
Hazrat Huzaifah a source of Tribulations after the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and their contemporary importance

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Abstract

Hazrat Huzaifah (RA) was a great scholar companion of the Holy Prophet (SAW). He learnt all the tribulations and afflictions from the prophet (SAW) in one long meeting and memorized it and then he reacted according to his knowledge. He said I always asking about bad thing from the prophet (SAW) while my other companions asking from Prophet (SAW) about good things.

Alongside this knowledge Huziafah (RA) also know all the Hypocrites of Madina City because the Prophet (SAW) pointed him out all these type people. The second caliph Umar (RA) always asking him about tribulation and hypocrites.

Therefore, the Huzaifah (RA) was a resort colleague to all the companions of Holy Prophet (SAW) and all the people acquiring him about this knowledge in different junctures and Huzaifah (RA) guide them and give them solid solutions according to the situation.

So, in this research article, I write that Huzaifah (RA) is a scholar and expert of the tribulations and Afflictions and he was the resort of all companions of the Holy Prophet (SAW) and I compile all the examples about this type.

This research article consists of two topics. First all the narrations of Huzaifah (RA) about the tribulations and trials are mentioned with briefly intro of Huzaifah (RA), second, he was a resort of all his colleague and guide them in the critical situations and the third is conclusion. Reference given at the end.

***Key Words:** Huzaifah, Tribulations, Afflictions, affliction and resort.*

Introduction: Huzaifah (May Allah blessed upon him) was one of the great companions of the prophet of Islam Muhammad (SAW). He embraced Islam in his early age with his father. He and his father came to Makkah to meet the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and aligned with him on the embracing of Islam. So, they both accept the new religion Islam and the Prophet

Muhammad (SAW) give them the options to select for thierselve either the status of migration or the status of Helper (Ansar) so they choose the status of migration and went to Madinaⁱ.

His father *Hiesal* was Yamani by origin and the historians said that his grandfather came from Yaman to escape himself from the punishment of someone death and came to Madina the migration city of all Muslims and aligned as a friend according to the Arab old tradition, with a famous and brave family of Madina which was called Banu Al-Ashhal (the sons of Al-ashhal). So, in one hand they are Yamani by family origin and Ashhaly by aligned with Banu Al-Ashhalⁱⁱ.

Huzaifah and his father both are the true companions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and they are with the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) in all important occasions of battles and other gathering.

They both came to *Badder* to accompany in the battle of *Badder* but on the way the infidels prisoned them and said that you are going to join the company of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) but they denied. After all the infidels take from them the oath of not joining the company of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and after recognition the release them. They came to the *Badder* and told the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) all the story happing to them. The Prophet Muhammad (SAW) said go your town and stand upon your wordsⁱⁱⁱ.

In the battle of *Uhud* the father of Huzaifah (May Allah blessed upon him) Hiesal embraced martyrdom from the Muslims wrongfully and after his martyrdom the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) wants to give his son blood money from the state treasury but Huzaifah refused to take this money and bequest this money for all Muslims and pray for their forgiveness tell his death^{iv}.

Huzaifah (RA) and his whole family always support and help the Muslims and Islam. He joints and participate all the events with the messenger of Allah (SWT). He stands with Islam in every difficult time. He resumes as governor for three times during the time of second and third Caliphate. In 28 Muharram, 36 Hijrah after the forty days of caliphate Usman's martyrdom Huzaifah passed away in Madāyīn and buried next to the grave of Salman Farsi (RA)^v.

Knowing about tribulations than others

Every companion of the holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) has some special characteristic and features. These features are glamorized by the holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) on different juncture. This is because that the companions of the holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) are chosen and selected by Allah (SWT) for the goodness of the whole words, even every nation and region towards Islam.

For example, one day Ali (RA) narrated that the messenger of Allah (SWT) says the heaven and earth has not seen more truthful than Hazrat Abuzar Ghifari (RA)^{vi}. In another Hadith narrated by Abi Saed Al-khudri (RA) that the prophet (SAW) says the most pity person of this Umath is Abu bakar, the strongest person to command and obey the religion of Allah (SAW) is Umar, the great scholar of inheritance is Zaid bin Sabit, the jurist person is Ali bin Abi Talib, the modest personality is Usman bin Affan, Abu Obaida bin Jarah is trustworthy

of this Umah, Abu Hurairah is the ocean of knowledge and The scholar of lawful and unlawful things is Mu'az bin Jabl.^{vii}

Similarly, like other companions of the holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) some special features and characteristics are also mentioned by the prophet (SAW) for Huzaiifah bin Al-yamān (RA). According to the different narrations Huzaiifah bin Al-yamān (RA) have many features such as he is great scholar of trials and tribulations which also known as *Ilm-ul-fitn*. He knows about all dissembler by his name, his father's name and even from their tribe- exist in the time of prophet Muhammad (SAW) at Madīna and that is just because of the holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) mentioned him all the hypercritics of Madīna^{viii}. Once Ali (RA) stated that Huzaiifah knows more than other about the dissembler^{ix}

One of the interesting pictures that the Second caliphate Umar (RA) used to observed Huzaiifah bin Al-yamān (RA) specially in the time of funeral, when Huzaiifah participate and join the funeral gathering Umar joint that funeral too because he knows that Huzaiifah cannot go to the funeral gathering of dissimulator^x.

