The following short article is written to demonstrate the fact that how extreme love and obedience for Prophet (ﷺ) is important even in worships and how Sahaba considered love and obedience of Prophet (ﷺ) more important than their Worships.

The Sahaba used to look at the Prophet (ﷺ) while praying.

Narrated Abu Ma`mar:
I asked Khabbab whether the Prophet (ﷺ) used to recite the Qur'an in the Zuhr and the `Asr prayers. He replied in the affirmative. We said, "How did you come to know that?"
He said, "From the movement of his beard.

[Sahih Bukhari # 760; 761; 777; Sunan Ibn Maaja # 875]

Narrated `Abdullah bin Malik bin Buhaina Al-Asdi:
"When the Prophet (ﷺ) prostrated, he used to keep his arms so widely apart that we used to see ( the whiteness of ) his armpits ".

[Sahih al-Bukhari # 3564, # 807; Sahih Muslim # 495]
It was narrated from 'Ubaidullah bin Abdullrah bin Aqram that his father said:
"I prayed with the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) and I used to see the whiteness of his armpits when he prostrated."

[Sunan an-Nasa'i # 1108]

It was narrated from ('Ubaidullah bin 'Abdullah) bin Aqram Al-Khuza’i that his father said:
“I was with my father on the plain in Namirah, when some riders passed us and made their camels kneel down at the side of the road. My father said to me: ‘Stay with your lambs until I go to those people and see what they want.’ He said: Then he (my father) went out and I came, (i.e., I came near,) then there was the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ), and the time for prayer came so I prayed with them, and I was looking at the whiteness of the armpits of the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) every time he prostrated.”

[Sunan Ibn Maaja # 930]

Jabir (r.a) narrates that, “We were praying alongwith Prophet(ﷺ) during the battle of Badr, and (we saw) Prophet(ﷺ) was smiling in prayer .After the completion of Salah, we asked him, “ O Messenger of Allah !, we saw you smiling ( why so) ?” Prophet(ﷺ) replied, “Mika’eel passed by me, and there was dust on his wings, he was returning from the chase of tribe. He smiled looking at me so I too smiled for him.”

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Musnad Abu Ya’ala , 4/49 # 2040
Baihaqi ,Sunan ul Kubra , 2/357 # 3361
Haythmi , Majma az Zawaid , 6/83 # 9992
Tafseer Mazhari , 4/29
The Companions Forgot their Salah & Qibla , and completely turned away from Qibla to have a look at the blessed face Prophet(ﷺ) and their Salah was still valid.

Narrated Az-Zuhri:
Anas bin Malik Al-Ansari(r.a), told me, “Abu Bakr used to lead the people in prayer during the fatal illness of the Prophet(ﷺ) till it was Monday. When the people aligned (in rows) for the prayer the Prophet(ﷺ) lifted the curtain of his house and started looking at us and was standing at that time. His face was (glittering) like a page of the Qur'an and he smiled cheerfully. We were about to be put to trial for the pleasure of seeing the Prophet, Abu Bakr retreated to join the row as he thought that the Prophet(ﷺ) would lead the prayer. The Prophet(ﷺ) beckoned us to complete the prayer and he let the curtain fall. On the same day he died.”

[Sahih al-Bukhari # 680]

Narrated Anas bin Malik(r.a):
While Abu Bakr was leading the people in the morning prayer on a Monday, the Prophet(ﷺ) came towards them suddenly having lifted the curtain of 'Aisha's house, and looked at them as they were standing in rows and smiled. Abu Bakr tried to come back thinking that Allah's Apostle wanted to come out for the prayer. The attention of the Muslims was diverted from the prayer because they were delighted to see the Prophet. The Prophet(ﷺ) waved his hand to them to complete their prayer, then he went back into the room and let down the curtain. The Prophet expired on that very day.

[Sahih al-Bukhari # 1205]
Narrated Anas bin Malik (r.a):
While the Muslims were offering the Fajr prayer on Monday and Abu Bakr was leading them in prayer, suddenly Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) lifted the curtain of 'Aisha's dwelling and looked at them while they were in the rows of the prayers and smiled. Abu Bakr retreated to join the row, thinking that Allah's Apostle wanted to come out for the prayer. The Muslims were about to be put to trial in their prayer (i.e. were about to give up praying) because of being overjoyed at seeing Allah's Messenger (ﷺ). But Allah's Apostle beckoned them with his hand to complete their prayer and then entered the dwelling and let fall the curtain.

[Sahih al-Bukhari # 4448]

Narrated Sahl bin Sa`d As-Saidi (r.a):
There was some quarrel (sighting) among Bani `Amr, and when this news reached the Prophet, he offered the Zuhr prayer and went to establish peace among them. In the meantime the time of `Asr prayer was due, Bilal pronounced the Adhan and then the Iqama for the prayer and requested Abu Bakr (to lead the prayer) and Abu Bakr went forward. The Prophet (ﷺ) arrived while Abu Bakr was still praying. He entered the rows of praying people till he stood behind Abu Bakr in the (first) row. The people started clapping, and it was the habit of Abu Bakr that whenever he stood for prayer, he never glanced side-ways till he had finished it, but when Abu Bakr observed that the clapping was not coming to an end, he looked and saw the Prophet (ﷺ) standing behind him. The Prophet (ﷺ) beckoned him to carry on by waving his hand. Abu Bakr stood there for a while, thanking Allah for the saying of the Prophet (ﷺ) and then he retreated, taking his steps backwards. When the Prophet saw that, he went ahead and led the people in prayer. When he finished the prayer, he said, "O Abu Bakr! What prevented you from carrying on with the prayer after I beckoned you to do so?" Abu Bakr replied, "It does not befit the son of Abi Quhafa to lead the Prophet (ﷺ) in prayer." Then the Prophet (ﷺ) said to the people, "If some problem arises during prayers, then the men should say, Subhan Allah!; and the women should clap."

