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ASHURA

Encyclopedia

JAWAD MUHADDITHY

A - Aabis Ibn Abi Shabib Al-Shakiry

One of the bravest and most loyal men in the army of Imam Hussain in Karbala. Aabis was so old that he had to tie a piece of cloth around his forehead just to keep his eyebrows from falling on top of his eyes. He was Muslim Ibn Aqeel's messenger to Imam Hussain telling him that the people of Koofa had agreed to fight with Imam Hussain. His story is well known on the day of Ashoora, when nobody would dare to fight him. When Aabis realized that no one was going to come out to fight, he removed all his armour until a man cried to him: "Have you gone mad?". Aabis replied: "Yes, the love of Hussain has made me go mad". Finally, Omar Ibn Sa'ad shouted at his army saying: "What is the matter with you all, throw stones at him".

A - Abdulla Ibn Abbas

Among the people who tried to stop the Imam from going to Karbala, when he was that the Imam would not change his mind he became sad. He was among the first to know of Imam Hussain's death. On the day of Ashoora, he saw in his sleep that his perfume had changed to blood, so he knew that Imam Hussain had been killed. Ibn Abbas was the Prophet (pbuh&hf) and Imam Ali's cousin. He was a very well known and respected figure in Quraish. He lost his vision near the end of his life and died in Al Ta'ef in 68 AH at the age of 70. Mohammed Ibn Al-Hanefya, Imam Hussain's brother from his father's side, prayed on his body.

Chapter

3

A - Anees Ibn Ma'qel Al-Asbahy

One of the martyrs of Karbala. He fought the enemies of Allah after the noon of Ashoora and after the martyrdom of Jon. He fought with bravery and killed twenty men.

Chapter

4

A - Aslam, the Turkish slave

Among the martyrs of Karbala, he was originally from Turkey. He was well known for throwing arrows, at the same time he was Imam Hussain's writer. He read the Qur'an and knew Arabic well. When he was killed in Karbala, the Imam placed his face on Aslam's face, Aslam opened his eyes and saw the Imam's eyes and smiled.

A - Atiyya

He is always mentioned along with Jabir Ibn Abdullah, a companion of the Prophet (pbuh&hf). They were the first to visit Imam Hussain's burial place forty days after his martyrdom. Because Jabir Ibn Abdullah Al Ansari was blind, Atiyya guided him to the grave. It is said that Ahl Al-bait saw them when coming back from Al Sham. Atiyya Ibn Saad Ibn Junada was among the best Shia in science and speech. He was born in Koofa during the reign of Imam Ali and it was he who named him Atiyya. In the days of the tyrant Al-Hajjaj, an order was placed to capture him, as was the case with all the followers of the Prophet's household. Finally he was caught in Persia and was told to curse Imam Ali, but he refused to. Al-Hajjaj then ordered to whip him 400 times and beat his beard and head. He died in 111 AH in Al-Koofa.

Chapter

6

A - Awn Ibn Abdulla Ibn Jaafer

Son of Sayyeda Zayneb. He was killed along with his brother who were both companions of Imam Hussain until he reached him in Karbala. He was killed while fighting alone.

A - Awn Ibn Jaafer Ibn Abi Talib

Jaafer Ibn Abi Talib's son. His mother was Asma'a Bint Amees and was born in Habasha (Abyssinia). When his father Jaafer was killed in the battle of Mo'teh, the Prophet (pbuh&hf) asked everyone to bring his sons (Awn, Mohammed, and Abdulla) to him. He then ordered for them to cut their hair and said: "Mohammed, why he looks like our uncle Abi Talib, and Awn, why he looks like both in outer and inner beauty. Imam Ali married him to his daughter Umm Kolthoom. He remained loyal to Imam Hassan and Imam Hussain to the very end. He was killed in Kar- bala at the age 56.

