

Engravement on the ring of the Messenger of Allaah

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

From Anas bin Maalik who said:

‘The engravement on the ring of the Messenger of Allaah -sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam– had the word ‘Muhammad’ on a line, the word ‘Rasool’ on a separate line and the word ‘Allaah’ on a separate line.’

In another narration from him:

‘The Prophet -sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam– wanted to write to Kisrah (Persian King), Caesar and Najashi. It was said to the Prophet: ‘they do not accept a letter if it is not stamped.

So, the Messenger of Allaah -sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam– had a ring forged and its ring was made of silver. It had Muhammad Messenger of Allaah engraved on it [it is as if I can see the whiteness of it on his palm.]’¹

Shaykh Abdur-Razzaq al-Badr said:

‘In this Hadeeth it mentions that the stamp of the Prophet -sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam– was made up of three words, which are: ‘Muhammad’ ‘Messenger’ the word ‘Allaah’. These words were not on one line, but they were on three lines, ‘Muhammad’: one line, and ‘Messenger’: on another line, and the word: ‘Allaah’ on a line, and that is perhaps -and Allaah Ta’ala knows best- due to the impossibility that the three words to be written on the ring on one line.

What is apparent from the hadeeth is that the first line from the top had: ‘Muhammad’, the second: ‘Rasool’ and the third: ‘Allaah’. This was what was engraved and there was nothing else on it.’²

¹ [Collected by Tirmidhee, Bukhaaree in ‘Chapter: Should the engravement on a ring be three lines’, Muslim, Aboo Dawood, Nasaa’ee, Albaanee graded it Saheeh in Mukhtasir ash-Shamail al-Muhammadeeyah p.58. Also by Bukhaaree from another chain: ‘Chapter: Taking a ring to stamp things with it or to write with it to the people of the book and others’ Muslim and Aboo Dawood]

² [Sharh Shamail an-Nabi p. 109]