According to U'lqama (RA) and Ali (RA) and other companions the moniker of Huzaiifah bin Al-yamān was "Sahib-ul-Sir" or the confidant of messenger of Allah (SWT) and his patronymic was Abu Abdullah^{xi}.

Huzaiifah bin Al-yamān (RA) himself narrated that people were asking question from the prophet (SAW) about the good deeds and things and I used to ask about evilness and malign for my self-defense and protection.

One day I asked we were in evil before Islam. Allah (SWT) blessed on us by goodness of Islam. Are we face another evilness after this blessed goodness? The holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) replied: Yes. I asked again is there another goodness after this evilness? The holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) replied: Yes, but light (goodness). I asked for third time what the cause of that weakness is. The holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) replied: there are some people who will go and will act against from my path (of belief), they will have some merits and some demerits. I asked again will we face another evilness after this goodness. The holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) answered: some people summon towards the inferno, those who will obey them, will go down in inferno.

I requested that O Allah's (SWT) prophet please mention me their character. The holy prophet (SAW) said they will belong to us and will speak Arabic language. I say to prophet (SAW) please guide me if I found that time. The Prophet (SAW) replied: stay strong with the group of Muslims and their leaders. I asked further that if there are no Muslims or their leaders then what should I do? The prophet (SAW) guides me bear away from all other groups even if you eat the root of tree and stay unaccompanied until you face death^{xii}.

In another Hadith Huzaiifah bin Al-yamān (RA) stated that:

”تعلم أصحابي الخير وتعلمت الشر“^{xiii}

My friends used to see all the goodness and I used to see all the evil (from the Holy Prophet (SAW)). The said narration also mentioned by Sunan-e-Abudāwod are more clearly and in

detail. As this narration says that Huzajfah asked from the holy Prophet (SAW) we are in evil before Islam. Allah (SWT) blessed on us by goodness. Are we face another evilness after this blessed goodness? The holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) replied: Yes. I questioned him again how we will avoid from these afflictions? The holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) answered: sword. I asked beside the sword what step may act on. The holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) said: obey the caliph of Muslims if exist and eat the root of tree if the caliph is not among the Muslims. I questioned further then what will happen after that? The holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) explain: the Antichrist will appear with fire and river. Someone who dive into his fire he will get rid of Antichrist and will wipe up his/her sins and someone who dive into his river he will suffer in the tribulations of Antichrist. I grow up in question and said then what will happen? The holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) stated resurrection will be established^{xiv}.

These were just asking and replying, there are more about trials and tribulations narrated by the holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) to some of his companions, one of them is Huzajfah bin Al-yamān (RA) too.

According to Huzajfah bin Al-yamān (RA) one day the holy prophet Muhammad (SAW) stood to demonstrate the sermon and presented and cleared all the events leading up to the resurrection and he did not leave any event but narrated to us. The one who wanted to memorize it he memorizes it and the one who wanted to forget it he forgets it. The special sermon demonstration knows my all friends who participate it. When I forget some of the event it will remind me when the event falls out like someone who you know but he did not in front of your mind every time by his appearances before your mind you will recognize him^{xv}.

How many *Fitnas*, Trials and tribulations he knows Imam Muslim mentioned a hadith in his renewed book *Sahih Muslim*, according to his narration Huzajfah bin Al-yaman (RA) said: By the swear of Allah (SWT) I knows every trials and tribulations leading up to the doomsday and I have no problem to narrate you all of these tribulation but the holy Prophet (SAW) stated some tribulation only me so I can't speak about it. one day the holy Prophet (SAW) says in a meeting while he enumerating us the tribulations that three of them are very dangerous and no one will get rid of them. Some trials and tribulations like hot wave of air, some tribulations are small while some other are very big^{xvi}.

In another hadith Huzajfah bin Al-yamān (RA) stated that by the swear of Allah (SWT) the prophet of Allah (SWT) never gives up the statement of occurring tribulations leading to resurging but nominated their number, name and father names^{xvii}.