Chapter

8

B - Bishr Ibn Amro Alhadhrami

Also among the martyrs of Karbala. Bishr was originally from "Hadhramout" in Yemen. He was known for his loyalty to the Imam. Although his son was in the prisons of "Alrey" when he was in Karbala, he stayed and fought with the Imam. Bishr was killed in the first attack (Hemleh).

B - Borayr Ibn Khodhair Alhamadani

Amongst the martyrs of Karbala, he was known for reading the Qura'an and teaching it to others. Burayr was known for his bravery in Alkoofa. Originally from the tribe of "Hamadan", he was called 'Sayyed AlQurra'a', Master of the Reciters. In Karbala, he tried to guide Omar Ibn Sa'ad to the right path and leave Yazeed Ibn Mo'aweeya, but to no avail. He was killed early in Karbala right after the martyrdom of Al Hor Ibn Yazeed Alreyahi.

Chapter 10

D - Al-Dhahak Ibn Abdulla Al-Mushrefi

He was with Imam Hussain in Karbala. When he saw the the great number of people that had been killed in Imam Hussain's army, he came to the Imam and asked permission to leave him. The Imam told him to go. A group of Omar Ibn Sa'ad's army followed him but then let him escape to wherever he was going to. Unfortunately, he missed his chance of being amongst the martyrs of Karbala. It is said that he was among the companions of Imam Ali Ibn Al Hussain.

Chapter

11

H - Habib Ibn Muthaher

He was a loyal and close friend of the the prophet Mohammed (pbuh&hf), and was originally from the tribe of Bani Asad. He fought with Imam Ali Ibn Abi Talib in all his battles and the Imam Ali taught him "Ilm Almanaya was Albalaya" which means that Habib could fore- see into the future and know how any given person would die. He gave his allegiance to Muslim Ibn Aqeel in Al-Koofah. He also was a close friend of Maythem Altammar, a loyal companion of Imam Ali.

Chapter

12

H - Hafhaf Ibn Mohanned Alrasibi

A very brave man who was with Imam Ali in his three battles. He was originally from Al Basra in Iraq. In the battle of Sifeen, Imam Ali made him the ruler over the tribe of Azd. After Imam Ali passed away, he stayed with Imam Hassan and then Imam Hussain. When he heard about Imam Hussain's departure to Karbala, he walked from Al Basra to Karbala, but the battle was over when he finally reached there, so he took his knife and attacked Omar Ibn Sa'ad's people until he was killed.

Chapter

13

H - Hakeem Ibn Tufail

He fought Imam Al Hussain in Karbala. He was the one who cut Abul Fadhl Al Abbas's left arm after Zayd Ibn Al Arqam had cut his right.

Chapter

14

H - Hameed Ibn Muslim Al-Azdi

A very important narrator of the events that happened in Karbala. He was in Omar Ibn Sa'ad's army in Karbala. Hameed Ibn Muslim quarreled with Shimr after the battle was over and asked him not to burn the tents of the Imam. He was among the Tawabeen who repented fighting against Imam Hussain and took part in the uprising against the Umayyads.

Chapter

15

H - Hani Ibn Orweh Al-Sib'eey

The last messenger the Imam sent to the people of Koofa. He went to Koofa along with Saeed Ibn Abdulla Alhanafi. When Ibn Ziyad learned why Hani was in Koofa, he ordered his people to cut off his head and drag his body throughout the streets of Koofa.

Chapter

16

H - Harmaleh

Harmalah Ibn Kahil Al Asadi Alkoofi, the killer of the infant of the Imam. When the Imam had lost all hope in the enemy, he came out riding on a camel and asked for water, not for himself, but for his small child who was dying of thirst. Omar gave the order and Harmaleh sent a three-headed arrow flying into the little child's neck. Imam Ali Ibn Al- Hussain prayed that Harmala not live after that moment. Later on, during the uprising of the Tawabeen, Al-Mokhtar ordered to cut Harmala's arms and legs and throw him in the fire.

