

ومن كتاب له (عليه السلام) إلى عبد الله بن العباس بعد مقتل محمد بن أبي بكر

To 'Abdullāh ibn al-'Abbās after Muḥammad ibn Abī Bakr had been killed.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَإِنَّ مِصْرَ قَدْ افْتَتِحَتْ، وَمُحَمَّدُ بْنُ أَبِي بَكْرٍ رَحِمَهُ اللَّهُ قَدْ اسْتَشْهَدَ، فَعِنْدَ اللَّهِ نَحْتَسِبُهُ، وَلِدَانًا صِحًا، وَعَامِلًا كَادِحًا، وَسَيْفًا قَاطِعًا، وَرَكْنًا دَافِعًا. وَقَدْ كُنْتُ حَثَّيْتُ النَّاسَ عَلَيَّ لِحَاقِهِ، وَأَمَرْتَهُمْ بِغِيَاثِهِ قَبْلَ الْوَقْعَةِ، وَدَعَوْتَهُمْ سِرًّا وَجَهْرًا، وَعَوَدَا وَبَدَأَا، فَمِنْهُمْ الْآتِي كَارِهَا، وَمِنْهُمْ الْمَعْتَلُّ كَاذِبًا، وَمِنْهُمْ الْقَاعِدُ خَاذِلًا.

Now then, Egypt has, been conquered and Muḥammad ibn Abī Bakr, may Allāh have mercy on him, has been martyred. We seek his reward from Allāh. He was a son who was a well-wisher, a hard worker, a sharp sword and a bastion of defence. I had roused the people to join him and ordered them to reach him to help before this incident. I called to them secretly as well as openly repeatedly. Some of them came half-heartedly, some put up false excuses and some sat away leaving me.

أَسْأَلُ اللَّهَ تَعَالَى أَنْ يَجْعَلَ لِي مِنْهُمْ فَرَجًا عَاجِلًا، فَوَاللَّهِ لَوْ لَا طَمَعِي عِنْدَ لِقَائِي عَدُوِّي فِي الشَّهَادَةِ، وَتَوَطُّي نَفْسِي عَلَى الْمَنِيَّةِ، لَأَحْبَبْتُ أَلَّا أَبْقَى مَعَ هَؤُلَاءِ يَوْمًا وَاحِدًا، وَلَا أَلْتَقِيَ بِهِمْ أَبَدًا.

I ask Allāh the Sublime, to give me early relief from them, for by Allāh, had I not been yearning to meet the enemy for martyrdom and not prepared myself for death, I would not have liked to be with these people for a single day nor ever to face the enemy with them.