

we say. }²³

Prophetic Hadiths:

'Umar ibn Al-Khattab said, When Hafsa bint 'Umar became a widow after the death of her (husband) Khunais ibn Shuraiq As-Sahmi who had been one of the companions of the Prophet (pbuh) and he died at Madina I went to Uthman ibn 'Affan and presented Hafsa (for marriage) to him. He said, I will think it over. I waited for a few days, then he met me and said, It seems that it is not possible for me to marry at present. 'Umar further said, I met Abu Bakr As-Siddiq and said to him, If you wish, I will marry my daughter Hafsa to you. Abu Bakr kept quiet and did not say anything to me in reply. I became angrier with him than with 'Uthman. I waited for a few days and then Allah's Messenger asked for her hand, and I gave her in marriage to him. Afterwards I met Abu Bakr who said, Perhaps you became angry with me when you presented Hafsa to me and I did not give you a reply? I said, Yes. Abu Bakr said, Nothing stopped me to respond to your offer except that I knew that Allah's Messenger (pbuh) had mentioned her, and I

²³ In this connection we would better recount the following astonishing story: Abdullah ibn Wada' a related: I used to keep the company of Sa'id ibn Al-Musaiyyab. He missed me for several days. When I came back, he said, Where have you been? I said, I was busy because my wife had died. Sa' id said, Would not you tell us to attend her funeral!? Then when I wanted to leave, he said: Would not you remarry? I said, May Allah have mercy on you, who could do that. I have only two or three dirhams. He said, I could. Then he started to praise Allah Almighty and ask Allah to have peace and blessings upon the Prophet. Then, he married me to his daughter with two-dirhams (or three) as a dowry. I was very happy. I went home and started to think of someone to lend me money. I was tasting on that day. After I performed the sunset prayer I went home to I have my breakfast which was only bread and oil, I heard someone knocking the door. I said, Who is that? He said, Sa'id. He said, Sa'id. I did not expect his coming. I thought that he changed his mind. I said, O Abu Muhammad! Would not you send for me? He said, You are worthy to be visited. I asked, What do you want me to do? He said, You are a single man and you have already married. I dislike that you spend that night alone. This is your wife. She was standing behind him at that time. Then he gave me her and left. Indeed she was a very beautiful and knowledgeable woman. It is worthy mentioning that Sa'id has formerly refused to give his daughter in marriage to the son of the Muslim caliphate, Abdul-Malik ibn Mrawan.

never wanted to let out the secret of Allah's Messenger (pbuh). And if Allah's Messenger had refused her, I would have accepted her.

[Reported by Al-Bukhari]

The Bride's Dowry

Prophetic Hadith:

"Blessed is a woman whose engagement and dowry are easy".

Reported by Ahmad and Al-Nisa i]

"Once a woman came to the Prophet (pbuh) and said, "I dedicate myself to you (for marriage)." She stayed for a long period of time, then a man said, "O Messenger of Allah! If you do not want her, marry me to her". The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) said, "What do you have to give as a dowry?" I have nothing but Izar (waist sheet). The man replied. The Prophet (pbuh) said, "If you give her your Izar, you will have no Izar to wear, so find something (else)." He said, "I have nothing." The Prophet (pbuh) said, "(Try to) find (something) even if (it is) a ring of iron." But the man went back with nothing. The Prophet (pbuh) said, "Do you memorize something of the Qur'an'? The man said, "Yes, I memorize such and such and named some surahs. Then The Prophet (pbuh) said, "I gave you to each other in marriage for what you memorize of the Qur'an.

[Al-Bukhari and Muslim]

"Abu Salama related that he asked, 'Aisha (may Allah be pleased with her), How much did the Prophet (pbuh) give as a dowry? She said, "The dowry which the Prophet (pbuh)