Chapter

17

H - Hilal Ibn Nafi'i

See Nafi'i Ibn Hilal.

Chapter

18

H - Al-Hussain Ibn Numair

Originally from the tribe of Kindah, he was an enemy of the Imam Ali and the Prophet's household. In Sifeen, he stood by Mu'aweeya against Imam Ali, and in Karbala he stood with Yazeed Ibn Mo'aweeya against Imam Hussain. He was the one to take Habib Ibn Muthaher's head and place it on his horse and run in Koofa with it. He was killed by Alqassim Ibn Habib, Habib Ibn Muthaher's son.

Chapter

19

J - Jaafar Ibn Ali Ibn Abi Talib

The son of Imam Ali and brother of Abul Fadhl Al-Abbass. He was killed in Karbala at the age of 19 by Hani Ibn Thabeet Al Hadhrami or Khawli Ibn Yazeed.

J - Jabir Ibn Abdulla Al-Ansari

Jabir, along with Atiya, were amongst the greatest Shi'as -followers of Imam Ali. They came to Karbala after Imam Hussain's martyrdom. Jabir was born 15 years before the Hijra (journey) of the Prophet in Medeenah. He was originally from the tribe of Khazraj. His father was killed in the battle of Ohod with the Prophet (pbuh&hf). He fought in 18 of the Prophet's battles, and in Sifeen with the Imam Ali Ibn Abi Talib. He was struck with blindness at the end of his life and was killed by Al- hajjaj only because of his loyalty to Ahlulbayt in 78 AH at the age of 91.

Chapter

21

J - Jibleh Ibn Ali Al-Sheybani

Among the bravest in Koofa. He was killed in the first attack (hamleh) on the day of Ashoora. He fought in Sifeen with Imam Ali (as) and stood beside Moslim Ibn Aqeel in Koofa. After Moslim was killed he went and hid in one of the houses that were owned by his tribe until Imam Hus-sain came to Koofa.

J - Jon, the black slave

He was a servant to Abu Thar Akghifary, a close companion of Imam Ali. His full name was John Ibn Jowey. He returned to Madeenah after Abu Thar was banished by the third caliph and became loyal to the Ahl Albait. He was in the service of Imam Ali, Imam Hassan, Imam Hussain, and Imam Ali Ibn Al-Hussain. He came to Karbala with Imam Hussain and was responsible for fixing and preparing the swords and various other weapons. He fought with the Imam until he was killed. The Imam then sat on his dead body and prayed to Allah for him.

Chapter

23

J - Jonadah Ibn Ka'ab Alansari

Amongst the martyrs of Karbala, Jonadah was originally from the tribe of Alkhazraj. He traveled with the Imam from Makka to Karbala and was killed with his son in the first hemleh.

Chapter 24

J - Jondob Ibn Hojair Alkoholani

He was amongst the martyrs of Karbala and a close friend of Imam Ali Ibn Abi Talib. He was from Koofa and came to Karbala and fought with the Imam. Jondob was killed in the first hemleh.

Chapter

25

K - Al-Komayt Ibn Zayd Al-Asadi

A famous Arab poet. His poems were always about the Ahl Albait and the slaying of Imam Hussain in Karbala. He was born on 60 AH, the same year the tragedy of Karbala occurred, and died on 126 AH. Because of Imam Ali Ibn Al-Hussain's prayer, Komayt died a martyr.

Chapter

26

L - Layla Bint Abi Morra Al-Thaqafi

She was the wife of Imam Hussain and the mother of Ali Al-Akbar and also one of the purest women at that time. Her name is seldom mentioned in the recitation of the tragedy of Imam Hussain.

Chapter

27

M - Mane'e Ibn Zyad

He was amongst the martyrs in Karbala.

Mane'e Ibn Raqqad.

