

Yesterday we learnt about Abdullah b Masud. He was the sixth person to accept Islam, knew the Quran. The prophet (s) taught him 70 Surahs directly.

He said, there is not a surah of the Quran except that I know where, why it was revealed. Despite all this knowledge he would say that if I knew that any person knew something of the Quran I do not know I would ride on a camel and travel to him and learn from him.

Omar (r) sent him to Kufa to teach, govern and manage the public treasury. In Kufah, Ibn Masud was the Faqeeh who would teach people, give them fatwa regarding their matters.

Of the students of his students was Imam Abu Hanifah as well.

How did he serve the Prophet (s)?

- Carry his sandals, pillow, and the container in which was wudu water. Any thing the Prophet (s) needed he would carry for him.
- He could say I am so short and weak in my body, how can I carry all this?
- Don't make any weakness of yours a reason for you to stay behind. Allah will give you the strength, you make the intention
- How obedient he was to the Prophet (S). When he (s) instructed people to sit down, Ibn Masud was at the door and he sat right there.
- His dua: Iman that does not leave, everlasting blessings, and companionship of the Prophet (s) in Jannah
- He would stop people from innovations - at home and also outside
- How did he deal with those he differed with? He differed with them but did not become divided
- He did not sleep after Fajr. He kept sending his servant outside to check the sun... why? So he could pray Ishraq.
- Real knowledge is what you take with you in your heart, and what becomes a part of you, not what you write in your books. Real knowledge is what adorns you. Ilm is the most precious adornment, that decorates us from inside and outside. So what do you remember, what did you think about from yesterday's lesson?
- The one who realizes the true benefit of seeking knowledge, then he never becomes satisfied, he keeps learning. And if the goal of learning is just a difficult test, so we can get a certificate then that becomes burdensome and difficult.

- What you learn, then intend to act upon it also. Do not think they were Sahabah, great people so all these good deeds were for them, and I am so weak... what can I do? Intend, and do to the best of your ability.
- The common thing in all the companions, behind their greatness: Their sacrifice and bearing hardships. We have every amenity and facility available to us... we dont have to walk all the way to class... but its so difficult for us to get out in the cold and rain.
- He spent so much time with the Prophet (s) serving him that people thought he was related to the Prophet (s), and he resembled the Prophet (s) in his manner, etiquette, habits...
- So honest he was even before Islam that he did not give the milk to the Prophet (s) and AbuBakr. It was their honesty that brought barakah in their lives. One is that we do our work properly out of fear of people, if we want barakah then we must do our work correctly out of fear of Allah, no matter where we are and who we are dealing with.
- His relationship with the Quran: The Prophet (s) asked him to recite the Quran. If anyone were to ask us, read Quran, what would we do? We would probably look down out of embarrassment.
- People were doing dhikr on date seeds, and he advised them count your sins instead... and he told his son also: weep over your sins.