



REVEALING
THE TRUTH

Who really killed 'Uthman?

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The gist Nasibis has been to absolve the Sahaba of any wrongdoing in the killing of 'Uthman. They have done their utmost to locate sources that protect the leading companions, for they know too well that failure to do so, in effect raises serious questions on the Ahl'ul Sunnah's aqeedah on the justice of the Sahaba.

Identifying 'Uthman's killers

Hadhrath Ayesha's lead role in killing Uthman

Many of the books of Ahl'ul Sunnah record that Ayesha had declared 'Uthman a Nathal that should be killed. Ibn Atheer in Nahaya page 80 Volume 5 and Ibn Mansur in Lisan al Arab Volume 11 Chapter "Lughuth Nathal" page 670 both record that: **"Nathal is one who has a long beard and Ayesha said kill this Nathal, by Nathal she was referring to 'Uthman"**.

In al Tabaqat al Kubra Volume 3 page 82 we read that: **"Musruq said to Ayesha, 'Uthman died because of you, you wrote to people and incited them against him"**.

Sahaba had highlighted Ayesha's shift in policy on Uthman

In Tareekh Kamil Volume 3 page 100 Ibn Atheer records that: **"Ubayd bin Abi Salma who was a maternal relative of Ayesha met her as she was making her way to Madina. Ubayd said "'Uthman has been killed and the people were without an Imam for eight days" to which Ayesha asked "What did they do next?". Ubayd said "The people approached "Ali and gave him bayya". Ayesha then said 'Take me back! Take me back to Makka". She then turned her face towards Makka and said, 'Verily 'Uthman was murdered innocently, and By Allah, I shall avenge his blood'. Ubayd then said 'You are now calling 'Uthman innocent, even though it was you who said 'Kill Nathal, this Jew"**.

Talha & Zubayr's lead role in killing Uthman

Imam of Ahl'ul Sunnah al Zuhri records a conversation between Imam 'Ali (as) and Zubayr prior to the battle of Jamal:

"Ali said: 'Zubayr, do you fight me for the blood of Uthman after you killed him? May God give the most hostile to Uthman among us the consequence that that very person dislikes'. [Tarikh Tabari, V 4, p90]

We read in Al Bidayah wa al Nihayah Volume 7 page 248 Dhikr Jamal: **"Talha was killed in the battle of Jamal**

by the arrow of Marwan, who then told Aban-bin-Utham that I have taken the revenge for the blood of 'Uthman".

Identifying the usual suspects

The Muhajir, Ansar and other faithful living in Madina killed Uthman

We read in Iqd al Fareed page 215: **"The leaders of the group who killed 'Uthman were Abdur Rahman bin Adees, Hakeem-bin-Jaleeh and Abdullah-bin-Fadeek. They came to Madina and with both, the Ansar and Muhajireen, surrounded the house of 'Uthman, they finally stormed it and killed him"**.

The Sahaba wrote to people inciting them to rise up against 'Uthman

The fact is the Sahaba had written letters inciting uprising against 'Uthman. We read in al Imama wa al Siyasa, page 64, that when Talha and Ayesha reached Basra, a man approached Talha and said: **"O Talha, Do you recognize this letter?" Talha answered, "Yes" to which the man said' "Don't you feel ashamed that only a few days earlier, you wrote letters to us inciting us to kill 'Uthman and now you ask to revenge his blood?"**

In Iqd al Farid, Page 218, Volume 6, it is written that Marwan told Ayesha that **"'Uthman was killed on account of your letters"**.

Talha and Ayesha were not the only individuals to write letters, rather the Sahaba living in Madina had become disillusioned with Uthman and encouraged those Sahaba in other provinces to come to Madina and oppose Uthman. As proof we present al Tabari, English version, v15, p184 who narrates on the authority of Ibn Ishaq:

"When the people saw what Uthman was doing, the companions of the Prophet in Medina wrote to other companions who were scattered throughout the frontier provinces: "You have gone forth but to struggle in the path of Almighty God, for the sake of Muhammad's religion. In your absence the religion of Muhammad has been corrupted and forsaken. So come back to reestablish Muhammad's religion." Thus, they came from every direction until they killed the Caliph (Uthman)".