It is also said that his name was

M - Mohammed Ibn Al-Ash'ath

Among the companions of Obaid Illah Ibn Ziyad who fought against Imam Hussain in Karbala. When Muslim Ibn Aqeel came to Koofa and entered Taw'a's house, Muslim told her about all the events that he had gone through and that the people of Ibn Ziyad were looking for him. Taw'a's son heard the conversation and in the morning went and told Mohammed Ibn Al Ash'ath who then told Obaid Illah Ibn Ziyad. Shortly after the news of Muslim's whereabouts broke, Taw'a's house was surrounded!

Chapter 29

M - Mohteshem Al-Kashany

He live in the beginning of the Safawy period and wrote poems praising Ahl Albait. He died in 996 Hijreh. One of his most famous poems are the ones that are recited all around the world on the nights of Muhar-ram. He became popular for his strong lines of poetry about the tragedy of Imam Hussain in Karbala.

M - Mohammed Ibn Al-Hanafya

His father was Imam Ali (as) and Al-Hanafya is his mother's last name. She was Khawla bint Jaafer Ibn Qays Ibn Salma Ibn Tha'lebeh, and her son Mohammed was among the bravest. In the war of Al-Jamal he held the flag of Imam Ali's army. He witnessed the battle of Nahrawan. When Imam Hussain refused to accept Yazeed as the *new ruler of the Muslims*, Mohammed Ibn Al-Hanafya was among the people who disagreed with Imam Hussain's going to Kabala. Imam Hussain wrote his will and gave it to Mohammed. After the Imam's martyrdom in Karbala, Mohammed was lonely like everyone who did not go with Imam Hussain and in 66 AH, Al Mokhtar Ibn Obaid Illah accepted him as an Imam and took control of Iraq by his name. He died in 81 Hijreh in the days of Abd Al-Malik Ibn Marwan.

Chapter

31

M - Al-Mokhtar Al Thaqafi

Amongst the ones who fought Obaid Allah Ibn Zyad after the killing of the Imam in Karbala. His mother was Dawma bint Wahab. He was born in the year of the journey (Hijrah) of the Prophet and came with his father to Madeeneh. He was a very brave and courageous man. When Muslim Ibn Aqeel came to Koofa, he offered him his house to stay in, and after Muslim was killed Obaid Allah Ibn Zyad put him in the same prison Maythem Al Tammar was in. He was killed in a fight with Abdullah Ibn Al Zubair's army in the famous uprising of the repenters. His body rests next to Muslim Ibn Aqeel.

Chapter 32

M - Muslim Ibn Oqbeh

When the people of Madeeneh rejected the Ummayyads and fought them after the tragedy of Karbala, Mo'aweyeh set up an army lead by Muslim Ibn Oqbeh to go and terrify the people of Madeeneh. Muslim went to Madeeneh and killed thousands of the Prophet's (pbuh&hf) companions. He was later known in history as Musrif because his name was contradicted his actions.

Chapter

33

M - Muhajer Ibn Aws

Amongst Omer Ibn Sa'ad's army. When he saw Hor Ibn Yazeed Alreyahi come closer to Imam Hussain's tents he came up to him and said: 'Why Hor, if I was told who is the strongest man in Koofa I would have said without any doubt you. Why do you look so weak now?' Hor answered him: 'I see myself between Paradise and Hellfire, and by God I shall choose nothing over Paradise'. It was then that Hor joined the Imam's army.

Chapter

34

N - Nafi'i Ibn Hilal

He is Nafi'i Ibn Hilal Ibn Jamal Ibn Sa'ad and one of the martyrs in Karbala. He was a known figure in Koofa and an excellent recitor of Imam Ali's narrations. He had been with Imam Ali in all three of his battles: Sifeen, Nahrewan, and Al-Jamal. After Moslim was killed in Koofa, he quietly hid himself and later on joined Imam Hussain and came with him to Karbala. In Karbala, Nafi'i spoke with enthusiasm to Omar Ibn Sa'ads army. They in return threw stones at him until they broke his arm and then they came and took him to Shimr who killed him. Some say his name was Hilal Ibn Nafi'i.

