Amin-ul-Ummah Hazrat Abu Ubaida Bin Jarrah Status and Position in Islam (A Historical Analysis)

Dr. Naseem Akhter
Associate Professor, Department of Islamic Studies, Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar, Pakistan.
Email: khtr_nsm@yahoo.com

Received on: 02-11-2021 Accepted on: 03-12-2021

Abstract
Hazrat Abu Ubaida (RA) was noble personality of Islam and he belonged to the famous tribe of Quraesh at Makkah. Hazrat Abu Obadiah is one of the earliest followers and followers of Islam. He was a preacher of Islam and a dutiful general. He was a close associate of the Holy Prophet. He took part in many campaigns and was honored to raise the banner of Islam. Allah’s Apostle gave him the title of Amin-ul-Ummah. Besides, the Prophet called him the best man. He took part in many battles and showed the essence of bravery. In the time of Hazrat Abu Bakar, he was appointed the commander of the Muslim army sent to the front of Syria against the Roman forces. Due to his bravery Muslims became victorious and the entire country of Syria was conquered under his command. He was also the governor of Syria for some time. The publication of Islam includes his valuable services. This dissertation highlights the personality of Hazrat Abu Obadiah and his services to Islam.

Keywords: Islam, Ameen-ul-Umat, Abu Ubaida, Commander, Syria etc.

Introduction
The real name of Hazrat Abu Ubadah's was Amir and Abu Ubadah was his surname while Amin Al-Uma was his title. His father's name was Abdullah but he was named after his grandfather and became known as Ibn Al-Jarrah. Hazrat Abu Ubadah is among one of the first to convert to Islam. Hazrat Abu Ubadah embraced Islam on the invitation of Hazrat Abu Bakar a very close friend to him. After being a Muslim he devoted him-self for Prophet (PBUH) and Islam his whole life. Due to his love and services he received the title of Amin-ul-Ummah and Naim-ul-Rajul from the Holy Prophet (PBUH). During the life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) He also participated in various war campaigns and expeditions with had the honor of leading the army. During these campaigns he achieved unprecedented success. During the caliphate of Amir al-Muminin Hazrat Umar Farooq, he was appointed commander in chief of Syria and conquered Syria. He died of a plague. Hazrat Abu Ubadah's religious services are unparalleled. Which is not easy to cover but in this research article their position and role has been highlighted. Especially during the conquests of Syria and during his illness, the mutual tolerance, religious harmony, adherence to the rules of Islamic law and perseverance during
Amin-ul-Ummah Hazrat Abu Ubaida Bin Jarrah Status and Position in Islam ...

the outbreak is an ideal lesson for the people of today.¹

Research Methodology
Historically, this is an analytical study with the help of historical sources and in this context, the completion of this dissertation has been completed with the help of primary and secondary sources while adopting values thinking with historical method of research. In addition to the Quran and Hadith, biography and biography books and history books have ensured the completion of this subject.

Review of Literature
Many of the books that have been reviewed are of very historical significance. Apart from Quran and Hadith, History of Islam, Sira Hisham, Tabqat Ibn Saad, Tarikh Tabari, Tarikh Masoodi, Tarikh Ibn Katheer, Tarikh Ibn Khaldun, Tarikh Islam Akbar Shah Khan, Tarikh Islam Shah Moinul Haq, Hayat Sahaba, Sira Ashra Muashra Jan Nisaran Islam and many other secondary books. The important aspect of this article is that all the scattered information has been collected.

Discussion
Amir, from the Banu Fahir tribe, became known as Abu Ubaida. On the list, their lineage is traced back to the Prophet (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon Him). He converted to Islam in the early days of Islam and was formerly known as Al-Awlon. The Prophet (PBUH) was blessed and he joined the ten lucky ones who received the glad tidings of being the people of Paradise in their life that is why these ten companions were called evangelists. There is a narration from Hazrat Abdul Rahman Bin Auwf about these ten companions. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said: Abu Bakar (R.A), Umar (R.A), Usman (R.A), Ali (R.A), Saad bin Abi Waqas and Saeed bin Zaid, Zubair Bin Awam, Talah, Bin Abdullah, Abdul Rahman Bin Auwf and Abu Ubaida bin Jarrah in Paradise.²

