Question 438) - Define whose hearts are to be united.

A: They are those whom Rasulullaah (S.A.W) gave from the wealth of Zakah to, to soften their hearts to enter Islaam. They were leaders of tribes. It was hoped that through them becoming Muslim, their people would accept Islaam. When Islaam gained victory and became independent of them the ruling of giving to them was dropped. They are not given wealth after the time of Rasulullaah (S.A.W)\*

\*Ibnul Humam said, "They were of three types - Kuffan whom Rasulullaah (S.A.W) gave to soften their hearts to enter Islaam; some whom he gave to in order to avert their evil; and some who had embraced Islaam but were weak and needed stregthening."

~ al-Quduri ~