[Sahih al-Bukhari # 7190, # 1201, #1234, #1218; Sunan Abu Dawud # 940; Sunan Nasa'i # 784, 793; Muwatta Imam Malik # 395]
It was must to leave the Salah and Respond to the Call of Prophet(ﷺ).

Narrated Abu Sa`id Al-Mu'alla (r.a):
While I was praying, the Prophet (ﷺ) called me but I did not respond to his call. Later I said, "O Allah's Apostle! I was praying." He said, "Didn't Allah say: 'O you who believe! Give your response to Allah and His Messenger when he calls you'?” (8.24)

[ Sahih Bukhari  # 5006 , #4514 ; Sunan Abu Dawud # 1458 ]

Narrated Abu Hurairah(r.a):
That the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) came out to Ubayy bin Ka'b, and the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: "O Ubayy!" And he was performing Salat, so Ubayy turned around but he did not respond to him, so Ubayy finished his Salat quickly. Then he turned to the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) and said: 'As-Salamu 'Alaikum, O Messenger of Allah!'

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: 'Wa 'Alaikum As-Salam - what prevented you from responding to me when I called you Ubayy?' He said: 'O Messenger of Allah! I was performing Salat.' So he said: 'Do you not find among what Allah revealed to me: Respond to Allah and to the Messenger when he call you to what gives you life?' He said: 'Of course, I will nor repeat this again Inshallah'.

[ Sunan Tirmizi # 2875 ; Nasai,Sunan ul Kubra # 11205 ; Musnad Ahmed # 9334 ]
Imam Ibn Hibban said:

ٞفَٔ ﻧََوَِ ﻧَِا ﻋَّ ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا 

“ It was Wajib upon them to respond to the call of Prophet(peace be upon him) even if they were in Namaz”. For Allah almighty has said : 'O you who believe! Give your response to Allah and His Messenger when he calls you'

[Sahih Ibn Hibban, 6/406]

Imam Ibn Khuzaima said:

ٞٛ ﻧََوَِ ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا 

“ It was Fardh upon them to respond at the Call of Prophet(even if they were in Salah , knowing that they are performing Fardh Salah”

[Sahih Ibn Khuzaima, 2/122]

Maula Ali (r.a) had not offered Asr Salah in the obedience(service) of Prophet ( for the rest of Prophet )

ٛ ﻧََوَِ ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا ﻧَِا 

Asma bint Umays said , “ Prophet(peace be upon him) was being inspired with revelation while his head (was resting) on the lap of Ali (r.a). Ali (r.a) had not offered his Asr Salah and the Sun had already set. Prophet(peace be upon him) asked him: “O ‘Ali! have you prayed (‘Asr) ?” He replied: “No” So Prophet(peace be upon him) said:

“O Allah! indeed he (Ali) was engaged in your obedience* and the obedience of your Prophet !, so return the sun for him”

Asma (r.a) says: “ I had seen the sun - set, then rise again after sunset !”
* Note that, Ali (r.a) had not offered the Fardh Namaz, and (seemingly) was not doing any act which can be called as ‘Obedience of Allah’, Yet Prophet(ﷺ) said “O Allah, Ali was engaged in your obedience”, So hence it is evident and proven that the Obedience of Prophet is the Obedience of Allah.

Uthman-e-Ghani (r.a) denied the offer of Tawaf e Ka'aba!

In a Lengthy narration from Musa bin Uqbah (r.a) in comes that, Prophet(ﷺ) sent Uthman bin Affan(r.a) as his conveyor (mediator) towards Quraish-Kuffar (during the treaty of Hudaybiyyah).

After the negotiations, when Kuffar invited Uthman (r.a) to perform the Tawaf of Ka'aba, He abruptly denied it and said, "I will never perform the tawaf until Prophet(ﷺ) perform it!", And thus he returned to Prophet(ﷺ)...

[ without performing the tawaf of Ka'aba ]

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Baihaqi, Sunan ul Kubra, 9/221
Abu Mahasin, Mu’tasar al Mukhtasar, 2/369
Salihi, Subal ul Huda wal Rishad, 12/394
Tafsir Ibn Atiyah, 5/133; Tafsir Bahr al Muheet, 9/492
Umar-e-Farooq (r.a) Kisses the Hajr-e-Aswad, only because Prophet(ﷺ) kissed it

Narrated `Abis bin Rabi`a:

Umar (r.a) came near the Hajr e Aswad and kissed it and said “No doubt, I know that you are a stone and can neither benefit anyone nor harm anyone. Had I not seen Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) kissing you I would not have kissed you.”

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Sahih Bukhari # 1597, 1610  
Sahih Muslim #1270  
Sunan Nasa’i # 2937  
Sunan Abu Dawud # 1873  
Sunan Ibn Maaja # 3056

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Mohiuddin al Hanafi [M.T.M]