

HAD RAT UMMI HANI

May Allah be pleased with her

CHILDREN
SERIES
#2/10

Department of Ishā`at, Lajna Imā'illah Canada

2015

Stories of Ṣaḥābiyāt

Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra}

Daughter of Ḥaḍrat Abū Ṭālib^{ra}

Cousin to the Holy Prophet^{sa}

Other book in this series:

1. ḤAḌRAT UMMUL-MASĀKĪN
ḤAḌRAT ZAINAB BINT
KHUZAIMAH^{RA}
2. ḤAḌRAT UMMI ḤARĀM BINT
MILḤĀN^{RA}
3. ḤAḌRAT SUMAIYYAH BINT
KHABĀṬ^{RA}
4. ḤAḌRAT MAIMŪNAH^{RA}
5. ḤAḌRAT UMMUL-FADL
LUBĀBATUL-KUBRĀ^{RA}
6. ḤAḌRAT FĀṬIMAH BINT AL-
KHAṬṬĀB^{RA}
7. ḤAḌRAT ZAINAB BINT JAHASH^{RA}
8. ḤAḌRAT ḤAFṢAH^{RA}
9. ḤAḌRAT FĀṬIMAH-UL ZUHRA^{RA}



An English Adaptation of Urdu book
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Message from the National President Lajna Imā'illah Canada

In the name of Allah the Gracious, the Merciful

It is with great joy, I am writing these lines that Allah Almighty has enabled Lajna Imā'illah Canada to publish the series of these books for children. The objective of publishing these books is to provide children with a basic knowledge and understanding of revered personalities from our religious history and to develop a desire in their hearts to imitate them.

During several *tarbiyyati workshops* that I had with girls, they expressed their desire that they would like to know about the life of Ṣahābīyāt, of Holy Prophet (Peace be upon him). I hope these books can provide them valuable insight about these personalities *inshaAllah!* Moreover, these may be able to help and motivate readers to develop their bond with Allah Almighty – the Lord of all the worlds.

I am thankful to National Secretary Ishā`at Lajna Imā'illah Canada Dr. Amtul Qudoos Farhat Sahiba for gladly taking up this project and working hard until its completion. I pray that may Allah accept her humble efforts and reward her abundantly *Ameen!* Along with her there is a team who has helped in adapting the translation of these books in English. I am thankful to Rasheda Sial Sahiba, Nasim Sahi Sahiba, Ansa Talat Sahiba, Mansoorah Rauf Sahiba, Munazza Khan Sahiba and all other members of the team. May Allah reward them abundantly *Ameen!*

I hope and pray that these books will be beneficial for children *inshaAllah* and they will be able to gain knowledge about the revered personalities from the history of Islam after reading these.

May Allah accept this humble effort of Lajna Imā'illah Canada and enable us to further excel in our abilities *Ameen!*

Wassalam,

Amtul Noor Daud

Sadr Lajna Imā'illah Canada

August 19, 2015

FOREWORD

It has long been felt by Lajna Imā'illah Canada that there is scarcity of books for English speaking Ahmadi children. As a humble effort to meet the needs of our children Lajna Imā'illah Canada has planned for a series of Islamic books for children in English language. The first in this series is entitled **Şahābiyāt** (the she- Companions of the Holy Holy Prophet (may peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). It includes stories of selective Şahābiyāt and some noble wives of the Holy Holy Prophet^{sa}.

Most of these stories have been translated and adapted from Urdu books previously published by Lajna Imā'illah. A team of dedicated members have worked on this project under continued inspiration and guidance by Respected Amtul Noor Daud Sahiba, the National President, Lajna Imā'illah. My heartfelt thanks to the entire team and Respected Sadar Sahiba!

Dear children we hope that you enjoy reading these stories of noble women in Islam and derive knowledge and maximum benefit out of their lives and character. Inshā Allah!

Happy Reading! And kindly keep praying for successful completion of future series on other topics. Inshā Allah!

