

Debate Between Al-Hajjaaj and Sa`eed bin Jubayr

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Hiwar Bayn at-Taqiyy wa-sh-Shaqiyy

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Al Hajjaaj kept pursuing the noble scholar Sa`eed bin Jubayr for eight years or more until he eventually found him.

Bin Jubayr was a scholar known for his scrupulous piety and a man of great knowledge and action who was waging jihad to raise the flag of La ilaha ill Allah the uppermost.

When he was arrested - as in the story mentioned by the author of Tuhfatul Ahwadhi - Sa`eed bin Jubayr entered upon al Hajjaaj, so al Hajjaaj told him: **"What is your name (and he knew his name well)?"**

He answered: **"Sa`eed bin Jubayr."**

So Al Hajjaaj responded to him saying: **"Nay, you are Shaqiy bin Kusayr."** (Al-Hajjaaj is playing with words here: Sa`eed means happy and Shaqiy means unhappy, wretched. Jubayr means one who splints broken bones, and Kusayr one who breaks them.)

Sa`eed told him: **"My mother knew better when she named me."**

So Al Hajjaaj told him: **"You are wretched (shaqayta) and your mother is wretched"** (shaqiyat - Al Hajjaaj is again playing with words, referring to Shaqiyy - "unhappy/wretched"). Then he told him: **"By Allah, I will replace your dunya with a blazing Fire."**

Sa`eed said, **"If I knew you could do it, I would take you as a god."**

So al Hajjaaj told him, **"I have gold and wealth."**

Bags of gold and silver were brought and spread before Sa`eed bin Jubayr in order to try him.

Sa`eed bin Jubayr said: **"O Hajjaaj, if you gathered it to be seen and heard in show-off, and to use it to avert others from the way of Allah, then by Allah, it will not avail you (lan yughneeka) against Him in any way."**

So Al Hajjaaj said: **"I have a female slave-singer"** (al-mughanniyah - al-Hajjaaj continues to play with words, responding in mockery to Sa`eed's words 'lan yughneeka/it will not avail you' with a word that has the same trilateral root). He told her: **"Sing for me and entertain me."**

Sa`eed bin Jubayr cried, and Al Hajjaaj told him: **>"Are you crying out of joy?"**

So Sa`eed told him: **"By Allah, I do not cry out of joy, but I cry for the slave girl that was**

subjected to other than what she was created for, for she was not created to sing, and `ood (musical instrument) was not built but for disobedience of Allah."

Al Hajjaaj said: "**Take him and turn him to other than the Qiblah. By Allah, O Said bin Jubayr, I will kill you with a killing with which I have not killed any of the people.**"

Sa`eed said: "**O Hajjaaj choose for yourself whatever killing you want, by Allah you will not kill me with a killing except that Allah will kill you with a like of it, so choose for yourself whatever killing you like.**"

Al Hajjaaj said: "**Turn him (wallooh) to other than the Qiblah.**"

Sa`eed said: "**Wherever you [might] turn (tuwalloo), there is the Face of Allah.**" [Qur'an, 2:115]

Al Hajjaaj said, "**Put him under the earth.**"

Sa`eed said: "**From it [the earth] We created you, and into it We will return you, and from it We will extract you another time.**" [Qur'an, 20:55]

The Death of Al-Hajjaaj

Al-Hajjaaj said: "**Kill him.**"

Sa`eed said: "**Laa ilaha ill Allah Muhammadun Rasulullah. Take it, O Hajjaaj, until you meet me with it tomorrow before Allah. O Allah, do not give him authority over anyone after me! O One who cuts up the tyrants, cut up al Hajjaaj!**" - and in the same gathering a blister appeared on Al-Hajjaaj's hand and he became enraged like a bull for a whole month - he couldn't sleep from the pain and fatigue, nor could he eat and drink.

Al-Hajjaaj said about himself: "**No night has passed except that I saw myself swimming in blood and no night has passed except that I saw as if al Qiyamah took place and that Allah took me to account and that I was killed for whoever I killed with one killing, except Sa`eed bin Jubayr - Allah punished me for killing him with seventy killings.**"

Allah caused him to die after a month. He is considered wretched and miserable, although he belonged to Muslims. This is because he didn't know the guidance or uprightness and because he couldn't make sense out of his life mission.