

Khalifa Ali bin Abu Talib - Ayesha's Occupation of Basra

Emissary to Madina

In pursuance of the truce agreement between Othman b Hanif and the confederates, Kaab b Sur the Qazi of Basra was commissioned to go to Madina to ascertain whether Talha and Zubair had taken the oath of allegiance to Ali voluntarily, or under some compulsion. Kaab b Sur was originally a Christian. He was attracted by Islam, and became a Muslim. He was a man of great learning and piety and was very popular among the people of Basra. On arrival at the mosque, Madina he proceeded to the Prophet's mosque and addressing the congregation said that he had come from Basra to ascertain whether Talha and Zubair had taken the oath of allegiance to Ali voluntarily or under compulsion. The men in the mosque maintained silence, but Usama b Zaid stood up to say that Talha and Zubair had taken the oath of allegiance under compulsion. At this Sahl b Hanif, the brother of Othman b Hanif the Governor of Basra rushed with his men to beat Usama. Usama's father Zaid was an adopted son of the Holy Prophet and the Holy Prophet loved Usama as a grandson. During the time of Abu Bakr, Usama had led a campaign to Syria. Some Companions came to the rescue of Usama. And they too declared that Talha and Zubair had taken the oath of allegiance under compulsion. Kaab b Sur came to the conclusion that Talha and Zubair had in fact taken the oath of allegiance under compulsion.

[View Page](#)

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