

The Generosity of the Messenger (pbuh)

Anas (May Allah be pleased with him) said, "The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) was the best of people, the most generous of people and the bravest of people." (Bukhari)

Ibn Abbas (May Allah be pleased with him) said, "Indeed the Messenger of Allah (pbuh) was more generous than the flowing wind." (Bukhari)

- **STORY #1:** Anas (May Allah be pleased with him) said that the Messenger of Allah was never asked for anything except that he gave it. A man (by the name of Safwan bin Umayyah) came, and the Messenger gave him all of the sheep in a ravine between two mountains. The man returned to his people and said: "O my people, embrace Islam, for Muhammad gives like one who does not fear poverty!" (Muslim).

Safwan bin Umayyah (May Allah be pleased with him) also reports: "The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) gave me what he gave me (and in the beginning) he was the most hated person to me. But he continued to give me until he became the most beloved person to me." (Tirmizi)

- **STORY #2:** On the day of Hunayn, the Prophet (pbuh) gave each freed prisoner one thousand camels. One of those prisoners (Malik ibn Auf) composed a poem praising the Prophet (pbuh).

Lessons from the stories:

1. **Lesson (1):**

In these two incidents, we see how the generosity of the Messenger (pbuh) affected the people in a good way.

2. **Lesson (2):**

We learn that generosity can turn a staunch enemy into a loving friend.

- **STORY #3:** Ayesha (May Allah be pleased with her) said: "I never saw the Messenger of Allah make someone else deliver his charity. Rather he would be the one to put the charity in the beggar's hand." (Ibn Majah)

1. **Lesson:**

We learn from this narration that the Messenger (pbuh) had the true spirit of generosity and would give to the needy himself. He was not too proud to go to a beggar and give him charity.

● **STORY #4:** Bilal bin Rabah (May Allah be pleased with him) said: "If a needy person came to the Messenger (pbuh) (and he did not have anything to give him) he would have me go and borrow some money to clothe and feed the needy person." (Abu Daud and Bayhaqi)

1. **Lesson (1):**

This narration shows that even if the Messenger (pbuh) had nothing to give, he would borrow money to fulfill the person's need, and then pay back the money he borrowed

2. **Lesson (2):**

Poverty was not an excuse for the Messenger (pbuh). Rather, even in poverty, he would give generously to the needy.

From all of this and more, it is clear that the Messenger of Allah (pbuh) was the most generous of all people.

May eternal blessings and mercies be showered upon our beloved Messenger (pbuh).