Likewise, Huzajfah bin Al-yamān (RA) professed that the messenger of Allah (SWT) has told him every event leading to doomsday by my query except I didn't inquire of why the people of Medina will exile from their homes.

Huzajfah bin Al-yamān (RA): The resort of Tribulations

Here we discussed many narrations which shows that the companions of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) asked about tribulations and afflictions in different occasions from

Huzaifah (RA) and Huzaifah (RA) guide them according to the situations.

Example: 01

Huzaifah (RA) said that one day we are with the second Caliph Umar (RA), he said to us who know better about the tribulations and afflictions? People replied we all know about that. Umar said perhaps you will be thinking about the smaller tribulations but I asked you about those tribulations which like the waves of ocean. All the present people become silent. I said I know what you asking about. He said Well. Tell me about that. I said:

"سمعت رسول الله ﷺ يقول: تعرض الفتن على القلوب كالحصير
عودا عودا فأى قلب أشريها، نكت فيه نكتة سوداء، وأى قلب
أنكرها، نكت فيه نكتة بيضاء حتى تصير على قلبين، على أبيض مثل
الصفاء فلا تضره فتنة ما دامت السماوات والأرض والآخر أسود
مربادا كالكوز مجخيا لا يعرف معروفا، ولا ينكر منكرا، إلا ما أشرب
من هواه"^{xviii}

I heard from the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) that all hearts suffer from tribulations. If the hearts denied that tribulations his heart shining with white dots and if the hearts accept these tribulations the hearts become black doted. White doted heart like white rigid stone and safe from tribulations and black doted heart like inverted pot and it became the house of only bad desires with no discrimination of right and bad.

In the above narration it is clear that Huzaifah (RA) knows all the small and big tribulations and afflictions and he learnt that from the Prophet Muhammad (SAW). It also guides us that Huzaifah (RA) is the one who all other companions of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) trusted about these types of narrations and seeking guides from him just as we see that the second caliph asked him about the big tribulation and he satisfied on his answer.

Example: 02

In another narration narrated by Huba bin Juwain Al-Arni that I and Abu Masood Ainsari went to Median to meet the Huzaifah (RA), when we reached him greeting us very enthusiastically and said:

"مرحبا بكما ما خلفتما من قبائل العرب أحبا إلي منكما
فأسندته إلى أبي مسعود فقلنا يا أبا عبد الله حدثنا فإننا نخاف الفتن
فقال: عليكما بالفئة التي فيها ابن سمية انى سمعت رسول الله ص
يقول: تقتله الفئة الباغية الناكبة عن الطريق وإن آخر رزقه ضياع
من لبن"^[xix]

You both are very dear to me among the whole Arab. We sat on the ground and said O Huzaifah! We both were worried about tribulations and tell us any narration about affliction. He replied you should join the gathering of Ammar bin Yaser because I heard from the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) that the rebellious group will kill Ammar bin Yasir and his last food will milk and water.

It is another narration that guide us about Huzaifah (RA) that he was the source of

Companions of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) in tribulations and trials. When fighting between Ali (RA) and *Ameer Muawya* occurred in the battle of *Siffen* some companions of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) were worried about that and they seeking guidance in that situation so we see in the above narration that two colleague came to Huzaifah (RA) in this insurgent situation and he guide them about that insurgency. Ammar bin Yaser jointed the group of Ali (RA) and this group on the right way in these critical situations.

Example: 03

One day Huzaifah (RA) came to *Jokha* place^{xx} and Abu Masood (RA) met him in *Jokha* and said why there is a sword in your hand? He said because of third Caliph Usman (RA) ordered me to go *Jokha* and I said:

"يا أبا عبد الله أتخشى أن تكون هذه فتنة حين طرد الناس سعيد بن العاص قال له حذيفة أما تعرف دينك يا أبا مسعود قال بلى قال فإنها لا تضرك الفتنة ما عرفت دينك إنما الفتنة إذا اشتبه عليك الحق والباطل فلم تدر أيهما تتبع فتلك الفتنة"^{xxi}

O Huzaifah! Are you not afraid that the people of *Kofa* did not let in Saeed bin Al-Ahas to *Kofa*? He was the nominated governor from the third caliph Usman (RA). Is this not seem to you a trial? He said: Are you know your religion and right path? I said yes. He said then don't worry about trials and afflictions. The afflictions are harmful in that situations when you ignorant about your religion and right path and you confused in right and bad things and you have no idea who to deal with it.

In the above narration Huzaifah (RA) mentioned that when someone know his religion and their provisions and commands he should not worry about tribulations because the provisions of Sharih will safe him from all the tribulations occurs in every age and in every nation. When someone know the lawful and unlawful things as mentioned by the shariah he will get rid from tribulations just like a man with lamp in darkness.

