

# Salah

Ad-Din Al-Ayyubi

(Saladin)

*Hero* of the Battle of *Hattin* and  
*Liberator of Jerusalem* from Crusaders

532 - 589 A.H./1137 - 1193 C.E.

By

'Abdullah Nasih 'Ulwan

Translated By

Khalifa Ezzat Abu Zeid

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## Foreword

By

**Sheikh Sa'id Hawwa**

All praise be to Allah, and peace and blessings of Allah be upon the Messenger of Allah and his household.

The author did well in choosing to write about Salah Ad-Din's life for the following reasons:

1. The Muslim *ummah* (nation) urgently needs a person like the hero Salah Ad-Din in order to regain his epoch. Therefore, Muslims should search for one whose characteristics match those of Salah Ad-Din.
2. Jerusalem is undergoing a severe trial nowadays, so Muslims should read the history of their forefathers to realize how Jerusalem was liberated in order to liberate it again.
3. Our Muslim *ummah* has strayed from the straight path and deviated from the way of the exemplars. Thus, the *ummah* should search for those who set a good example and realize that Salah Ad-Din was one of those who had an ideal character over the passage of time.
4. Our *ummah* has ignored the way of jihad, which is the



only way to liberate Palestine. Rather, it has indulged in lusts and sophism. So, it should be reminded with an extensive biography, and there is none better than that of Salah Ad-Din in this respect.

The author has done well in choosing to remember this ideal character. We hope also that the Muslim *ummah* will do well in seizing the means of obtaining victory.

He also did well when he brought Salah Ad-Din's biography to light because he had a great, singular character. Islam was the source of this ingenuity and the reason people loved him. Moreover, their trust in his character and the *ummah's* faith were other reasons for Jerusalem's liberation. This issue needs to be emphasized so that Muslim leaders find the true manner of leadership in current times.

The only way to lead the Muslim *ummah* today is to adopt the issue of Palestine sincerely and in a manner harmonious with the hopes, beliefs, culture and history of the Muslims. The Muslim *ummah* has preserved the best memory of Salah Ad-Din because he performed like that.

As for those who think that the way of leadership is

the false adoption and lying promises, they are wrong. If they follow this devious way, generations will curse them and history will prosecute them.

As for those who think that the Palestinian issue will be solved by another belief that is separate from the heritage of the Muslim *ummah*, they are wrong and will meet the wrath of Allah, the curse of generations, and the prosecution of history.

The Palestinian issue has been the pivot of events in the region throughout the ages. It has also been the pivot of glory and heroism. The unification of Greater Syria (what is now Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria ) and Egypt under the banner of Islam was the starting point of the destruction of the Crusader invasion. This unity needed the support of the Muslim world represented in the 'Abbasid Caliphate.

The Palestinian issue today also needs unity like that which was between Egypt and Greater Syria, a unity based on religious content and Islamic teachings. Unity needs all the potentialities of the whole Muslim world.

This book is the practical lesson and the real way to carry this out. Hence, we should read it, distribute it,