

Excellence of the Noble Family & Companions of Nabi ﷺ

Ummul Mu'mineen Hazrat Safiyyah bint Huyay رضي الله عنهما

Name: Safiyyah bint Huyay bin Akhtab

Mother's name: Darrah

Demise: She passed away in Ramadan 50 A.H. and lies buried in Jannatul Baqi

Huyay was a Jewish chief from the progeny of Hazrat Haroon عليه السلام, the brother of Hazrat Moosa عليه السلام.

Hazrat Safiyyah (RA) was married to Salaam ibn Mishkam Qurazi. When he divorced her, she married Kinanah bin Abil Huqayq. During the Battle of Khaybar, Kinanah was killed and Hazrat Safiyyah (RA) was captured as a prisoner of war. Hazrat Dihya Kalbi رضي الله عنه placed forward his request for a servant and Rasulullah ﷺ made her over to him. At this, other Sahabah رضي الله عنهم approached Rasulullah ﷺ and said, "O Rasulullah ﷺ! Banu Nazir and Banu Quraizah (Jewish tribes) will feel offended to see the daughter of a Jewish chief working as a servant. We therefore suggest that she be taken as your wife."

Rasulullah ﷺ freed her and said to her, "You are now free; if you wish you may go back to your tribe or you may be my wife." Hazrat Safiyyah (RA) replied, "I longed to be with you whilst I was a Jew, how can I leave you now when I am a Muslim?" Thus, Rasulullah ﷺ accepted her into his Nikah with her freedom as dowry. Upon departing from Khaybar, Rasulullah ﷺ, stopped at a place called Sahba. It was here that Rasulullah ﷺ consummated the marriage and also had prepared a Walimah.

Virtues

On one occasion Rasulullah ﷺ went to Hazrat Safiyyah (RA) and found her crying. When he asked her the reason for this, she replied, "Hazrat Ayesha and Hazrat Hafsa رضي الله عنهما are claiming that they are more beloved and honoured in your eyes than me. Apart from being your wives they are also related to you." Rasulullah ﷺ replied, "Why did not say to them, 'How can you be more honoured than me? My father is Hazrat Haroon عليه السلام, my uncle is Hazrat Moosa عليه السلام and my husband is Hazrat Muhammad ﷺ.'" (Tirmizi)

Hazrat Abdullah bin Mughaffal رضي الله عنه narrates that Rasulullah ﷺ said: "(Fear) Allah, (fear) Allah regarding my Sahabah. (Fear) Allah, (fear) Allah regarding my Sahabah. Do not make them a target of criticism after me. Whoever loves them, it is based on love for me that he loves them. Whoever hates them, it is based on hatred for me that he hates them. Whoever harms them, harms me. Whoever harms me, harms Allah. Whoever harms Allah, very soon Allah will seize (punish) him". (Mishkat)



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