

# Sayyidatina Khansa

(Radiyahallahu Anha)

Written and Illustrated by  
Ummu Abdullah



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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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Khansa (R.D) was a famous poetess who belonged to the tribe of Banu Qais. Until now no female poet like Khansa (R.D) was born, and not previously. She was called the queen of all poetesses. Before accepting Islam she would attend the fair of Ukaaz every single year along with other poets. At the entrance of her tent was written: "The best elegy writer among the Arabs."





"Elegy" poetry is a kind of poetry that is written to express praise or sorrow for a dead person. Like most artistic people she was soft and kind-hearted. Her affection and love for others was such that when her brother Sakhr died suddenly, his death hit her emotions and she was so shocked beyond measure that she started writing elegy poetry, although initially she used to write on different topics. She would show her love for her deceased brother through her poetry.





When she reached old age, she heard the call of Islam. The pure hearted lady understood this is the true call from a True Prophet of Allah (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam). She called her tribe and family and took them all to Nabi (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) and they accepted Islam. When Nabi (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam) heard some of her poetic lines, he was wonderstruck by her high sense of poetry.





Time passed. She busied herself in giving good tarbiyyah and teachings of Islam to her children. Nabi (Sallallahu Alaihi wa Sallam)'s time passed, Abu Bakr (R.D)'s time passed, then the Khilafat of Umar (R.D) came. She still was busy giving Tarbiyyah to her four sons - Abdullah, Abu Shajrah, Zaid, and Muawiyah. Finally, all of them were completely coloured with the colour of Quraan and Sunnah.





During the Khilafah of Umar (R.D) the call of the Battle of Qadisiyyah took place. At that time Khansa (R.D) was a very old lady. Her husband passed away before Islam, and her brother also passed away. These four sons of hers were her only boon in her old age. But this lady, who had perfect Tawakkul in Allah, did not think of her own self. Rather, she gave Dawah to her four sons to attend the Battle with full vigor and make her proud with their bravery and Imaan.





The great poetess used her great tool, poetry, to give Dawah to her sons. In poetic words she said to her sons, "My beloved children, you embraced Islam and migrated by your own will. You are all from the same father just as you are from the same mother. I have never betrayed your father, and never defamed your maternal uncle, and never allowed a blot to taint your high birth or pollute your lineage. You know the reward of becoming Shaheed and fighting against the disbelievers."

A pious and righteous woman's chastity and purity are the greatest assets she has, and are more beloved to her than the entire world. Khansa (R.D) encouraged her sons by telling them about her purity and how she protected their lineage and high birth, so that they understand how pure a mother they are from. And when that pure and respected mother asks something from them, that they should respect her words and obey her, because in same the way their mother kept their lineage protected in this world, this same mother would also make sure to protect their Akhirah too.





She again said to her sons, "My dear sons, you must remember that the everlasting Akhirah is far better than this temporary world. Allah SWT said in the Holy Quraan:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَصْبِرُوا وَصَابِرُوا وَرَابِطُوا وَاتَّقُوا  
اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ

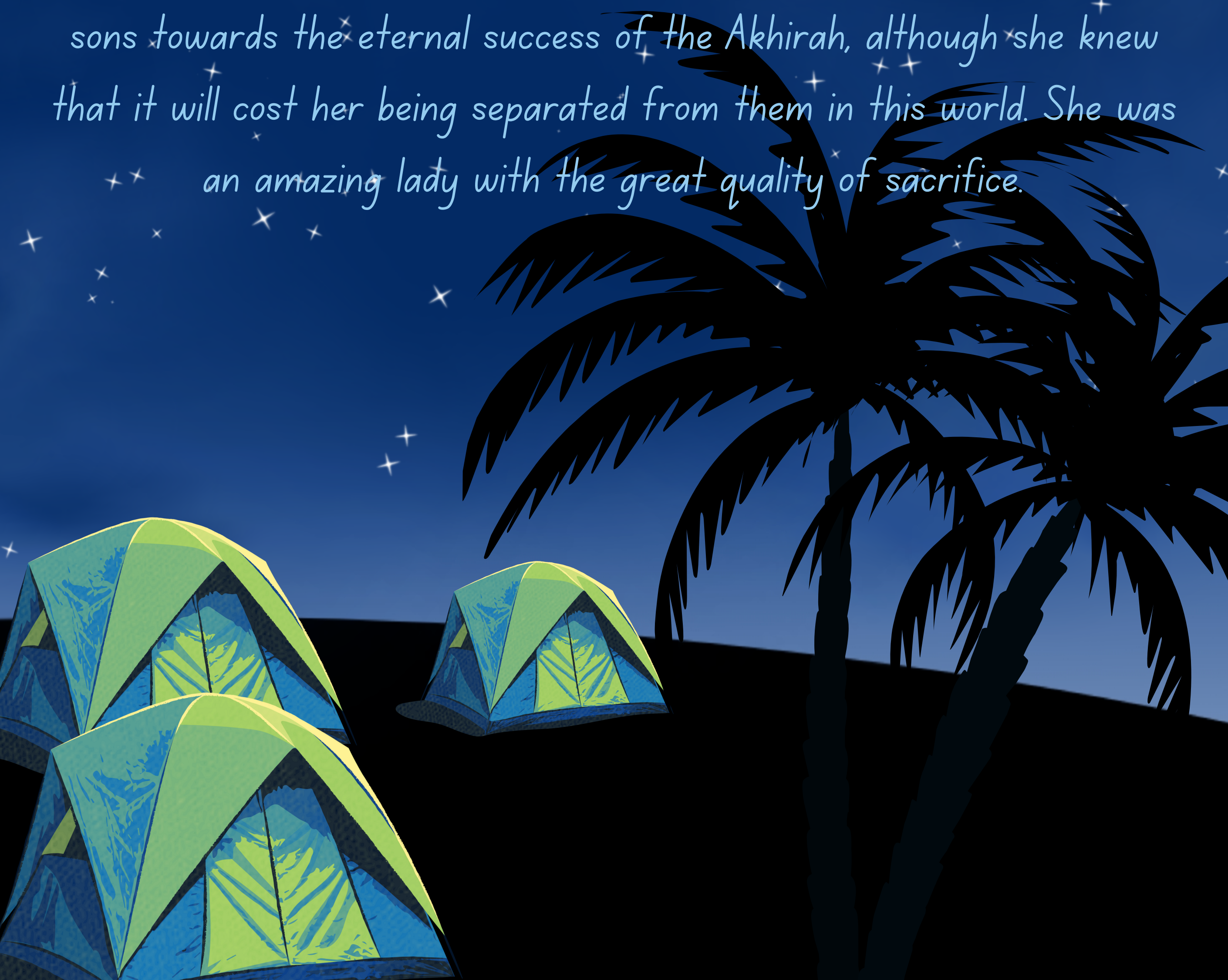
(O you who believe! Endure onto all others in endurance, be ready and observe your duty to Allah SWT, in order that you may succeed)."





