



Noor Masjid Kagzi Bazar
Mithadar, Karachi.
www.ishaateislam.net
021-32439799

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
مَسْئَلَةُ أَهْلِ الدِّينِ كَيْفَ لَا تَعْبُدُونَ
دَارُ الْإِفْتَاءِ الشُّورَى
جَمِيعَةُ إِشَاعَةِ الْإِسْلَامِ بِكَوْنِهَا



Question:

What is the authenticity of this post?

When Hazrat Abdul-Rahman ibn Auf died, his net worth valued in Gold Coins was 3.1 billion Islamic dinars; Islamic Dinar = 4.25 grams of gold per coin
If the whole wealth is converted into USD, then the calculation of **net worth of Hazrat Abdul Rahman ibn Auf is : 4.25 X 3,103,000,000 X 70 = USD 923 billion.**
As of March 2024, Elon Musk is the richest person in the world, with a total net worth of \$215 billion, while Abdul Rahman ibn Auf's was \$923 billion.

Was Hazrat Abdur Rahman bin Auf (رضي الله عنه) that much wealthy? And what were his economic activities like?

What guidance does Islam provide regarding the acquisition, accumulation, and expenditure of wealth?

(Questioner: ABDULLAH c/o Mufti Abdul Rahman, Malawi - Africa)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى وَتَقَدَّسَ الْجَوَابُ:

The estimate of the wealth (at the time of passing away) of Hazrat 'Abd al-Rahman bin 'Auf (رضي الله عنه), presented in question is **incorrect and exaggerated** when compared with the authentic biographical and historical sources.
(**Note:** For correct estimate read complete fatwa)

The viral social media post is probably the product of **unverified and inauthentic forwarded messages** that are designed to get engagement (i.e. likes, views, comments etc.).

Muslims should only share knowledge from authentic Islamic sources which are verified by the expert scholars of the field.

It is the responsibility of the Muslims to **refrain from spreading unverified information especially regarding the companions of Prophet (ﷺ)**.

The wealth of these noble individuals cannot be compared to that of any ordinary billionaire in the present age, as **the objectives and style of their affluence were entirely different**.

The Companions of the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) are those distinguished and noble souls who were trained under his guidance and have no equal.

Even in their worldly engagements, they always maintained sincerity, piety, and the Rida (رضاء) of Allah in mind.

The wealth of the Companions was not for personal comfort and luxury; rather, the more affluent a Companion was, the more generous they were in their giving.

- **The current estimate of the inheritance of Hazrat 'Abd al-Rahman bin 'Auf as per his authentic biographies:**

Due to the blessed prayer of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ), Allah had granted extraordinary barakah (بركة) & blessings in the business of Hazrat Abdul Rahman bin Auf.

When 'Abd al-Rahman bin 'Auf passed away, each of his four wives received 80,000 gold coins approx.

One mithqal (Sharai dinar) of gold amounts to 4.374 grams.

Share of one spouse was 80,000 dinars approx.

As per Shariah All the Wives of deceased get one eighth portion of the inheritance in total.

Which means 80,000 multiplied by four spouses i.e. 320,000 dinars, is $\frac{1}{8}^{\text{th}}$ of inheritance.

If 320,000 dinars is determined to be the eighth portion of the inheritance, then the total inheritance amounts to **2,560,000 dinars**, which is equivalent to **11,197 kilograms of gold**.

As of today, February 3rd, 2025, the value of one gram of gold is approximately 90/- US dollars or 90,000/- US dollars per kilogram.

Based on this calculation,

The amount of the inheritance in current terms is:

ONE BILLION US Dollars Approx. (\$ 1,007,730,000 US dollars).

It is possible that livestock and horses were in addition to this.

Wealth didn't interfere in his religious life and responsibilities. Along with such vast business:

- he spent a lot of time in **Nafil (optional) prayers daily**.
- **participated in every battle**.
- and had acquired so much **knowledge of Quran & Sunnah** that he was **eligible to give FATWA (sharia ruling)** in the time of Prophet (ﷺ).
- He became one of the “Ashara Mubashara” i.e. One of the ten companions of Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) who were promised Paradise (Jannah) during their lifetime.

The wealth he spent during his lifetime in the path of Allah is phenomenal!

According to authentic sources, some of the things he gave in the cause and path of Allah's "deen" and as a charity on different occasions is as follows:

1. Seven hundred camels loaded with grains and other things
2. One thousand horses.
3. One hundred & thirty thousand dinars in gold.
4. Four hundred thousand dirhams in silver etc.

• **Islamic perspective regarding the acquisition, accumulation, and expenditure of wealth:**

Islam provides detailed guidance on the ethical management of wealth, emphasizing

1. lawful acquisition
2. Responsible accumulation
3. And beneficial expenditure.

Earnings should be **halal** and business **dealings honest**. Wealth should not be hoarded but rather used to maintain a **balanced life** and support family, relatives, community, and those in need.

Zakat and sadaqah are crucial for redistributing wealth and aiding the people in need.

