

Interracial marriage in Islaam

Translated by Rasheed ibn Estes Barbee

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

Allaah (سبحانه) ¹ said:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتَقْوَىٰكُمْ
[O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you nations and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allaah is the most righteous of you.]²

And the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) ³ married Fatimah bint Qays from the tribe of Qur'aysh to Usamah ibn Zayd and he was a freed slave; the Prophet (عليه الصلاة والسلام) ⁴ freed him.

And Abdurrahmaan ibn Awf from the tribe of Qur'aysh married his sister to Bilaal ibn Rabah the Ethiopian; while she was from the noble Qur'aysh. Thus this affair is broad, and all praises belong to Allaah.

And Zayd ibn Haarith married Zaynab bint Jahsh the paternal cousin of the Prophet (عليه الصلاة والسلام). Therefore the matter is broad and all praises belong to Allaah. The important thing is the religion. If the woman desires to marry him and he is religious, and he is known for his religion, then all praises belong to Allaah.

Translator's note:

Usamah ibn Zayd: His mother was Umm Ayman Barakah from Ethiopia. She was from the caretakers of the Prophet (عليه الصلاة والسلام) during his infancy. She died during the rule of Uthmaan bin Affan. His father was Zayd ibn Haarith the freed slave of the Prophet (عليه الصلاة والسلام)

The Tribe of Qur'aysh are the best of the Arabs. (مجموع غبتاوى بلن عييين) (183/7)

Abdurrahmaan ibn Awf is from the ten companions promised Paradise in the narration collected by At-Tirmidhee.

¹ (سبحانه) (Subhanahu) The Exalted

² سورة الحجرات Soorah Al-Hoojooraat [49:13]

³ (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

⁴ (عليه الصلاة والسلام) (alayhi as-Salaat wa Salaam) Upon him prayer and peace