

اسلام طفيل ابن عمرو

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# ISLAM OF TUFAIL BIN 'AMR AD-DAWSI

رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

# Islam of Tufail bin ‘Amr Dawsi رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ

In the 6<sup>th</sup> year of Nubuwat, when Rasulullah صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ was actively engaged in the work of Da’wat (inviting people towards Allah Ta’ala), a person by the name Tufail bin ‘Amr Ad-Dawsi came to Makkah Mukarramah. Apart from being a man of noble lineage, Tufail was a celebrated poet and a man of remarkable wisdom. He was also renowned for his great hospitality and enjoyed friendly alliances with the Quraysh.

When he came to Makkah Mukarramah, some of the Quraysh informed him: “There is a man amongst us who has caused lots of friction within the nation. His speech is like sorcery and black magic. It causes hostile division between father and son, between brother and brother and between husband and wife. You should be careful of him lest you or your people fall prey to his menace. As far as possible, refrain from listening to anything he has to say.”

The Quraysh frightened him to such an extent that he inserted wads of cotton wool into his ears lest the speech of this man accidentally falls onto his ears. He relates: “This action led the people to dub me Zul-Qutnatain (the man cotton wool in his ears). Coincidentally, I was one day passing the Masjidul Haraam where I came across Rasulullah ﷺ performing Salaah before the K'abah Shareef. I edged closer to him. Although I personally had no intention to listen to his words, Allah Ta'ala wanted to make me listen to some of His words. I involuntarily listened to these words, which I found to be extraordinarily pleasant and delightful. I thought to myself, ‘I

am an intelligent man and a celebrated poet. Good or bad words are not strange to my ears. I will definitely lend my ears to this speech. If his words are pleasant, I will accept them and if his words are revolting or inappropriate, I will reject them. ”

He further relates: “Subsequently, when Rasulullah ﷺ returned from the Haram, I tagged along behind him. When he reached his house, I submitted: ‘Your people have left me so terrified of listening to your words that I have inserted cotton wool into my ears lest I fall prey to your words. However, the divine will of Allah Ta’ala has not allowed me to abstain from listening to your words. Your words fell onto my ears and I found them to be exceptionally graceful. Why don’t you present your religion to me?’

Rasulullah ﷺ then presented Islam to me and recited a portion of the Qur-aan Shareef before me.”

According to another narration, Rasulullah ﷺ recited Surah Ikhlāas and Mu’awwazatain before him.

He relates: “By Allah! I have never come across any words similar to the words of the Qur-aan Shareef and I have not encountered any religion more moderate and practical than the religion of Islam. I immediately embraced Islam. I then appealed: ‘O Rasul of Allah! I am the chief of my people. After my return, I aspire to invite my people towards Islam. Make dua to Allah Ta’ala to grant me some symbol that would assist me in my ambitions.’

Rasulullah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ made dua:

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْ لَهُ آيَةً

*“O Allah! Grant him some symbol.”*

He relates: “Subsequently, as I neared my hometown, a Nur (radiance) like the radiance of a lantern suddenly formed between my eyes. I pleaded with Allah Ta’ala to transfer this Nur onto some other part of my body instead of positioning it right on my face lest my people regard this as a type of punishment for denouncing my ancestral religion. This Nur was

instantly transferred to my whip, which miraculously turned into something like a lantern.

In the morning, I presented Islam first to my father and then to my wife. Both of them cleaned their clothing, took a bath and embraced Islam. I pacified my wife by saying: 'If you are concerned about any harm afflicting the children due to us abandoning the idols, I accept full responsibility for this.'

I then presented Islam to the Daws tribe but they were a bit hesitant to accept Islam. I returned to Makkah Mukarramah and once again presented myself to Rasulullah ﷺ exclaiming: 'O Prophet of Allah! The tribe of Daws declined to embrace Islam. Why don't you invoke the curse of Allah against them?' Rasulullah ﷺ raised his hands in dua:

اللَّهُمَّ اهْدِ دَوْسًا وَانْتِ بِهِمْ

*'O Allah! Guide the tribe of Daws and (following their conversion to Islam) bring them over here.'*

He then advised Tufail: 'Go and invite them towards Islam with affection and compassion.'"

He says: “As per his advice, I persisted in inviting my people towards Islam. Up to the 7<sup>th</sup> year of Hijrah, between seventy to eighty households embraced Islam. In the year 7 A.H., I brought all of them with me to Madinah Munawwarah in the presence of Rasulallah ﷺ. Following the conquest of Makkah, I requested Rasulallah ﷺ to permit me to burn the idol of ‘Amr bin Hameemah called Zul-Kaffain.”

Nabi ﷺ permitted him and he set out for his village and set fire to this idol. As he was in the process of setting it alight, he disdainfully continued reciting the following stanzas:

يَا ذَا الْكَفَّيْنِ لَسْتُ مِنْ عُبَادِكَ

مِيْلَادُنَا أَكْبَرُ مِنْ مِيْلَادِكَ

إِنِّي حَشَوْتُ النَّارَ فِي فُؤَادِكَ

“O Zul-Kaffain! I am not one of your devotees. My birth is far superior to your birth. Indeed, I have thrust blazing fire within your heart.”

Half the tribe had already embraced Islam. Subsequent to the burning of this idol, the other half repented from their shirk and embraced Islam.

According to another narration, after accepting Islam, Tufail returned to his hometown on an incredibly dark rainy night. As a result, he was unable to see the road ahead. This is when Allah Ta'ala created this Nur (light). When the people saw this they were left in utter bewilderment. They surrounded him from all sides attempting to clutch his whip. This nur then radiated from their fingertips. Whenever a dark night fell, this whip would turn radiant with nur. This is why Hadhrat Tufail was prominently known as Zun-Nur (a man of radiance).

*[Seerat-e-Mustafa Page 124]*