replied, "Yes, we heard it directly from him."

Abu Bakr responded, "By Allaah, if he said this, then it is undoubltedly true. Do not be at all surprised by this!"

Later, he went straight to the Prophet and asked him, "O Allaah's Apostle! Did you tell the community that you went to the Bayt ul Maqdis last night?"

When the Prophet replied, "Yes"

Abu Bakr said, "You speak the truth.

I testify to you being Allaah's Messenger."

When the Messenger heard this he said, "O Abu Bakr, you are Siddeeq (the Truthful) in any case."

From that day, Abu Bakr was referred to as "Siddeeq". Siddeeq means being undoubtedly and completely truthful.

It is said that the Prophet when he came down from the heavens, told Jibreel that no one would believe him when he told them about this night journey. But Jibreel replied, "Abu Bakr will believe you, and he is As-Siddeeq."

Once when the Messenger was standing on Mount Uhud with Abu Bakr, Umar and Uthman , the mountain began to shake.

The Messenger said to the mountain, "Be still!

There are only upon you a Prophet, a Siddeeq

and two martyrs."

Abu Bakr we used to worship, and recite the Qur'aan in public, and since he was a very kind and tender hearted man, he would weep much while reciting the Qur'aan.

The women and children of the disbelievers would stop to watch him and hear him recite. This made the Quraysh afraid, and they protested that it was affecting their women and children and asked him to stop praying and reciting in public.

His soft heart would be pained when he saw slaves, being tortured. Once when Abu Bakr was passing by, be saw Bilal, who became the first Muazzin, being tortured by his cruel master.

Abu Bakr went up to the master and asked him how long he would continue to torture Bilal.



The man replid, "Until he gives up the religion of Muhammad or until you free him."

So Abu Bakr paid some money and freed Bilal.

Cikewise when some slaves accepted Islam he would free them, among them young and old women.

His father asked him whey did not free strong men who would protect him.

Abu Bakr replied, "I wish for that which is with Allaah."

For this he was called Ateeq - the one who frees.

One time, while the Messenger was praying, a disbeliever tried to throttle him. It was Abu Bakr who came and defended him and said, "Would you kill a man because he says," My Lord is Allaah, and he has come with clear signs from your Lord."

He was the most beloved of people to the Messenger of Allaah. When the Messenger was asked who was the most beloeved people to him among the men, he replied, "Abu Bakr".

Abu Bakr www. would spend his wealth for the spreading of Islam. It is said that the ayats 17-21 of Surah al Layl, were revealed about Abu Bakr.

"And Al-Muttaqun will be far removed from it (Hell).

He who spends his wealth for increase in self-purification,

And who has (in mind) no favour from anyone to be paid back, Except to seek the Countenance of his Lord,

the Most High."

He surely will be pleased (when he enters Paradise).

When it was time for the Prophet to migrate to Madinah, he chose Abu Bakr to accompany him.

When the disbelievers heard Muhammad had left, they came in pursuit. The Prophet and abu Bakr had to hide in a cave. While hiding, they saw a few of them come very close.

Abu Bakr was afraid for the Prophet and said, "O Messenger of Allaah! If one of them (pagans) should lift up his foot, he will see us."

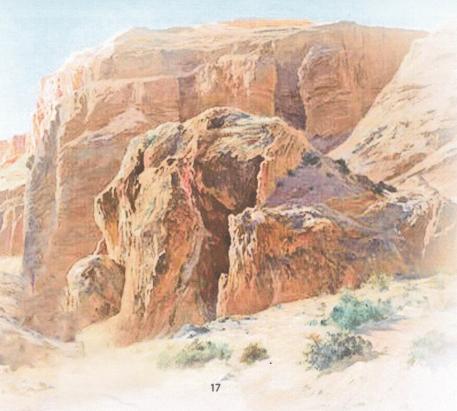
He said, "What do you think of two, the third of whom is Allaah?" Sahih al Bukhazi

And in the Quraan Surah at Taubah 9 vs. 40

If you help him (Muhammad ) not, (it does not matter),
for Allaah did indeed help him when the disbelievers
drove him out, the second of the two;
when they (Muhammad and Abu Bakr were in the cave,
he said to his companion (Abu Bakr),
"Be not sad (or afraid), surely Allaah is with us."

