

Companions of the Holy Prophet

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PURPOSE OF TODAY'S PRESENTATION

- 1) Shia-Sunni point of view about the Companions of the holy prophet (pbuh)
- 2) Why there is misconception that Shias despise and curse ALL the Companions of the Holy Prophet



GROUP DISCUSSION

- 1) What is the definition of a Companion?
- 2) What is the difference between Sunni and Shia viewpoint about Companions?
- 3) Name some of the high ranking Companions of the Holy Prophet from Shia sources



Sunni Definition!

- Someone who saw Muhammad (pbuh), heard him, or were in his presence even for few minutes and died as Muslim, they are Companions.
- All companions are assumed to be honest and righteous (*adil*) because the companions are the main source to understand Islam.



Shia Definition!

- Anyone who had met the Prophet, believed in him, and died upon Islam. Who were loyal to his teachings in his life and remained steadfast after the Prophet's death.
- Do not believe in the universal integrity of all companions but are open to scrutiny to find out if they truly followed the Prophet's message.



Shia viewpoint

Shiites divide Companions into **3 Groups**:

1. Those who believed in Allah (SWT), believed in the Prophet (S), and gave all they could for the sake of Islam. These are the highest in rank. They never disobeyed the Prophet in any issue.
2. Those who were Muslims, but were not sincere in their acts.
3. Those who were hypocrites. They neither believed in Allah (SWT), nor the Prophet (S) in the first place, but managed to infiltrate the Islam by becoming Muslims like Abu Sufyan. His grandson Yazid said: "Hashimite played with the throne, but no revelation was revealed, nor was there a true message!"



Shia Sunni Conflict

- Sunnis do not talk anything bad or allow criticism of the Companions (does not matter whatever they did).
- Shiites known for criticising or cursing some of the Group 3 Companions (e.g. hypocrites) but not known enough for praising Group 1 Companions (e.g. loyal and steadfast Companions).



Sacrifice of the Companions in the lifetime of the Holy Prophet

- Early Muslims faced **hardship** in Medina.
- **Battle of Badr** fought on Tuesday 13th March 624 (2 AH)
- **Battle of Uhud** fought on Saturday 19th March 625 (3AH)
- **Battle of Khandaq**, two weeks long siege beginning on 31 March 627 (5 AH)