

"Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) promised an individual that he would once wear the bracelets of Kisra (the King of Persia). What was the name of this person?"

Answer: **Suraqa ibn Malik**

Story:

During the Hijra (migration from Makkah to Madina), the Prophet (pbuh) met Abu Bakr at his house, and they both traveled to a nearby cave, the Jabal Thur. When the Quraysh realized that the Prophet had evaded them, they were furious. They looked for him everywhere and on all roads; they also offered a reward of 100 she-camels for anybody who would bring them the Prophet, dead or alive.



Motivated by the large reward, one of the best trackers in Mecca, Suraqa Ibn Malik, went riding on his horse looking for the Prophet (pbuh) every which way until he found him. Dressed in his armor and sword, Suraqa attempted to kill the Prophet but as soon as he would approach him, his horse would sink into the sand and not budge. He tried several times and when he realized it was a miracle, he said:

"Oh Muhammad I know that your religion will spread and that your stance shall rise. Promise me that when you have the upper hand and are in power you will treat me well. I would like you to give me this promise in writing."

The Prophet ordered Abu Bakr to give him the promise in writing and asked Suraqa to mislead the enemy away from the Prophets hiding place.

The Prophet (pbuh) also said: "How would you feel, O Suraqa, when you wear the bracelets of Kisra (the King of Persia at the time Persia)?"

There was only one Kisra and everyone knew who this was, but this statement was so shocking that Suraqa ibn Malik had to clarify again: "Kisra!?" The Prophet (saws) said "Yes, Kisra the son of Hermuz." These Bracelets were very famous, the equivalent to the Crown Jewels in our days. They were worn by the Persian Kings, who would simply rest their hands in them as a show of power. For a man who was fleeing persecution and on the brink of assassination, this promise seemed hardly possible.

Thereafter; Suraqa retreated, and the Prophet proceeded towards Madinah. This was Hijrah, the emigration - a small distance in space, a mighty leap in history, an event that was to become a threshold in the shaping of the Islamic Ummah.

Several years later, Suraqa converted to the religion of Islam and came to Medinah where the Prophet resided.

Years passed, and life went on. It was during the Caliphate of 'Umar Ibn Al Khattab, Suraqa joined the army which later prevailed over the Persians in the battle of Qadisiyya and the booty was brought to Medinah. Among them,



was the crown of Kisra, his clothes sewn out of gold thread, his scarf adorned with precious jewels, and his bracelets like which nobody had ever seen before. 'Umar shouted: "Where is Suraqa Ibn Malik?" So he came and wore the bracelets of Kisra. He walked around with them proudly, tears flooding from his eyes, saying: "Behold, the honest and the trustworthy Muhammad (pbuh) has told the truth after 20 years. He has kept his promise."

'Umar then raised his head to the heavens above and said: "Oh Allah, You did not reward this wealth to your Prophet, and he was closer to You and loved by You more than I, neither did You reward this wealth to Abu Bakr and he was closer to You and loved by You more than I, and You gave it to me. I seek refuge from You in what You have given me and hope that this is not a test from You in which I fail."



Reference used:

"100 Stories from the Life of 'Umar Ibn Al Khattab" by Muhammad Sedeeq Al Minshawi