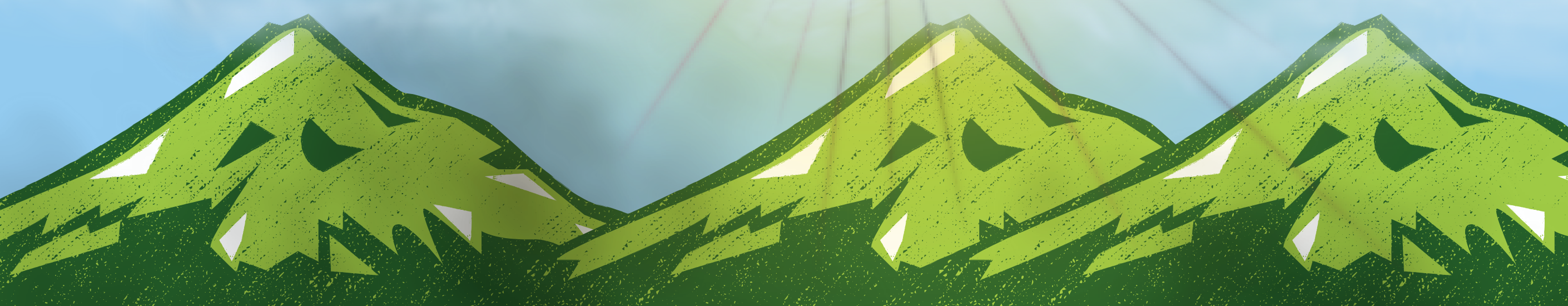
She again said to her beloved sons, "My dear sons, when you get up tomorrow morning, be prepared to contribute your best in the battle. Go ahead in the enemy lines, seeking help from Allah. When you see the flames of war rising high, get right into the centre and face the enemy chiefs. InshaAllah you will get your abode in Paradise with honour and success."

That is how Allah SWT increases the strength of a person through Imaan. The woman who once wrote poetry out of sadness for the death of her brother, after gaining Imaan she was reciting poetry and encouraging all of her children to go to the Battle and fight with full vigour. The same tool which was her solace in sadness of staying apart from her brother forever became the tool of encouragement for her sons towards the eternal success of the Akhirah, although she knew that it will cost her being separated from them in this world. She was an amazing lady with the great quality of sacrifice.





The next day when the Battle started and was thriving high, all of her sons one by one advanced towards the enemy lines. They attacked the enemy with full vigour reciting the words of their mother in verses and fought until all of them were martyred. On that day the great poetess sacrificed all her means of living happily for Islam. Khansa (R.D)'s sacrifice was rewarded by Allah SWT with the great victory of the Battle of Qadisiyyah by the Muslim Army.





When the news of their martyrdom reached her she replied  
"Alhamdulillah, glory is to Allah who honoured me with their martyrdom. I  
hope Allah will unite us in the shade of His mercy on the Day of  
Judgement inshaAllah."

Like all mothers she had love for her children, but Islaam came first to  
our Sahabah and Sahabiyyah (R.D). She was old, she could have  
considered keeping one of her sons for her Khidmah, but instead she  
sent all of them in Battle with the encouragement of her own words of  
wisdom and made sure of the victory of Islam.

Assalamu alaika ya Khansa (R.D).

Alhamdulillah





My dear little hearts, Islam was protected with great hardship previously and still many mothers are making sacrifices to protect Islam. The air around this beautiful tree of Islam is heavy with the silent mourning of many mothers since the beginning of time. This is because this call is a call towards truth and justice, whereas Shaitaan's call is a call towards falsehood and injustice. When Shaitan's call spreads throughout the world injustice and falsehood will gain the upper hand. To bring the world back towards justice and truthfulness, you and I are its strength.

Let's start calling towards goodness and forbidding evil. Let's make the mothers of Islam happy with the sight of the beautiful smiles of their children. Let's roam throughout the world with the cause of calling towards righteousness and forbidding evil. Justice will prevail through our good actions and calling towards righteousness. Increase Dawah towards goodness more and more - our success is near in this word and eternal success is waiting in the Akhirah inshaAllah.

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