Amtul Qudoos Farhat

National Secretary Ishā`at
Lajna Imā'illah Canada

In the name Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful

Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra}

Daughter of Ḥaḍrat Abū Ṭālib^{ra}

Cousin to the Holy Prophet^{sa}

Dear Children

Our Holy Master, Ḥaḍrat Muhammad^{sa}, may Allāh's peace and blessings be upon him, possessed such spiritual powers that thousands of Arabs, who were spiritually dead, became alive. People with godly souls flocked around him like moths attracted to a light. One of those godly people, by the name of Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra}, is mentioned in the golden chapters of Islāmic history. Her real name was “Fakhita”; some sources mention it as “Hind”. She was known “Ummi Hānī” or the mother of Hani. Hānī was one of her four sons, all four were the companions of the Holy Prophet^{sa}

Family

Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra} was the daughter of ‘Abdu Manāf, also known as Ḥaḍrat Abū Ṭālib. Ḥaḍrat Abū Ṭālib was the paternal uncle of the Holy Prophet^{sa} and had the honor of raising the Holy Prophet^{sa} from the age of 8 years. Ḥaḍrat Abū Ṭālib held his nephew dearer than his own life, and raised him with utmost love and kindness. He stood by the Holy Prophet^{sa} in all circumstances.

Ancestry on father's side

‘Abdul-Muṭṭalib



Abū Ṭālib ‘Abdu Manāf



Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra}

Ancestry on mother's side

Hāshim



Asad



Ḥaḍrat Fāṭimah bint Asad^{ra}



Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra} (1)



When the Holy Prophet^{sa} claimed to be the prophet of Allah, God-fearing people believed him from the bottom of their hearts, however, the majority of Makkans strongly opposed him. Ḥaḍrat Abū Ṭālib acted like a shield against the enemies of the Holy Prophet^{sa}. Although Ḥaḍrat Abū Ṭālib never accepted Islām; it appeared from his actions that he was convinced of the good in Islām from the bottom of his heart. Ḥaḍrat Fāṭimah bint Asad^{ra} and all her children received the light of Islām by the grace of Allāh. Their son, Ḥaḍrat ‘Alī^{ra} was the fourth of the Righteous Caliphs or Khulafā’.

Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra}’s mother - Ḥaḍrat Fāṭimah bint Asad^{ra}

Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra}’s mother, Ḥaḍrat Fāṭimah bint Asad^{ra}, was an extremely good natured lady. She was an aunt of the Holy Prophet^{sa} and also had the honour of bringing up the Holy Prophet^{sa}. There was a bond of great respect and love between them. Allāh had bestowed her with a keen intellect; therefore, she became a believer right at the of claim of prophet-hood by the Holy Prophet^{sa}. Her heart was full of love for Allāh. When she passed away, the Holy Prophet^{sa} sat down at the head of her bed and sadly said,

"My mother, may Allāh shower His blessings upon you. After my mother passed away, it was you who held the place of my mother. You would go hungry yourself and feed me to my fill. You would wear ordinary clothes yourself and clothe me in the best garments. You would refrain from having good food; instead, you would offer it to me. No doubt, your intentions were only to seek Allāh's pleasure, and success in the hereafter."

A special honour was conferred by Allah upon Ḥaḍrat Fāṭimah bint Asad^{ra}. The Holy Prophet^{sa} poured the camphoric water over her body when it was being bathed after her death. He also gave his tunic to be worn by her, and a mantle for her shroud over it. Not only that, but after the grave had been dug, he prepared the "*lahd*" (the place where the body is laid to rest in the grave) himself, extracting the dirt with his own blessed hands. After that, he led the funeral prayer and placed her body in the grave and prayed for her salvation. (2)

Siblings:

Ḥaḍrat Fāṭimah bint Asad^{ra} had 4 sons and 3 daughters. Her sons were Ḥaḍrat 'Aqīl^{ra}, Ḥaḍrat Ja'far^{ra}, Ḥaḍrat 'Alī^{ra} and Ḥaḍrat Ṭālib^{ra}. Beside Ummi Hānī^{ra}, she had two more daughters: Ḥaḍrat Jamānah^{ra}, and Ḥaḍrat Rabsah^{ra}. Her children inherited the good qualities of their parents. (3)

Husband:

Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra} was married to Hubaira bin Makhzam, who was a famous poet from Quraish. He never accepted Islām. Still a polytheist, he fled to Najrān at the time of conquest of Makkah. (4) He presumed that being a polytheist will be persecuted just as the People of Makkah persecuted Muslims.