Then Allah sent down His Sakinah (calmness) upon him, and strengthened him with forces (angels), which you saw not. . ."

It is said that calmness descended on Abu Bakr and his fear settled.



He continued with his strong support to the Prophet in Madeenah.

During the battle of Badr, a shelter was made for the Prophet and it was Abu Bakr who stood close to him. Whenever an enemy came to attack the Prophet, Abu Bakr would swing his sword around and kill the enemy.

The following beautiful hadith in Sahih Muslim describes the effort Abu Bakr made to please Allaah his Lord.

"Once the Messenger of Allaah performed the dawn prayer, then turned to face his companions and said,

Who of you has started today, fasting?"

So Umar said, Messenger of Allaah, I did not decide to fast yesterday, so I have not begun today fasting."

Abu Bakr said, "But I did decide to fast yesterday, so I have begun today fasting."

The Messenger asked, "Has anyone of you today visited a sick person?" Umar said, since it was still early he had not yet done so.

Abu Bakr said,"I heard that my brother Abdur
Rahman ibn Awf is ill, so I visited him to see how he
was this morning."

The Prophet then asked, "Has anyone fed a poor person today?" Umar said, he had not yet.

Abu Bakr said, "I entered the mosque and there was a beggar. I found a piece of barley bread in my son Abdur Rahman's hand, so I took it and gave it to the beggar."

When the Messenger of Allaah heard this he said,
"Rejoice! He must go into Paradise the one who combines
in himself all these noble qualities and virtues."

Abdur Rahman bin abi Bakr said, Umar ibn al Khattab told me that whenever he attempted to be before Abu Bakr in a good action, Abu Bakr swas before him in it.

It is said that Allaah singled out Abu Bakres for four qualities for which He did not single out any other person.

He named him As-Siddeeq, he was the companion of the cave along with the Messenger of Allaah, he was the Messenger's close companion on the Hijrah, and the Messenger ordered him to lead the prayer.

Abu Bakr was also the most knowledgeable of the Qur'aan amongst his companions.

This is because he was the Imaam of the companions.

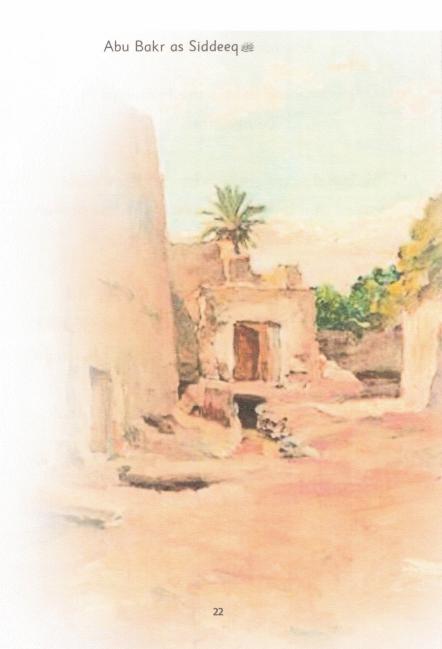
This is not surprising, as he was the closest companion and in the company of the Messenger of Allaah most of the time.

One day while addressing the people, the Messenger of Allaah said, Allaah the Blessed and Exalted has given a slave the choice between the world and that which is with Him.

The slave has chosen that which is with Allaah, Exalted is He."

When Abu Bakr heard this he wept. The people around him were astonished at his weeping.

They had not realized what the Prophet had said.



But Abu Bakr had understood, and knew that the Prophet was referring to himself and that his death was close. This had made him cry.

There were many indications that the Prophet \*\* wanted Abu Bakr to be the leader after him.

Once a woman came to meet the Prophet and he asked her to come back to him later.