Additionally, Islamic inheritance laws ensure fair distribution of wealth among heirs, preventing conflict and promoting harmony.

Hazrat Sa'd (رضي الله عنه) narrated, The Prophet (ﷺ) said:

"Indeed, for you to leave your heirs wealthy is better than to leave them dependent, begging from the people."

“Whatever you spend (seeking Allah's Rida) will be considered a Sadaqah for you, even the mouthful (or a bite) of food you put in the mouth of your wife.”

(Sahih al-Bukhari :5354, In-book reference: Book 69, Hadith 4
USC-MSA web (English) reference: Vol. 7, Book 64, Hadith 266)

This Hadith emphasizes the importance of providing for one's family and ensuring that they are financially secure after one's passing, highlighting the virtue of responsible financial planning and inheritance.

On the other hand,

There are a lot of **negative impacts of wealth** on one's faith. It depends on how it is acquired, managed, and used. Excessive focus on accumulating wealth can lead to:

- **Materialism,**
- **Neglect of religious duties** like getting knowledge, performing prayers on time, paying zakat, performing Hajj etc.
- **Diversion of attention from spiritual growth.**
- **Forgetting the temporary nature of the world and the reason of man's creation.**
- **Pride and arrogance.**

This type of wealth is discouraged in Islam and can harm one's relationship with Allah and people.

To summarize,

It evident from the text above, the economic lives and wealth of Companions of Prophet (ﷺ) was of a completely different nature and style. It was acquired and managed in a way that it didn't interfere in their objectives of getting successful in the life and hereafter.

ALLAH KNOWS BEST!

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4. وَخَلَفَ مَا لَا عَظِيمًا، مِنْ ذَلِكَ ذَهَبٌ قُطِعَ بِالْفُئُوسِ حَتَّى مَجَلَّتْ أَيْدِي الرِّجَالِ، وَتَرَكَ أَلْفَ بَعِيرٍ وَمِائَةَ فَرَسٍ، وَثَلَاثَةَ آلَافٍ شَاةٍ تَرْعَى بِالْبَقِيعِ وَكَانَ لَهُ أَرْبَعُ نِسْوَةٍ، أَخْرَجَتْ إِمْرَأَةً بِثَمَانِينَ أَلْفًا - يَعْنِي صُوحَاتٍ. (أسد الغابة في معرفة الصحابة، باب العين، باب العين والباء، ٣٣٦٤ - عبد الرحمن بن عوف، 3/ 376-379، ط: دار الفكر - بيروت، 1409 هـ - 1989 م)
5. سَمِعْتُ أَبَا صَالِحٍ قَالَ: مَاتَ عَبْدُ الرَّحْمَنِ بْنُ عَوْفٍ وَتَرَكَ ثَلَاثَ نِسْوَةٍ فَأَصَابَ كُلُّ وَاحِدَةٍ مِمَّا تَرَكَ ثَمَانُونَ أَلْفًا ثَمَانُونَ أَلْفًا.... صَالِحُ بْنُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ بْنِ عَبْدِ الرَّحْمَنِ بْنِ عَوْفٍ قَالَ: أَصَابَ ثَمَاضِرُ بِنْتُ الْأَصْبَغِ رُبْعَ الثُّمْنِ فَأَخْرَجَتْ بِمِائَةِ أَلْفٍ وَهِيَ إِحْدَى الْأَرْبَعِ. (الطبقات الكبرى لابن سعد، الصحابة، الطبقة الأولى: أهل بدر، طبقات البدرين من المهاجرين، ومن بني زهرة بن كلاب بن مرة، ٣٨ - عبد الرحمن بن عوف بن عبد عوف، 3/ 91-101، دار الكتب العلمية - بيروت، الطبعة الأولى، 1410 هـ - 1990 م)

والله تعالى ورسوله (ﷺ) أعلم بالصواب

M. Tahir

كتبه:

أبو الليث محمد طاهر قادري

(المُتَخَصِّصُ فِي الْفَقْهِ الْإِسْلَامِيِّ)

دار الإفتاء، جمعية إشاعة أهل السنة (باكستان)

CHECKED AND VERIFIED BY:

عبد الله محمد ناعمي

Dr Mufti Muhammad Ataullah Naeemi

Sheikh ul Hadith Jamia tun Noor &
Head of Dar ul Ifta An Noor
Jamiat Ishaat Ahlus Sunnah, Pakistan Karachi

Abul Laith Muhammad Tahir Qadri

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بسم الله

Mufti Muhammad Junaid Attari Naeemi

Dar ul Ifta An Noor
Jamiat Ishaat Ahlus Sunnah, Pakistan Karachi

Mufti Abdul Rehman

Darul Ifta Gareeb Nawaz
Limbe Jama Masjid Malawi
Central Africa

Mufti Muhammad Shehzad Qadri

Dar ul Ifta An Noor
Jamiat Ishaat Ahlus Sunnah,
Pakistan Karachi

Mufti Muhammad Irfan Attari

Dua Masjid
Agra Taj Colony
Karachi