The Sahaba and their children colluded with the Egyptians to kill 'Uthman

We read in Kanz al Ummal Volume 6 page 385, Dhikr Fadail 'Uthman:

"When the Egyptian forces landed at "Ghafa" and began to talk ill of 'Uthman 'Uthman, 'Uthman got to know about it and climbed on the pulpit and said, "O Sahaba of Prophet Muhammad (s), May Allah curse you for bad mouthing me. You advertised my shortcomings and concealed my virtues. You have also provoked people against me.

A Sahaba that pledged allegiance under the tree of Ridhwan commanded the Egyptian rebels

"Sahaba of Prophet Muhammad (s), Abdur-Rahman-bin-Adlees was present at the time of "Hudabia" peace treaty, and he was also present at the "allegiance under the tree", "Allegiance of Rizwan", and he was the commander of the group that came from Egypt and surrounded the house of 'Uthman and killed him". [Al Istiab Volume 2 page 203,...]

Mu'awiya's cousin Muhammad bin Abi Hudhifa played a lead role alongside the Egyptians in killing 'Uthman

We read in al Istiab Volume page 322 Dhikr Muhammad bin Abi Hudhifa: **"The lead figure in inciting people against 'Uthman was Muhammad bin Abi Hudhifa, 'Uthman raised him for many years after his father had died. When people began to oppose 'Uthman, Muhammad incited the Egyptians, and this worsened the situation".**

Talha advised the Egyptians during the siege of 'Uthman's palace

Whilst the Egyptians had surrounded 'Uthman's home, the presence of prominent Sahaba on the ground is what gave their opposition momentum. Talha was present outside 'Uthman's residence during the siege. **Qays bin Abi Hadhim al Baj'ali narrates that a man had visited Talha during the siege and requested that he intervene to prevent the death of 'Uthman. Talha replied "No by Allah, not until the Banu Ummayya surrender the right on their own accord".[Tareekh Damishq, by Ibn Asakr, Chapter "'Uthman" page 407]**

Sahaba that participated in Badr also participated in the killing of 'Uthman

We read in al Istiab Volume 4 page 48, Dhikr Abu al Hasan Mazani: **"Abu Al Hasan Mazani was a companion of Prophet Muhammad (s), and he was one of the companions present in "Aqba" and Badr". Zaid bin Thabit, on the day of 'Uthman's murder said to the Ansar from Madina that, "Shall we become the helpers of Allah for a second time?"**

He (Mazani) replied, "No! By Allah we won't follow your lead, for if we do, we will be counted amongst those who on the Day of Judgement shall proclaim that our leaders misguided us".

Note here this Sahaba refuses to side with 'Uthman – he did not deem him to be a victim, on the contrary he made it clear that to side with him would lead to punishment on the day of Judgment for following a misguided Imam.

Did 'Uthman die a 'martyr'?

There are some alleged hadiths in which Prophet(s) said that Uthman will die a martyr and would attain paradise.

Worthy of note is the fact that Baladhuri in Ansab al Ashraf Volume 5 page 76 notes that, when the Sahaba Mujammi bin Jarriya al Awsi passed by Talha (during the siege), Talha asked how 'Uthman was, Mujammi replied "I think that you will kill him". Talha replied:

"If he should be killed, he is neither an angel brought close (to Allah) nor a Prophet (sent by him)".

It is clear here from Talha's statement that he had no regrets should 'Uthman die, for he did not have an esteemed rank in the eyes of Allah (swt). Could Talha make such a comment if he was aware that Rasulullah (s) said he would die a martyr that would attain paradise?

'Uthman's body was unattended for three days. Companions' not burying him proves that they did not deem him to be a martyr

We read in Al Bidayah wa al Nihaya Volume 7 Page 190: **'Uthman's body remained unattended for three days after his murder, the Sahaba did not bury him."**

We read in Al Istiab Page 80, Dhikr 'Uthman: **"Three days after the murder, 'Uthman's body remained unattended near rubbish, and the Sahaba did not bury him."**

Conclusion

The best and shortest explanation about the issue of the murder of Uthman was given by Sadf Ibn Abi Waqas as stated in in Iqd al Fareed Volume 2 page 218 and al Imama wal Siyasa page 45 that:

"Sad ibn Abi Waqqas was asked 'who killed 'Uthman? Sad replied, 'the sword was lifted by Ayesha and it was sharpened by Talha".