She asked him what she should do if she came and could not find him.

It was as if she was saying, if he had died.

The Prophet replied, "If you do not find me, then come to Abu Bakr."

When the Prophet was ill and it became severe, he was unable to conduct the daily prayers.

So he told A'isha to ask Abu Bakr to conduct the prayer, again indicating that Abu Bakr would be his successor.

Cater when the Prophet passed away, the people were shocked and dismayed. Umar could not believe it and threatened to cut off the hands and legs of those who said, the Prophet had died.

Abu Bakr had gone out of Madeenah at that time, but when the news reached him, he returned and went immediately to the house of the Prophet uncovered his face and kissed him.

His closest companion had died.

Although he was heartbroken, he stood firm.

He climbed the mimbar and addressed the people with a mighty statement. Abu Bakr said, "As for he who used to worship Muhammad, then know that Muhammad has died.

And as for he who used to worship Allaah si, then Allaah is living and never dies.



# And then he recited the verse from Surah Aali Imran

Muhammad (\*\*) is no more than a Messenger, and indeed (many) Messengers have passed away before him. If he dies or is killed, will you then turn back on your heels (as disbelievers)? And he who turns back on his heels, not the least harm will he do to Allaah; and Allaah will give reward to those who are grateful.

Surah aali Imran 3 vs. 144



Muhammad was the last and final of all the Prophets and Messengers. There would not be a Prophet or Messenger after him.

Abu Bakr was made the khalifah or leader of the Muslims, after the death of the Prophet.

During his period as the khalifah, when a matter was brought to him, he would first look for the solution in the Qur'aan.

If he did not find one, he would look into the sunnah of the Prophet.

Allaah bis blessed Abu Bakr as a khalifah. Although his term was short, only a little more than two years, he ruled the people well. The character of Abu Bakr was beautifully described, when Ali said to him,

"You were the first of the people to accept Islaam and the most sincere of them in Eeman (faith).

You were the best of them as a companion, and the most like the Messenger in both guidance and humility, and the most generous of them to him.

You succeeded him in the religion well, when the people left Islaam, and you held firm to the methodology of the Messenger.

You were like a mountain that was not moved by the storm nor crushed by the quake. You are modest with yourself, and great with Allaah.

And the closest people to you are the most obedient to Allaah and the most pious."

Abu Bakr died between Maghrib and Isha prayers on Tuesday, the evening of the 23rd of Jumad ath Thani in the thirteenth year after Hijrah.

Before he died he appointed Umar bin al Khattab as the leader of the believers after him.

It is narrated that the Messenger of Allaah. said, "There has been no Prophet but that he had two deputies from the heaven and two deputies from the earth.

As for my two deputies from the people of heaven, they are Jibreel and Mika'eel, and as for my two deputies from the people of earth, they are Abu Bakr and Umar."

Tirmidhi

May Allaah be pleased with Abu Bakr and all the rightly guided khalifs, and all the companions of the Messenger.

May He join us with them in Jannah, with those whom Allaah has favoured from the Prophets, the truthful the martyrs and the righteous.

Aameen.

And whoso obey Allah and the Messenger Muhammad then they will be in the company of those on whom Allaah has bestowed His Grace, of the Prophets, the Siddiqun (those followers of the Prophets who were first and foremost to believe in them, like Abu Bakr As-Siddiq, the martyrs, and the righteous.

And how excellent these companions are!

Surah an Nisaa 4 vs. 69

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This is a very short biography of Abu Bakr, the first Khalifah. This book is based on 'The History of the Khalifahs who took the right way' by Jalal ad-Din as-Suyuti, and the 'The Virtues of Abu Bakr as-Siddeeq 'by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Salih al-Uthaymeen (rahimahullah).

The link is below

https://abdurrahman.org/2013/02/10/from-the-virtues-of-abu-bakr-as-siddeeq-radiallaahu-taaala-anhu-shaikh-muhammad-ibn-salih-al-uthai meen-rahimahullaah/