Children

All four of Ummi Hānī^{ra}'s sons, Ḥaḍrat ‘Amr^{ra}, Ḥaḍrat Ja‘da^{ra}, Ḥaḍrat Hānī^{ra} (after whom she was known as mother of Hānī) and Ḥaḍrat Yūsuf^{ra} became Muslims, and served Islām to the end. (5)

Acceptance of Islām

Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra} became a Muslim at the time of conquest of Makkah; however, some believe that she had become a Muslim right at the beginning, but was hiding the fact. In Makkah, she used to listen to the Holy Qur’ān with rapt attention. She used to tell that they would listen to the Holy Prophet^{sa} reciting the Holy Qur’ān near the Ka‘bah from the top of the roof of her house. (6)

Her reverence for the Holy Prophet^{sa} is obvious from the following incident:

The Holy Prophet^{sa} came to her house during the time of conquest of Makkah and partook of a sweet drink, and then offered her the rest. She said, “I am fasting, but I do not want to decline taking it because you have tasted it.”

The Holy Prophet^{sa} told her, “If you are fasting to compensate a missed fast in Ramaḍān, you may observe the fast on another day. However, if it is a non-obligatory fast, it is up to you to keep it or break it.” (7)

This incident not only shows how much she revered the Holy Prophet^{sa}, but also confirms the fact that she had accepted Islām before the conquest of Makkah and observed fasting.

She believed in Allāh and the Holy Prophet^{sa} with a sincere heart and earnest intentions, and she remained steadfast. Worldly pressures could not take away her faith from her, nor could any relation put a stop to it. Her husband had already fled due to her accepting Islām. The responsibilities of raising 4 children and giving them education and training rested on her shoulders. Still, she bravely faced the circumstances with full resolve, holding on to her belief in Allāh.

Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra}’s husband was a poet of a high rank. Through his poetry, he made her aware of the hardships one could face in the path of accepting Islām, and tried to tell her that by following the religion of Muhammad^{sa}, she could gain nothing but hunger and suffering, becoming homeless forever. Nevertheless, Ummi Hānī^{ra} had absolute faith that she was following the right path.

Special Honors



In addition to being a cousin of the Prophet^{sa}, and a sister of Ḥaḍrat ‘Alī^{ra}, Holy Ummi Hānī^{ra} was one of those fortunate Ṣaḥābiyāt (those women who had been in the company of the Holy Prophet^{sa}) who received many honours.

At the conquest of Makkah she received such an honour which no other Ṣaḥābiyāt ever received. On the day of the victory, the Holy Prophet^{sa} went to her house and offered 8 *raka‘at* of non-obligatory nafl prayer of gratitude to Allāh. It was late morning. Ummi Hānī^{ra} said, “I had never seen him^{sa} offering such a light (brief) prayer, though he^{sa} took ample time in *rukū‘* and prostration.”

Another honour that she received was that the Holy Prophet^{sa} had his meal at her house and praised the food. That meal consisted of some pieces of dry bread, moistened with water, and instead of a supplementary dish (*sālan*), vinegar was sprinkled over it. The Holy Prophet^{sa} exclaimed, “O’ Ummi Hānī^{ra}, vinegar is the best supplement. A house which happens to have vinegar, is not a poor house.” (8)

Ummi Hānī^{ra} also had the honor of the Holy Prophet^{sa} resting at her house when he experienced the spiritual journey of Mi‘rāj. She narrated, “That day, the Holy Prophet^{sa} went to sleep at our house after ‘Ishā’ prayers. When we offered our early morning prayer, he said, ‘O Ummi Hānī! I went to Baitul-Muqaddas and offered prayers there, and then offered *Fajr* prayer with you!’ ”

Ummi Hānī^{ra} used to say that she begged the Holy Prophet^{sa} not to tell that to other people lest they considered him untruthful. The Holy Prophet^{sa} said, “Allāh is my Witness, I will definitely tell this to people.” So, he^{sa} told people about that incident, and they were astonished.

