

The Return Of The Sun For Sayyiduna Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ

Darulifta Ahlesunnat

(Dawateislami)

Question

What do Islamic scholars and Muftis say about one of the famous miracles of the Greatest and Final Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ ? It is narrated that when the Salah of Sayyiduna Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ was missed, the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ made the sun to return for him. At that moment, when the Salah of Sayyiduna Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ was missed, the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ was resting placing his [blessed] head on the lap of Sayyiduna Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ. The question is, whether the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ also missed the Salah along with Sayyiduna Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ, or he صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ had already offered his Salah?

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْجَوَابُ بِعَوْنِ الْمَلِكِ الْوَهَّابِ اللَّهُمَّ هِدَايَةَ الْحَقِّ وَالصَّوَابِ

It is clearly evident in the blessed Hadiths that the Greatest and Final Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ had offered his Asr Salah on that occasion. Only the Salah of Sayyiduna Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ was missed.

It is stated in the blessed Hadith of Al-Mu'jam al-Kabir:

عن أسماء بنت عميس ان رسول الله صلى الله تعالى عليه وآله وسلم صلى الظهر بالصهبا ثم ارسل عليا في حاجة فرجع وقد صلى النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم العصر فوضع النبي صلى الله تعالى عليه وآله وسلم راسه في حجر علي فنام فلم يحرکه حتى غابت الشمس فقال النبي صلى الله تعالى عليه وآله وسلم ”اللهم ان عبدك عليا احتبس بنفسه على نبيه فرد على الشمس“ قالت فطلعت عليه الشمس حتى رفعت على الجبال وعلى الارض وقام على فتوضا وصلى العصر ثم غابت وذلك بالصهبا

Translation: Sayyidatuna Asma bint-e-Umais رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا narrates that the Greatest and Final Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ offered Zuhr Salah at the place of Sahba and sent Sayyiduna Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ on errands. Upon his return, the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ had already offered Asr Salah. Subsequently, the Greatest and Final Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ rested, placing his blessed head on the lap of Sayyiduna Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ. Sayyiduna Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ did not move until the sun set. (When the Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ awoke, he صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ said these words regarding the missed Salah of Sayyiduna Ali.)

Translation: O Allah Almighty! Your bondman Ali was obeying to his Prophet, so bring the sun back.

Sayyidatuna Asma رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا recounts that the sun rose again; to the extent the mountains and the earth were covered with sunlight. Subsequently, Sayyiduna Ali رَضِيَ اللهُ

عنه stood up, performed Wudu, and offered Asr Salah. Then the sun set again. This entire event unfolded at the place of Sahba. (Al Mujam al Kabeer, vol. 24, p. 144, Qahira)

The detail of this event is stated in Sharh Zurqani:

فلم يصل على العصر حتى غربت الشمس واما المصطفى فكان قد صلاها كماياتي في الرواية الاخرى

Meaning, Sayyiduna Ali رضى الله عنه had not yet offered Asr Salah when the sun set. Whereas, the Greatest and Final Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ had offered Asr Salah as explained in another narration. (Sharah Al Zurqani, vol. 6, p. 485)

It is stated in Seerat-e-Mustafa صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ, "Sayyidatuna Asma Bint-e-Umais رضى الله عنها narrated: The Holy Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ offered Salat-ul-Asr at the stopover called 'Sahba' near Khayber. Then, placing his blessed head on the lap of Sayyiduna 'Ali رضى الله عنه, he صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ went to sleep. Meanwhile, he صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ began to receive revelation. Sayyiduna 'Ali رضى الله عنه continued to sit with the blessed head on his lap until the sun set. When the Greatest and Noblest Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ became aware that the Asr Salah of Sayyiduna 'Ali رضى الله عنه had been missed, he صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ prayed, 'O Allah Almighty! 'Ali was obeying You and Your Rasool. Therefore, make the sun reappear so that 'Ali will offer Asr Salah.'

Sayyidatuna Asma Bint-e-Umais رضى الله عنها stated: I saw with my own eyes that the sun that had set reappeared with sunlight shining on the peaks of the mountains and everywhere on the earth." (Seerat-e-Mustafa, p. 722, Maktaba-tul-Madina, Karachi)

وَاللَّهُ أَعْلَمُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ وَرَسُولُهُ أَعْلَمُ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

(Allah Almighty knows best and His Messenger صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ knows best.)

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