Chapter

35

O - Obaid Allah Ibn Ziyad

The ruler of Koofa. It was by his orders, and by the orders of his superior Yazeed that Imam Hussain was slaughtered in Karbala. He was known as the son of Marjanah, referring to his mother because nobody knew who his father was. In fact, he had six alleged fathers. He killed Muslim Ibn Aqeel by throwing him from the top of Dar Al-Imarah. He was the ruler of Khorasan in 54 Hijra.

Chapter 36

O - Omeya Ibn Sa'ad Alta'aey

He was killed with Imam Hussain in Karbala in the first hamleh. He was known for his courage in Koofa and was a close friend of Imam Ali Ibn Abi Talib (as). Omeya was also among the people who fought with the Imam Ali in the battle of Sifeen. He joined the army of Imam Hussain on the 8th of Muharam.

Chapter

37

O - Orwa Ibn Battan Altha'leby

An enemy of Imam Hussain in Karbala. He and Zayd Ibn Raqqad killed one of Imam Hussain's men by the name of Sowayd Ibn Motaa.

Chapter

38

O - Othman Ibn Ali Ibn Abi Talib

One of the martyrs in Karbala. He was the brother of Abul Fadhl Al-Abbas. His mother was Om-Al Baneen (Fatima Al Kilabyeh). He said that his father Imam Ali had said: 'I called him Othman because of my brother Othman Ibn Madh'oon'. In Karbala he was hit by an arrow by Khawly Ibn Yazeed, which made him fall to the ground, then another man came and killed him. He was 21.

Chapter 39

Q - Qarib (Servant of Imam Hussain)

One of the martyrs of Karbala. His mother was Fakeekeh, a maid in Imam Hussain and his wife Rabab's house. He came with Imam Hussain to Karbala and was killed on the day of Ashoora.

Chapter 40

Q - Al-Qassim Ibn Al Hassan

The son of Imam Hassan (as). He was a young boy, in his teenage years. His famous line in Karbala was when Imam Hussain asked him: "Qassim, how do you see death?" He replied: "Oh uncle, in your service, it is sweeter than honey". He asked permission from Imam Hussain to enter the battle several times before the Imam agreed. When he fell to the ground, Imam Hussain ran to him and told the others to come and take him to the tents because he could not stand taking his body by himself. Al-Qassim was also known for being handsome.

Chapter 41

R - Al-Rabab

The daughter of Imr'e' Al-Qays Ibn Oday, and wife of Imam Hussain. She was the mother of Sakeeneh and Ali Al-Asgher (Abdulla). After the the massacre in Karbala, she came back with the women and held a ma'atem for a whole year in Madeeneh. She always cried for her brother and never sat in a shaded place until she died after a year of Imam Hussain's martyrdom.

Chapter 42

S - Sahl Ibn Saad

One of the companions of the Prophet (pbuh&hf) and loyal followers of Imam Ali. When he saw the women of Ahl Albait coming towards Damascus, he went to one of them, introduced himself and then asked if there was anything he could do for them. Sakeena said that it would be appreciated if he could make the holder of Imam Hussain's head move away from them so that people would stop looking at the daughters of the Prophet. Sahl payed 400 Dinars to the holder of the head, and in re- turn asked for him to do as Sakeenah had asked of him. Sahl died at the age of 96 or 100 on 88 AH.

Chapter

43

S - Sarjoon (Sir Jon)

He is Sarjoon (Sir Jon) Ibn Mansoor. He was a Christian from Al-Sham. He served as Mo'aweyeh and Yazeed's consultant in government matters. He was the one who suggested to Yazeed to have Obaid Illah ibn Zyad a ruler over the people of Koofeh. In the time of Marwan Ibn Al Hakem's ruling he was tricked and removed from his position.

