

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS: CASE OF OMAR IBNUL KHATTAB

Question: It was mentioned in the Sira that when Omar Ibnul Khattab embraced Islam and the Muslims became stronger, the Messenger of Allah (SAW) took the Muslims out in two rows, one headed by Omar and the other by Hamza. How do we reconcile between the command of the Messenger of Allah (SAW) to Omar, i.e the fact that he was considered of the Kutla while he had not become a Sahabi yet, i.e while he had not fulfilled the conditions of the Sahabi yet?

Answer: It is well known that Omar Ibnul Khattab accompanied the Messenger of Allah (SAW) since he embraced Islam. Besides, for the likes of Omar the question of whether they are Sahaba or not need not be asked. As for the two rows who came out and proclaimed the Da'awa and the assignment given to Omar and Hamza, in addition to their confirmed Suhba (companionship) of the Messenger of Allah (SAW), the command to perform a duty for Islam is not dependent on the obligated being a Sahabi. The Messenger of Allah (SAW) used to command all the Muslims, without differentiating between a Sahabi and a non Sahabi from among the Muslims. Likewise, the party assigns the various tasks to those whom it has confidence in their ability to perform the task, whether they were from the party or otherwise. Just like the Messenger of Allah (SAW) did not differentiate between the Muslims, likewise the party.

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