She also had the honor of participating in the *Ghazwah* of Badr with the Holy Prophet^{sa}. She was granted grain equal to the burden of 40 camels as a bounty of war.

Traditionally, even in the Age of Ignorance, women had the right to grant protection to any individual in danger, or to a prisoner. Our beloved master, the Holy Prophet^{sa} maintained that tradition to safeguard the status and respect for Muslim women, and they were allowed to offer protection to one or two men.

Ummi Hānī had loving and respectful relationship with her in-laws and she granted protection to two male relatives of her husband, who had been ordered to be killed (due to crimes committed against Muslims). Our kind Holy Prophet^{sa} accepted her intercession. Ummi Hānī^{ra} narrated that incident as follows:

“When the Holy Prophet^{sa} camped at the upper side of Makkah, 2 men from Banī Makhzūm came running to me, followed by my brother, ‘Alī^{ra} bin Abī Ṭālib. He declared, ‘By Allāh, I will kill them!’ I closed the door of my house and said, ‘I have granted them my protection.’”

“I went to the Holy Prophet^{sa}, who welcomed me and enquired about the purpose of my visit. I narrated the incident about the two men and my brother ‘Alī^{ra} bin Abī Ṭālib entering my house after them. The Holy Prophet^{sa} said, "The one whom you have given refuge, would be granted refuge by us, O Ummi Hānī; the one under your protection, would be protected by us, and ‘Alī^{ra} will not kill those two.”

By that incident the companions of the Holy Prophet^{sa} recognized the eminence and high status of Ummi Hānī^{ra}, and they treated her with utmost deference and respect.

The Holy Prophet^{sa} was ever so kind to Ummi Hānī^{ra}. He would console her and be mindful of her circumstances. He would often visit her to express his love and kindness. Once he advised Ummi Hānī^{ra}, "Get a goat, Ummi Hānī; it is an animal which carried blessings."

Hānī^{ra} had another honor as Ḥaḍrat Fāṭimah^{ra}, the youngest daughter of the Holy Prophet^{sa}, married Ummi Hānī's brother, Ḥaḍrat 'Alī^{ra}. Ḥaḍrat 'Alī^{ra} had the honor of being the son-in-law of the Holy Prophet^{sa}, so the bond with the Holy Prophet^{sa} strengthened even further.

Ummi Hānī^{ra} was ever mindful of the comfort of Holy Prophet^{sa}. It is known through some of the stories that she did not visit Holy Prophet^{sa} very often when her children were small. Once Ḥaḍrat 'Abbās^{ra} mentioned to her that the Holy Prophet^{sa} was asking about her. She replied, "My children are small; I don't like them bothering or disturbing the Holy Prophet^{sa}."

Ummi Hānī^{ra} was a cheerful lady of a simple nature. She was accomplished and hospitable after her respected mother. She had a deep love and complete trust in Allāh, and faced the innumerable catastrophes of her life with utmost fortitude and courage, never uttering a word of complaint.

Eloquence and Love for Literature



She inherited eloquence and love of literature from her father. She used to study the Holy Qur'ān in depth.

She was very much interested in Islāmic jurisprudence and found out about many legal points. Similarly, she learnt the nuances of many verses of the Holy Qur'ān, directly enquiring from the Holy Prophet^{sa}.