Chapter 44

S - Shabib Ibn Abdullah

One of the martyrs of Karbala. He was amongst the bravest in Koofa. He joined Imam Hussain and was killed in the first hamleh before the noon of Ashoora. He was one of the companions of the Prophet (pbuh&hf) and fought with Imam Ali in all three of his battles.

Chapter 45

S - Shorayh Al-Qadhi

A judge in Koofa originally from Yemen. Shorayh was a learned man, but extremely naive. In the reign of Omar he was given the position of the supreme judge of Koofa and remained in this position for 60 years. Imam Ali did not remove him despite the fact that Shurayh had once na- ively accepted to indirectly remove Imam Ali from his position as Caliph and choose Mu'awiyeh.

Chapter 46

T - Al Tawaboon

After the martyrdom of Imam Hussain, the Shi'a of Karbala realized their mistake and were determined to do something to avenge the death of the Imam and ask forgiveness for their wrongdoings. They chose Sulaimaan Ibn Sard Alkhoza'eey as their leader and secretly started gathering weapons and money in order to be able to fight. During this period, Yazeed Ibn Mo'aweeya died. When they felt they had a good enough army, they publicized their movement during Marwan Ibn Alhakam's reign and declared their army of about 4000 people. They walked all the way to Imam Hussain's resting place asking Allah for forgiveness. Finally they went to Alshaam, the area encompassing Syria, Palestine, Lebanon today, and there they fought one of the bloodiest battles ever. They could not beat the powerful Army of Alshaam, so they came back to Koofa at night. Amongst the martyrs in the battle in Alshaam were: Sulaimaan Ibn Sard, Abdulla Ibn Sa'ad Al Azdi, Abdulla Ibn Wa'el, and Rifa'ah Ibn Shadad.

Chapter

47

Y - Yazeed Ibn Mo'aweeya

Probably one of the dirtiest and cruelist men in history. He was responsible for the genocide in Karbala. He was born on 25 AH. He played with dogs and monkeys and did not believe in judgment day. He was ruler over the Muslims for three years. In the first he slaughtered Imam Hus- sain; in the second he committed a genocide in Medeenah where he ordered the slaying of close to 10,000 Muslims; and in the third , he at- tacked and demolished the Ka'abah.

Chapter

48

Y - Yazeed Ibn Thabeet AlAbdy

Amongst the martyrs of Karbala and a loyal Shia to the Ahl Albait. He was a companion of Abo Al-Aswad Al Do'ely. He had 10 sons, but only 2 of them and himself went to Karbala. His sons were killed in the first hemleh and he was killed in the 1-to-1 battles.

Chapter 49

Z - Zayd Ibn Al-Arqam

One of the companions of the Prophet (pbuh&hf) who fought with him in some of his battles. At the time of Ashoora he was a very old man. It is said that when Imam Hussain's head was brought into Dar Al-Imareh, Ibn Zyad started hitting the head with a cane. Zayd got up and said to Ibn Zyad: Stop hitting those lips, by God which there is no God but him I have seen the Prophet (pbuh&hf) kissing those very lips. He then got up and ran home crying. He died in Koofa on 68 AH.

Z - Sayyeda Zayneb Bint Ali (as)

She is the one who carried the story of Karbala to the world and stayed with Imam Hussain all his life. She was the daughter of Imam Ali and Sayyeda Fatima Al-Zahra. She was born on 5 Jamadi Aloowlah, 5AH in Madeeneh after Imam Hussain (as) and one of her names was: 'Aqeelat Bani Hashim'. She was known for her courage and loyalty to her brother Imam Hussain. She was married to her cousin Jaafer Ibn Abdulla and had two sons: Mohammed and Awn who were both martyred in Karbala. Even after Imam Hussain was slain, Sayyeda Zayneb took care of the women until they came back to Madeeneh. She went to Al-Sham with her husband and there she died on 63/65 AH.

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*"Wisdom is the lost property of the Believer,
let him claim it wherever he finds it"*

Imam Ali (as)