Example: 04

Aseer bin Amar narrated that when the news about the martyrdom of Caliph Usman (RA) circulating around I came to Salihain place to meet with Abu Masood I found him in a garden that taking ablution, so I served him on this occasion then I said you have two friends that stand you in every time and knowing about tribulations more than others one of Huzaifah and other was Abu Moosa and I came here to you with this intentions that please told me about tribulation which you heard from the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and if you not heard anything about it then please tell me according to your own experience. He replied:

“Choose abstemious and follow the mainstream group of Prophet Muhammad’s Umma because the mainstream Umma always on right path. Be patient until the goodness return or you will get rid from bad.”^{xxii}

It is clear from the above narration that Huzaifah (RA) was famous in the knowledge of tribulations and afflictions among all the companions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad

(SAW) and that is why Aseer reference this to Abu Masood and asking him about tribulations and trials. The second important point is that Abu Masood learnt tribulations from Huzaifah (RA) too and after the passing away of Huzaifah (RA) the people came to him.

Example: 04

Qatadah narrated that once Huzaifah (RA) said:

"لَوْ كُنْتُ عَلَى شَاطِئِ نَهْرٍ وَقَدْ مَدَدْتُ يَدِي لِأَعْرِفَ فَحَدَّثْتُكُمْ بِكُلِّ مَا
أَعْلَمُ مَا وَصَلَتْ يَدِي إِلَى فَمِي حَتَّى أَقْتَلَ^{xxiii}"

If I stand on the bank of river and try to take water with my hand and I tell you all the tribulations which I heard from the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) then you will kill me before reaching my hand to mouth.

Example: 05

In the narration of Al-bukhtari the said Hadith is in more detail in which Hizaifah (RA) said:

"لو شئت لحدثتكم بألف كلمة تصدقوني عليها وتتابعوني
وتنصرونني ولو شئت لحدثتكم بألف كلمة تكذبونني عليها
وتجانبونني وتسبونني وهن صدق من الله ورسوله^{xxiv}"

If I wish I could tell you one thousand incidents in which you will follow me, help me and stand with me but if I wish I could tell you one thousand incidents in which you will deny me, blame me, you will live me. But remember I heard all these incidents from the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and these are true incidents.

In another narration of Al-bukhtari that once Huzaifah (RA) said: If I tell you about tribulations then about all of you will deny me. One of the audiences said if all people deny you then who will accept your narration of tribulations? Huzaifah said: The companions of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) asking from the Prophet (SAW) about good and I always asking about bad. one of the listener ask again why you always asked bad things from the Holy Prophet (SAW)? Huzaifah said because of protection from bad and tribulations^{xxv}.

Conclusion:

Hazarat Huzaifah was the most knowledgeable and understanding of the trials and *Fitna* among all companions of the Holy Prophet (SAW). He acquired this knowledge directly from the Holy Prophet (SAW) during his life time and the Holy Prophet (SAW) entrusted him with secret matters, which he carried out with the utmost confidentiality.

Hazarat Huzaifah had become so well-versed in the knowledge of trials and *Fitna* this characteristic was famous among the companions. During the life time of the Prophet (SAW), the companions would seek guidance from him regarding trials and other matters. However, after his death, the companions mostly turned to Hazarat Huzaifah for this knowledge and expertise.

One of Hazarat Huzaifah's unique qualities was he would guide people according to his knowledge, but in such a manner that the secrets of the Holy Prophet (SAW) would not be disclosed. By providing a few examples in this article, it can be concluded that Hazarat Huzaifah was the reference and source for dealing with trials during the time of companions.

Results and Recommendations:

The followings points are presented as resulted and recommendations:

- 1) Hazarat Huzaifah was the companion who knew the most about knowledge of trials and *Fitna*.
- 2) The Holy Prophet (SAW) entrusted him with secrets matters on several important occasions.
- 3) After the death of the Holy Prophet (SAW), the companions would seek information from Huzaifah regarding *Fitna* and other matters.
- 4) Hazarat Huzaifah used to provide knowledge about secrets matters and trials in the form of metaphors and analogies.
- 5) It is of great importance to compile all the narrations related to the trials and *Fitna* from Hazarat Huzaifah, as it was a need of time.
- 6) These narrations should be examined according to the criteria set by the Scholars of Hadith (Muhadiseen) for the acceptance and rejections of narrations.
- 7) The contemporary applications and significance of these narrations could be an important advancement in the world of research.

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- ^{xix} History of Prophets and Kings, Volume:05, page: 38.and this typeof discussion also narrated Imam Bikhari in his renewed book Saheh-ul-Bukhari, Volume:01, page:97, Narration No:447
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