

Khalifa Uthman bin Affan - Governors of Uthman

Criticism against Uthman

When Uthman appointed Abdullah b Sa'ad as the Governor of Egypt in succession to 'Amr b A1 'Aas he was accused of nepotism, and of doing grave injustice to 'Amr b A1 'Aas the Conqueror of Egypt. The charge of nepotism against Uthman is not correct, because Abdullah had been appointed as Governor by Umar. Uthman merely carried forward the policies that had been laid down by Umar. The charge of nepotism falls to the ground because Abdullah b Sa'ad alone was not related to him 'Amr b A1 'Aas was also related to him. If Abdullah b Sa'ad was the foster brother of Uthman, 'Amr b A1 'Aas was a brother-in-law of Uthman as he had married a sister of Uthman. Uthman had no intention to depose 'Amr b Al 'Aas . He wanted him to remain the Governor as well as the supreme military commander; he only wanted him to give independent charge of revenue department to Abdullah b Sa'ad. Abdullah b Sa'ad was an expert in revenue administration and financial management while 'Amr b Al 'Aas was Rood as a military commander. The division of functions proposed by Uthman was sound in principle and was in the best interests of the State. 'Amr b Al 'Aas did not accept the reform because he was interested more in matters of personal prestige than in measures devised in the interests of the State. If in the circumstances, 'Amr b Al 'Aas was deposed, the blame did not lie with Uthman. 'Amr b Al 'Aas was himself to be blamed for the crisis.

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Source : *Alim.org-Uthman History*