#### Sa'id ibn 'Amir



Level: Beginner

Sa'id ibn 'Amir, may Allah be pleased with him, was one of the best companions of the Prophet . He was known for his devotion to worship and his asceticism, yet despite these qualities, he was also one of the leaders of the Muslims. Sa'id migrated to Medina while he was still young, embraced Islam, and pledged allegiance to the Prophet before the Battle of Khaybar. He witnessed Khaybar and the battles that followed. He became famous for his jihad in the cause of Allah, his piety.

'Umar ibn al-Khattab appointed Sa'id as the governor of Homs, but Sa'id initially refused. 'Umar became angry and said to him, "You make me the Caliph, but you refuse to assist me in carrying the burdens of the Caliphate? I will not let you go until you accept to be the governor of Homs." Sa'id accepted the position.

After some time, 'Umar visited Homs and held a large gathering. He asked the people, "O people of Homs, how have you found your governor, Sa'id ibn 'Amir?" They complained about four things: "He does not come out to us until late in the morning," to which 'Umar responded, "This is a serious matter. What else?" They said, "He does not respond to anyone at night." 'Umar said, "This is also serious. What else?" They said, "He has one day each month when he does not come out to us." 'Umar said, "This is also serious. What else?" They said, "He sometimes faints." So 'Umar gathered Sa'id and the people and asked them to tell him what they were complaining about.

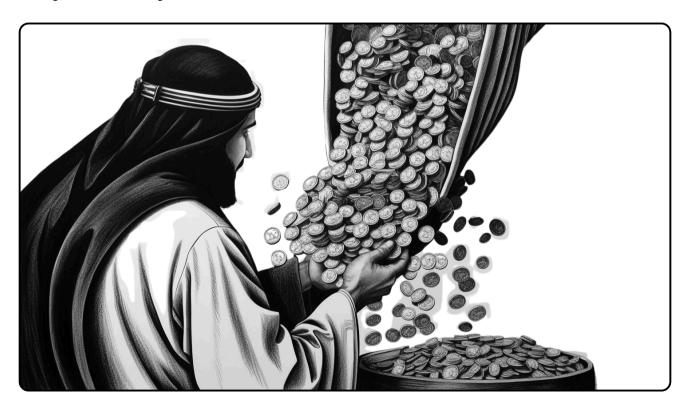
They said, "He does not come out to us until the day is well advanced." 'Umar asked Sa'id, "What do you have to say about this?" Sa'id replied, "By Allah, I hate to mention this, but I have no servant, so I knead my dough, let it rise, bake my bread, then perform ablution, and then I come out to them."

'Umar asked, "What else do you complain about?" They said, "He does not respond to anyone at night." 'Umar asked, "What do you have to say about this?" Sa'id replied, "I hate to mention this, but I have dedicated the day for them and the night for Allah, the Almighty."

'Umar asked, "What else do you complain about?" They said, "He has one day each month when he does not come out to us." 'Umar asked, "What do you have to say about this?" Sa'id replied, "I do not have a servant to wash my clothes, and I do not have other clothes to change into, so I wash them and wait for them to dry, then I go out to them at the end of the day." 'Umar asked, "What else do you complain about?" They said, "He sometimes faints." 'Umar asked, "What do you have to say about this?"

Sa'id replied, "I witnessed the execution of Khubayb al-Ansari in Mecca, and Quraysh cut his flesh and then carried him on a log. They asked him, 'Would you like Muhammad to be in your place?' He replied, 'By Allah, I would not want to be with my family and children while a thorn pricks Muhammad ...' Whenever I remember that day and my failure to assist him in that situation while I was still a polytheist who did not believe in Allah the Almighty, I fear that Allah will never forgive me for that sin." This causes me to faint. 'Umar then said, "Praise be to Allah, who did not disgrace me through you."