In Makkah, among Quraish ladies in general, and Hāshimite ladies in particular, Ummi Hānī^{ra} was considered a very wise lady, a good adviser, and a literary personality. She was of a high rank in her eminence. Forty-six aḥādīth are attributed to her. The aḥādīth narrated by her are included in the six authentic books of ḥadīth. Her son, Ja'da^{ra}, and her grandson, Hārūn, have also narrated a ḥadīth which they heard from her.

A beautiful ḥadīth narrated by Ummi Hānī^{ra} contains a message and an advice for Muslim women and girls, with reference to Ḥaḍrat 'Ā'ishah^{ra}.

Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra} narrated that the Holy Prophet^{sa} said, “O ‘Ā’ishah, let your apparel be (the Teachings of) the Holy Qur’ān and Knowledge; i.e., you should have such love for the Holy Qur’ān and Knowledge that nothing else would be nearer and dearer to you than this.”

The blessed Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra} was ever inclined to the threshold of Allāh. As she aged and became physically weak, she worried that she could not perform acts of worship the way they should be performed. She went to the Beloved of Allāh, the Holy Prophet^{sa} with that problem and submitted:

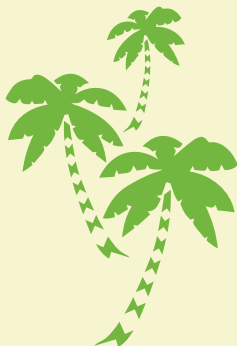
“O Prophet of Allāh, I have become old, and feeble in my movements. Please let me know of an act of worship which I could perform while sitting.” Ḥuḍūr^{sa} said, “Recite *Subḥān* Allāh one hundred times, *Alḥamdulillāh* one hundred times, *Allāhu Akbar* one hundred times and *Lā ilāha illAllāh* one hundred times.” She would keep herself busy in remembrance of Allāh in that way.



Death

With Allāh’s blessing, she had a long life, witnessing the time of all four Righteous Khulafā’, and benefiting from them. The four Righteous Khulafā’ and the companions of the Holy Prophet^{sa} regarded her with high esteem, and paid utmost respect to her because the Holy Prophet^{sa} had granted her respect. That blessing and honor belonged to her until her last breath.

All who have come into this mortal world, have to leave it one day, whether they are prophets or saints, however blessed or beloved. This is the law of nature. Ḥaḍrat Ummi Hānī^{ra} survived her brother ‘Alī^{ra}. During the rule of Ḥaḍrat Amīr Mu‘āwiyah^{ra} in 50 Hijrah, after leading a contented life, Ummi Hānī^{ra} passed away to meet her Lord. May Allāh be pleased with her, and grant her a place among the righteous people close to His blessings, and grant us the opportunity to follow the footsteps of such blessed beings. Āmīn



References:

1. Azwāj-e-Muṭāhharāt wa Ṣaḥābiyāt Encyclopedia by Dr. Zulfiqar Kazim, pg. 336
2. Ṣaḥābiyāt Ṭayyibāt, pg. 31, 25
3. Tadhkār-e-Ṣaḥābiyāt, pg. 148
4. Azwāj-e-Muṭāhharāt wa Ṣaḥābiyāt Encyclopedia, pg. 336
5. Azwāj-e-Muṭāhharāt wa Ṣaḥābiyāt Encyclopedia, pg. 339
6. Ṣaḥābiyāt Ṭayyibāt, pg. 535
7. Sair aṣ-Ṣaḥābiyāt, pg. 159
8. Azwāj-e-Muṭāhharāt wa Ṣaḥābiyāt Encyclopedia, pg. 337

Acronyms for salutation used in this book:

sa: *Ṣallallāhu ‘alaihi wa sallam* (peace and blessings of Allāh be upon him) for the Holy Prophet Muhammad^{sa}

as: *‘Alaihis-salām* (peace be on him) for the Prophets of Allāh.

ra: *Raḍiyallāhu ‘anhu/‘anha/‘anhum* (May Allāh be pleased with him/her/them) for the companions of Holy Prophet^{sa} and of the Promised Messiah^{as}



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