Abu Ubaida Bin Jarrah also had the privilege of emigrating to Abyssinia and Medina on the path of truth. After the migration of the Holy Prophet to Madina, at every step the companions of the Holy Prophet appeared and took full part in the conquests. Josh was a scholar of faith who fought against his father in the battle of Badr in the field of truth and falsehood and killed him for not accepting it. In the same way, on the day of the battle of Uhud, an unparalleled example of love was to pull out the iron rings that were stuck in the teeth of the Holy Prophet (saw) with his teeth so that the pain of the Holy Prophet (saw) could be removed and he sacrificed his two teeth in this endeavors.³ The Companions loved the Prophet (PBUH) immensely and the Prophet (PBUH) loved his companions very much. But some of them were special, as Abdullah bin Shafiq (R.A) says that Hazrat Abu Ubaida was close to the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) as in this regard, Umm Al-Muminin Hazrat Ayesha says that after Abu Bakar and Umar (R.A) Abu Ubaida was beloved to the Holy Prophet (PBUH).⁴ The reason for his closeness to the Prophet (PBUH) was their sacrifices for Islam. One of the reasons for his closeness was their love for Prophet (PBUH). He used to fulfill this hadith;

\[ 	ext{لَيْسَ فَإِنَّكُمْ لَا تَهْتَدُونَ إِلَّا بِغَيْرِ الْيَسِرِّ} \]

He was ready to make any sacrifice for the greatness and glory of the Holy Prophet and Islam. When the war broke out, his father Quraysh joined Mecca. And Hazrat Abu Ubaida killed them saying that you have come to fight with those who are fighting against the Messenger of God.⁵

[ 311 ]
This verse of the Holy Quran refers:


You will not find a people who believe in God and the Last Day, that they will love those who oppose God and His Messenger, whether they be their fathers, their sons, their brothers, or their families. In whose hearts God has imprinted faith and helped them with His unseen blessings.

Hazrat Abu Ubaida was present in the battle of Uhud. In the battle of Uhud, when a stone hit Prophet (PBUH) face and the links attached into the Prophet's cheek, Hazrat Abu Ubaida could not bear it. He pulled these links with your teeth so hard that both the links came out but two of your teeth were martyred. He became very dear to this sacrifice.

Hisham reported the event in little bit different as he said, In the battle of Uhud, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) was wounded. Seeing this, Hazrat Abu Bakar Siddiq (RA) and Hazrat Abu Ubaida (RA) ran to the sacred service. When he started pulling out the first link, he fell back violently and one of his teeth was broken. But he did not care about his injury and took second link from the face of the Prophet (PBUH) but in doing so he fell again and the other tooth was also broken. Hazrat Abu Ubaida was not only present at the time of the treaty of Hudaybiya but also had his testimony on the covenant made by the Quraysh with Makkah as a Nobel and remarkable personality of Arabia. This hadith of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) shows his greatness; Surely every nation has a trustee and O (my) people! Indeed, our trustee is Abu Ubaida Bin Al-Jarrah (RA). Hazrat Abu Imam (AS) says: Once the Holy Prophet (SAW) was sitting with Hazrat Abu Bakar, Hazrat Umar (RA) and Hazrat Abu Ubaida (RA) with a group of Companions. He gave the bowl to Hazrat Abu Ubaida and Hazrat Abu Ubaida asked for it. O Messenger of Allah: You have more right over this bowl than me. The Holy Prophet said: You take it. Take it, the Holy Prophet said: You drink, because the blessing is with our elders and he who does not respect our elders and does not show compassion to the younger ones, is not one of us.

In a Hadeth the Holy Prophet (PBUH) said:

Abu Bakar (Siddiq) is a good man, Umar is a good man, Abu Ubaida bin Al-Jarrah is a good man, Aseed bin Hudhaira is a good man, Sabit bin Qais bin Shamas is a good man, Maaz bin Jabal is a good man (and) Maaz bin Amr bin Al-Jumuh Good man.