One day 'Umar sent Sa'id one thousand dinars and said, "Use this to help you in your affairs." His wife said, "Praise be to Allah, who has enriched us from your service." Sa'id then asked, "Would you like something better than that? We can give it to those who will bring it when we need it most." She replied, "Yes." So he called a man from his household whom he trusted and told him to distribute it in bundles: "Take this to the widow of such-and-such family, to the orphan of such-and-such family, to the poor of such-and-such family, and to the afflicted of such-and-such family." After distributing it all, only a single gold coin remained. Sa'id said to his wife, "Spend this," and then he returned to his work. His wife said, "Won't you buy us a servant? What happened to that money?" Sa'id replied, "It will come back to you when you need it most."



# TRUE OR FALSE

- 1. Sa'id ibn 'Amir was the governor of Homs for his entire life.
- 2. Sa'id ibn 'Amir initially accepted the governorship of Homs without hesitation.
- 3. Sa'id ibn 'Amir dedicated the night to worship and the day to serving the people of Homs.
- 4. Sa'id ibn 'Amir gave the one thousand dinars sent by 'Umar to the poor and needy.
- 5. Sa'id ibn 'Amir felt no guilt for his past actions, even when he recalled Khubayb al-Ansari's martyrdom.

# FILL IN THE BLANK

1. Sa'id ibn 'Amir was appointed as the governor of by 'Umar ibn al-Khattab.
2. The people of Homs complained that Sa'id ibn 'Amir did not come out
to them until in the morning.
3. Sa'id ibn 'Amir dedicated his to the people and his
to worshiping Allah.
4. When Sa'id ibn 'Amir remembered the execution of Khubayb al-Ansari,
he would faint due to the guilt he felt for not him.
5. Sa'id ibn 'Amir used the one thousand dinars from 'Umar ibn al-Khattab
to

## Multiple Choice Questions:

- 1- What did the people of Homs complain about regarding Sa'id ibn 'Amir's leadership?
- a) He spent too much time with the people of Medina
- b) He didn't come out to them early in the morning
- c) He was not generous with his wealth
- d) He gave too much time to his family
- 2- When Sa'id ibn 'Amir was appointed as the governor of Homs, how did he react?
- a) He eagerly accepted the position
- b) He initially refused the position
- c) He immediately moved to Homs
- d) He asked for a different position
- 3- How did Sa'id ibn 'Amir deal with the one thousand dinars sent by 'Umar ibn al-Khattab?
- a) He used it to buy luxury items for his household
- b) He distributed it among the poor and needy
- c) He kept it for his personal savings
- d) He sent it back to 'Umar ibn al-Khattab
- 4- What caused Sa'id ibn 'Amir to faint, according to his explanation?
- a) His heavy workload as governor
- b) The emotional impact of witnessing the martyrdom of Khubayb al-Ansari
- c) His concern for his own health d) A physical injury from battle
- 5- How did Sa'id ibn 'Amir's ascetic lifestyle influence his governance in Homs?
- a) He was known for being harsh with the people of Homs
- b) He dedicated his time to personal wealth accumulation
- c) He prioritized worship and service to Allah over administrative duties
- d) He neglected the needs of the people in favor of personal gain

## Answer the Questions

- 1- How would you respond if you were in Sa'id ibn 'Amir's position, balancing the responsibilities of leadership and personal devotion?
- 2- What can we learn from Sa'id ibn 'Amir's attitude toward money and his charitable actions in terms of how we should handle wealth?
- 3- How do Sa'id ibn 'Amir's feelings of guilt over not helping Khubayb al-Ansari remind us of the importance of helping others and taking responsibility for our actions?
- 4- How can Sa'id ibn 'Amir's ascetic lifestyle serve as a model for someone seeking to prioritize spiritual growth over materialism?
- 5- What does Sa'id ibn 'Amir's response to the complaints of the people of Homs teach us about humility and accountability in leadership?

#### Sa'id ibn Amir

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SAID UMAR HOMS AMIR MECCA THORN

KHUBAYB MEDINA FAMILY

