

Zaid ibn Harithah



Level: Beginner

Zaid was a young boy who had been kidnaped from his mother and sold as a slave. He was purchased by a wealthy man from Makkah who gifted him to his aunt, Khadijah bint Khuwaylid. When Khadijah married the Prophet ﷺ, she gifted Zaid to him as a servant.

As time passed, Zaid's family found out where he was and came to Makkah to buy him back and set him free. His father and uncle talked to the Prophet ﷺ about buying Zaid's freedom. The Prophet ﷺ called Zaid and told him, "This is your father and your uncle, and you know who I am. Choose me or choose them." Zaid responded, "I would not choose anyone over you. You are to me as a father and a mother."

Zaid's decision surprised his father and uncle. They said, "Oh Zaid, do you choose slavery over freedom? Over your father, your uncle, and your family?" Zaid replied, "Yes. I have seen something in this man and I would not choose anyone over him ever." When the Prophet ﷺ heard that from Zaid, he took him to the Kaaba, and announced to the gathering crowd, "Witness that Zaid is my son, I inherit him and he inherits me." Seeing this, Zaid's father and uncle were reassured and left. From then on, Zaid came to be known as "Zaid ibn Muhammad," reflecting the deep bond between him and the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, who treated him like a son and loved him dearly. This story highlights the profound love, respect, and sense of belonging that existed within the early Muslim community.

Zaid ibn harithah



Zaid was one of the earliest people to Islam, he was the first freed slave to accept Islam. The Prophet ﷺ loved Zaid a lot and he had a special place in the Prophet's heart. Zaid was a great army leader.

When the Prophet ﷺ would dispatch an army that he was not leading it himself, he would assign Zaid as the leader of the army. The Prophet ﷺ sent the Muslim army to the battle of Muatah and said: Your leader is Zaid ibn Harithah. If he is killed, then your leader is Ja'far ibn Abi Talib. If he is killed, then your leader is Abdullah ibn Rawahah. Zaid took the banner and lead the Muslims who fought alongside him until he was killed by multiple spear thrusts, may Allah be pleased with him. The Prophet ﷺ then prayed for him, and said: "Seek forgiveness for your brother, for he has entered Paradise while striving." Then he said : "O Allah, forgive Zaid, O Allah, forgive Zaid, O Allah, forgive Zaid. O Allah, forgive Ja'far and Abdullah bin Rawaha."

Zaid is the only Sahabi mentioned by name in the Quran.

Activities

True or False Questions

- 1- Zaid was kidnapped from his mother and sold as a slave.
- 2- Zaid was purchased by a wealthy man from Madinah who gifted him to Khadijah bint Khuwaylid.
- 3- Zaid chose to stay with the Prophet ﷺ over his father and uncle, even when they came to buy his freedom.
- 4- Zaid ibn Harithah was the first freed slave to accept Islam.
- 5- Zaid was known as "Zaid ibn Muhammad" after being adopted by the Prophet ﷺ.
- 6- Zaid was the leader of the Muslim army in the battle of Uhud.
- 7- Zaid's father and uncle were happy with his decision to stay with the Prophet ﷺ.
- 8- Zaid was the only Sahabi mentioned by name in the Quran.

Multiple Choice Questions

- 1- What was Zaid's decision when his father and uncle came to buy his freedom?
 - a) He chose to return to his family
 - b) He chose to stay with the Prophet ﷺ
 - c) He chose to be free and live alone
 - d) He chose to join another tribe

- 2- Who gifted Zaid to the Prophet ﷺ?
 - a) Abu Bakr
 - b) Khadijah bint Khuwaylid
 - c) Umar ibn al-Khattab
 - d) Ali ibn Abi Talib

- 3- What title was Zaid given after the Prophet ﷺ's announcement at the Kaaba?
 - a) Zaid ibn Ali
 - b) Zaid ibn Harithah
 - c) Zaid ibn Muhammad
 - d) Zaid al-Amin

Activities

4- What was Zaid's role in the battle of Mu'ta?

- a) He was the Prophet's personal bodyguard
- b) He was the leader of the Muslim army
- c) He was the chief advisor
- d) He was a supporter of the Prophet ﷺ

5- What did the Prophet ﷺ say about Zaid after his death in the battle of Mu'ta?

- a) "Seek forgiveness for Zaid, for he has entered Paradise"
- b) "Zaid has lost his reward, may Allah forgive him"
- c) "Zaid was a hero but missed his reward"
- d) "Zaid is among the martyrs of Uhud"

6- Why did Zaid's father and uncle leave after the Prophet ﷺ's declaration?

- a) They were convinced Zaid was happy and safe
- b) They were upset that Zaid chose the Prophet ﷺ over them
- c) They wanted to take Zaid by force
- d) They wanted to follow the Prophet ﷺ's example

7- Which of the following was Zaid ibn Harithah known for in the Muslim community?

- a) Being the first person to accept Islam
- b) Being the first freed slave to accept Islam
- c) Being the first military general of the Prophet ﷺ
- d) Being the Prophet's first follower

8- Which of the following is true about Zaid's relationship with the Prophet ﷺ?

- a) Zaid was an adopted son of the Prophet ﷺ.
- b) Zaid was treated as a servant by the Prophet ﷺ.