It is narrated on the authority of Anas that Prophet (PBUH) said:

The most kind to my Ummah is Abu Bakar in my Ummah. In the matter of Allah (religion) is the strictest age is Umar, in shyness and modesty is the most true Usman, the greatest scholar of knowledge (inheritance) is Zaid bin Sabit the greatest reader is Abi bin Kaab, halal and The one who knows the most forbidden is Maaz (Ibn Jabal) and the trustee of this Ummah is Abu Ubaida Bin Al-Jarrah [may Allah be pleased with them].

After Prophet PBUH he became the great supporter of Islam during difficult time as He reached Saqeefa Bani Saadah. Hazrat Abu Bakar before the Khilafah, when the Ansar became
Amin-ul-Ummah Hazrat Abu Ubaida Bin Jarrah Status and Position in Islam ...

the claimants of the Khilafah, Hazrat Abu Ubaida said to the Ansar about the allegiance of Hazrat Abu Bakr: “O” group of Ansar! You are the first group to support the Messenger of God Do not be the first group to make a fuss before.\(^{15}\) Hazrat Abu Bakar Siddiq, after ascending the throne, in 13 AH, organized war on Syria from many sides. When all are gathered in one place, Abu Ubaida will be the general. When Hazrat Abu Ubaida (RA) came out of the Arab frontier, he was confronted by a large number of Roman armies. On the orders of the Khilafah court, they joined the Syrian army fighting small battles on the way and the united army conquered Basra, and Ajnadin and laid siege to Damascus.\(^{16}\) The siege of Damascus was going on when the first caliph responded to the call for death and in the early rule of Farooq Azam Khalid bin Waleed with awake brains and good tactics broke through the wall and entered the city and opened the gates, Hazrat Abu Ubaidah Standing ready, they immediately went inside. When the Christians saw this color, they reconciled with the Islamic leader Salar-e-Azam with expediency. Hazrat Khalid did not know. Save us from Khalid. The two men met in the middle of the bazaar. Hazrat Abu Ubaidah made peace with him. From here the small muqats conquered and marched towards Homs and spread the siege. The people of Homs resisted for some time in the hope of help, but when they were disappointed on all sides they automatically surrendered the city.\(^{17}\) It is said that he made it a habit to seek the understanding of the enemies of Islam by providing services for the glory of Islam and Hazrat Omar visited Baitul Muqaddas on the request of Abu Ubaida to save and conquest the Bait-ul-Muqaddas without blood.\(^{18}\) Hazrat Omar (RA) visited the Governor’s House, and when he saw it, his fingers became numb. In the residence of Hazrat Abu Ubaida bin Jarrah, the provincial governor, there was only a broken bed, a sword and a shield in the Governor house.\(^{19}\) In 18 AH, the plague spread to all the conquered lands with great severity, especially in Syria. Omar, hearing of the severity of the situation, first sought the advice of the Muhajireen and then the Ansar. They all gave different opinions. He said that it would be appropriate for the people to evacuate from here, so Hazrat Omar (AS) preached that I will return tomorrow morning, let’s all go together, since Hazrat Abu Ubaidah (AS) was a strong believer in destiny, so he disliked this order. Said with air and freedom " Afrara min Qadir Allah " i.e you run away from the divine destiny. Hazrat Omar (AS) used to dislike to disagree with the opinion of Hazrat Abu Ubaida (AS) towards Divine Destiny. Umar returned to Madina and wrote a letter to Abu Ubaida asking him to come here for a few days. You have some work to do. I can’t leave here to save my life except Muslims. \(^{20}\) The humility and modesty of the trustworthy Ummah can be gauged from the fact that despite being the Commander-in-Chief, he never maintained his authority. Once a Roman messenger came, he was surprised to see that everyone here is immersed in the same color; at last he asked nervously who is the chief? People pointed to Hazrat Abu Ubaidah and saw a very modest-looking Arab sitting on the ground floor. The idea of Islamic equality was to some extent that even an ordinary Muslim soldier in his camp had the same honor as a great chief, once a Muslim sheltered a soldier of booty. Abu Ubaidah’s kindness and compassion was common to all God’s people. In Syria, his compassion and kindness had made Christians indebted to him. However, he requested that the cross be allowed to be erected at least once a year on the day of Eid. Hazrat Abu Ubaidah gladly accepted the request. Done and happily
Amin-ul-Ummah Hazrat Abu Ubaida Bin Jarrah Status and Position in Islam...

