

Hazrat Malik bin Dinar (R.A.)

The Pioneer of Islam in South India

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Preface

This eBook, presented by Barkateraza.in, chronicles the life, spiritual transformation, and contributions of Hazrat Malik bin Dinar (R.A.), a Tabi'i and one of the first Muslims to propagate Islam in South India. From a life of sin to becoming a revered ascetic and preacher, his journey exemplifies repentance and divine guidance. His establishment of mosques, including the Cheraman Juma Masjid, and his shrine in Kasaragod, Kerala, continue to inspire devotees. This work aims to preserve his legacy and teachings of humility and faith.

Chapter 1

Introduction

Hazrat Malik bin Dinar (R.A.) (died 130 A.H./748 C.E.) was a Tabi'i, preacher, mystic, and ascetic from the generation following the Sahaba. A disciple of Hazrat Hasan al-Basri, he transmitted hadith from authorities like Malik ibn Anas and Ibn Sirin. Born in Kufa, Iraq, to a Persian slave from Kabul, he became a pivotal figure in spreading Islam to South India, notably building the Cheraman Juma Masjid in 629 A.D. His shrine in Thalangara, Kasaragod, is a significant pilgrimage site for Sunni Muslims.

Chapter 2

Lineage and Early Life

Hazrat Malik bin Dinar was born in Kufa, Iraq, to a Persian slave from Kabul. His father's servitude did not hinder his spiritual destiny, as he embraced Islam directly under the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Initially a policeman fond of drinking, Malik led a carefree life until a transformative experience redirected him toward asceticism and piety.

Chapter 3

Spiritual Transformation

Malik's life changed dramatically after a vivid dream on the 15th of Shaaban, where he was chased by a snake representing his evil deeds. His deceased daughter, appearing in the dream, saved him by invoking Quranic verses (Al-Hadid:16), leading to his repentance. Guided by Hazrat Hasan al-Basri, he abandoned his sinful ways, becoming a devout ascetic and preacher, emphasizing the "inner jihad" against one's desires.

Chapter 4

Propagation of Islam in India

Ordered by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in a dream, Hazrat Malik bin Dinar traveled to India with companions, including Malik ibn Habeeb, to propagate Islam. In 7 A.H. (629 A.D.), he converted King Cheraman Perumal (named Tajuddin), who witnessed the Prophet's miracle of splitting the moon. Malik built the Cheraman Juma Masjid in Kodungallur, Kerala, considered India's first mosque, and established several others across Tamil Nadu and Kerala, spreading Islam in the Malabar region.

Chapter 5

Construction of Mosques

Hazrat Malik bin Dinar and his companions built numerous mosques in South India, including:

1. Cheraman Juma Masjid (Kodungallur, 13 Rajab 22 A.H.): Built with King Cheraman's support, using stones from Mecca.
2. Taqipatanam Mosque (Madurakkara, Tamil Nadu): Established by Malik's brother, Sharaf ibn Malik.
3. Kollam Mosque (Ramzan 2, 21 A.H.): Led by Malik ibn Habeeb.
4. Heli Mosque (Dulhijja 10, 21 A.H.): With Qazi Abdul Rahman ibn Malik.
5. Mangalapuram Mosque (Jumadul Awwal 27, 22 A.H.): Led by Moosa ibn Malik.
6. Thalangara Mosque (Kasaragod, Rajab 18, 22 A.H.): Where Malik's grandson, Malik ibn Muhammad, was Qazi.

These mosques, with designated waqf properties, became centers of Islamic learning and worship.

Chapter 6

Miracles and Moral Influence

1. Conversion of a Jewish Neighbor: Despite enduring daily harassment from a neighbor's sewage, Malik's patience and adherence to the Prophet's teachings led the neighbor to embrace Islam, moved by his exemplary conduct.
2. Transformation of a Thief: When a thief entered his home, Malik offered him wudu and prayer instead of punishment, leading the thief to repent, pray all night, and live a life of piety thereafter.

Chapter 7

Teachings and Sayings

Hazrat Malik bin Dinar emphasized the "inner jihad" against desires, humility, and devotion to Allah. His notable sayings include:

1. "Fight against your desires just as you fight against your enemies."
2. "The more you worry about this world, the less you focus on the hereafter."
3. "Engage in worship as a trade with Allah, and you will gain boundless rewards."
4. "A true believer replaces pride with humility, greed with contentment, and envy with sincere advice."

His teachings influenced Sufi thought, advocating character reform and spiritual discipline.

Chapter 8

Legacy and Mausoleum

Hazrat Malik bin Dinar passed away on 14 Safar 130 A.H. (748 C.E.) and is believed to be buried in Thalangara, Kasaragod, Kerala. His shrine at the Malik Deenar Juma Mosque is a major pilgrimage site, where his Urs, celebrated in Muharram, includes rituals like ziyarat and annadanam. His contributions to Islam in India, particularly in Kerala, are commemorated by institutions like the Malik Deenar Islamic Academy. His legacy inspired later saints, including Hazrat Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti, who reportedly visited his shrine.

Multimedia References

1. [Life of Hazrat Malik bin Dinar](#)
2. [Teachings and Miracles of Malik bin Dinar](#)
3. [Urs Celebrations at Kasaragod](#)

Bibliography

1. Tazkira-e-Aulia by Traditional Sources.
2. Sufi Saints of India by Local Historians.
3. History of Islam in South India by Regional Scholars.
4. Oral Traditions of Kasaragod and Kerala.

Closing Prayer

May Allah, through the blessings of His Beloved Prophet (PBUH), Hazrat Malik bin Dinar, the Sahaba, and all Awliya Allah, grant us complete love for the Prophet, protect our faith, inspire righteous deeds, and fulfill our noble desires in this world and the hereafter. Ameen.