

I received a threat from Abu Anas,
and my flesh was consumed by the anger of al-Dahhak.

I did not disobey the amir, I gave him no cause
to doubt, and I began no quarrel with Abu Anas.

But the call to arms had reached us, and we found ourselves caught
between far-away destruction and the payment of fines.

And my soul was afraid of the mountains
of Soghd and of Khwarazm [Caucasia/Central Asia].

So I cast lots with those who had been called up,
and won as my lot the right to lie about at home.

And I gave the substitution payment to one who bravely sought death,
an ardent warrior, one not weighed down by property and family.

13.3.14 *Conquest by treaty*

When the Arab armies reached the gates of Damascus in 635, negotiations with the city's bishop established the terms of Damascus' surrender.

Al-Baladhuri, *The Book of the Conquest of the Regions*

[Philip K. Hitti, *The Origins of the Islamic State*, vol. I (New York: Columbia University Press, 1916), pp. 186–7]

The bishop who had provided Khalid with food at the beginning of the siege was wont to stand on the wall. Once Khalid called him, and when he came, Khalid greeted him and talked with him. The bishop one day said to him, "Abu Sulayman, thy case is prospering and thou hast a promise to fulfill for me; let us make terms for this city." Thereupon, Khalid called for an inkhorn and parchment and wrote:

"In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. This is what Khalid would grant to the inhabitants of Damascus, if he enters therein: he promises to give them security for their lives, property and churches. Their city-wall shall not be demolished; neither shall any Muslim be quartered in their houses. Thereunto we give to them the pact of God and the protection of his Prophet, the caliphs and the Believers. So long as they pay the poll-tax, nothing but good shall befall them."

13.3.15 *Jerusalem surrenders, 636*

The terms for Jerusalem, taken in 636:

Al-Tabari, *The History of the Prophets and Kings* 1.2050

[Bernard Lewis, ed., *Islam from the Prophet Muhammad to the Capture of Constantinople, Vol. I: Politics and War* (New York: Walker and Company, 1974), pp. 235–6]