began to perform the duties of espionage and intelligence. The circumstances of the family life of Hazrat Abu Ubaida are unknown but it is so certain that the spirit of separation from Allah did not allow the wife and children to develop extraordinary passion. From here the small muqats conquered and marched towards Homs and spread the siege. The people of Homs resisted for some time in the hope of help, but when they were disappointed on all sides, they automatically handed over the city to Abu Ubaida. Leaving Ibada Bin Samet, he turned towards Latakia and died on the way to Shiraz, Hama, Marat al-Nu’man and other places, raising the Islamic flag. It was a very fortified place. Hazrat Abu Ubaida adopted a new strategy to conquer it, namely digging many hidden caves in the field and lifting the siege and leaving for Homs. He believed in the unseen, and with satisfaction opened the door of the city and engaged in business. But Hazrat Abu Ubaida was hiding in the caves with his soldiers that night. And they went out in the morning and entered the city and raised the flag of Islam with ease.

During the reign of Hazrat Abu Bakar and Hazrat Umar, he rendered invaluable military services. Hazrat Umar (RA) appointed him as Amir instead of Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed (RA). The Syrian conquests took place under his leadership. In 5 AH an epidemic broke out in the region of Syria, in which many of the Companions lost their lives. Hazrat Abu Ubaida (may Allah be pleased with him) also called for death in the same disease. Hazrat Abu Ubaida passed away at the age of 58 years and in this short period of time he saw the scene of his amazing deeds. Hazrat Maaz Bin Jabal (RA) offered funeral prayers and was buried at Maqam Besan.

Conclusion
The summary of this whole debate is that Hazrat Abu Ubaida Bin Jarrah has the privilege of being a great personality of the Islamic world and also the dearest companion of the Prophet of Islam. Your publication is second to none in the service of Islam. You were a warlord. Hazrat Abu Ubaida belonged to Banu Fahr branch of Quraysh. In the early days of Islam, the circle of Islam entered and began to be counted among the martyrs of the Prophet. He did not compromise on the greatness and progress of Islam. In the battle of Badr, he killed his father with his own hands when he joined the infidels on the battlefield. In the battle of Uhud, he remained steadfast with the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) regardless of his life. In the same way, in the days of the pious caliphate, you were counted among the great people. During the caliphate of Hazrat Abu Bakr, he was sent as the commander of the army on the Syrian front and succeeded in many expeditions. The series of conquests was still going on when Hazrat Abu Bakr passed away and in the caliphate of Hazrat Umar Farooq also fulfilled the responsibilities of his commander and governor of Syria. In 18 AH, a plague broke out in the whole country of Syria, as a result of which thousands of Muslims were martyred. So, despite the caliph’s call, he remained near Amwas, suffering from depression, and thus died at the age of fifty-eight. His numerous services helped to strengthen Islam. And so your name will always be bright.

References

2. Imam Eisa Tarimzi, Jami-e-Tarimzi, Hadees No. 3682.
3. Ahmad Bin Yahya Balazri, Ansab-ul-Ashraf, Vol-I1, Cairo, 1959, P.115
5. Al-Bukhari, Bab-ul-Eman, Hadeth No. 15
6. Ib-e-Saad, P.138
7. Al-Quran, AL- Mujadiñah, 22
8. Tabqat Ibne Saad, P.262
10. Ibn-e-Saad, Maghazi, P.62
11. Sahih-Al-Muslim, 2419.
12. Salman Bin Ahmad, Tabrani, Mojim-ul-Kabeer, Baghdad, P. 10
17. Balazri, Fatooh-ul-Baldan, Cairo, 1956, P.165
19. Allama Abdul Muhammed Mubashir, Ashra Mubashra, Lahore, P. 121.
20. Ibn-e-Saad, Tabqat Ibn-e-Saad, P.301