

MLU-14.1: Life History of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)

The Final Years of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and the Spread of Islam.

THE CONQUEST OF MAKKAH RAMDHAAN 8 A.H.

The truce of Hudaibiyyah was broken by the Quraish when they sided with the tribe of Banu Bakr (with whom they had a pact to help one another), they attacked the tribe of Khuza'a who were the allies of the Muslims. The treaty was no longer effective. Abu Sufyan ibn Harb realized this and did his best to revive the treaty, but the Muslims had already realized that the kuffar were not to be trusted, and the treaty was never revived. This was a victory for the Muslims.

On hearing the news that the kuffar had broken the truce Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) prepared to leave for Makkah. Every precaution was taken to keep the kuffar unaware of the coming of the Muslim army. It was the 10th day of Ramadaan in the year 8 Hijri that an army of 10,000 Muslims marched towards Makkah. The Muslims encamped at Mar-ur-Zahraan, a place a few kilometers from Makkah.

When the shepherds of Makkah returned in the evening they reported to the Makkans that a huge army was encamped outside Makkah at Mar-ur-Zahraan. Abu Sufyan ibn Harb went to investigate who this army was and what were they doing in the valley of Makkah. During his investigation he met Hazrat Abbas (R.A.), the uncle of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who convinced Abu Sufyan ibn Harb to have an audience with Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Abu Sufyan ibn Harb the arch-enemy of Islam who had instigated so many battles against the Muslims was now in the tent of the Prophet (PBUH). Our Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) offered him protection from any harm.

The Muslim army triumphantly entered Makkah without any bloodshed and the kuffar surrendered without an attempt to resist. The city of Makkah was now at the mercy of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and the Muslims. Everybody was present in the courtyard of the Haram (sanctuary of the Ka'ba). The enemies of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and Islam were helpless. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) asked them: 'What do you expect at my hands?' The voices of their hearts rang out: 'Kindness and pity, gracious brother, gracious nephew'. They were not disappointed. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) used the noble words of Hazrat Yusuf A.S. When he addressed his brothers: 'Have no fear this day, May Allah forgive you, and He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy'.

Hinda, the wife of Abu Sufyan ibn Harb, who had mutilated the body of Hazrat Hamza (R.A.), came in the presence of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) covered in a veil. The most bitter enemy was touched with general amnesty (general pardon) of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and accepted Islam. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) purified the sacred House of Allah (Ka'ba) removing all its 360 idols and stones, reciting "Truth has come and Falsehood vanished and no more shall falsehood return" (Sahih al-Bukhari.) The sanctuary of the Ka'ba contained such idols as Hubal, Latt and Manaat. They saw their downfall for they were nothing but pieces of stones. Now every nook and corner of Makkah witnessed and resounded with the call of Tauheed. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) also proclaimed that: 'Allah has forbidden the sale of intoxicants and usury (Interest) is declared as Haraam'.

It was indeed a unique conquest for Islam and triumph of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)'s unshakable faith in his sacred cause. Witness our beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) now seated on mount Safa delivering his sermon to the crowd of people, contrast this with his Hijrat, and stay in the Cave of Thor and receiving wounds in the battles. Now his faith in 'SURELY ALLAH IS WITH US' is the secret of his success in life and mission.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) had left Madinah for Makkah with the Muslim Army on Wednesday 10th Ramadhan 8 A.H. and entered Makkah on the 20th of Ramadhan and on that very day Makkah was conquered. He remained in Makkah for about 10-15 days and thereafter returned to Madinah Tayibah.

THE BATTLE OF HUNAIN SHAWWAL 8 A.H.

Makkah had been the nucleus centre of Religion in Arabia and the Capital of Hejaz. When the Islamic flag flew from the top of the Ka'ba, the whole of Arabia recognized this as the symbol of Islam's truthfulness.

After the conquest of Makkah, people in every part of the land were leaving idol-worshipping and entering the peaceful fold of Islam. The two tribes situated between Makkah and Taif, Viz, Hawazan and Saqif thought themselves to be superior and refused to embrace Islam. The chief of the Hawazan tribe Maalik bin Auf instigated the neighboring tribes and gathered a huge army to harm Islam. After receiving the news of this threat, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) prepared an army of 12,000 men including 2000 Makkans and marched out of Makkah towards the valley of Hunain.

The people of Hawazan were noted for their archery. As the Muslims advanced, they were met with attacks of arrows from all sides and the main army attacked from the front. The Muslim army could not stand the fierce attack of the enemy arrows and fell back. The retreat caused great confusion among the Muslim soldiers. Even the Muhajireen and Ansaar retreated and chaos prevailed. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was left with a small band of Sahaba and they fought back with great courage and determination. Hazrat Abbas (R.A.) and the heroes of Islam descended from their camels and horses and attacked the enemy with great ferocity. When the standard bearer of the enemy fell dead all turned and retreated.

Taif was populated by the Saqif tribe and within two years of the Battle of Hunain they voluntarily embraced Islam.

MARCH ON TABOOK RAJAB 9 A.H.

In the early days of Hijrat, Syria and Egypt were territories governed by the Roman Emperor whose capital was Constantinople. The rising of the new power of Islam made the Romans jealous and uneasy. In a short time the rapid growth of Islam reached the borders of Syria. The Romans claimed Islam as a danger so decided that a consolidated attack on Arabia was necessary. The merchants coming from Syria brought news that a large army was ready to attack Madina.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) called upon all the tribes, heroes, fighters and enthusiastic followers of Islam to defend the faith and their motherland against foreign invasion. Hazrat Usman (R.A.) offered 3000 camels and 10,000 Dinars for this expedition. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) raised an army of 30,000 Mujahid (soldiers) including 10,000 cavalry. The army set out on Thursday in the month of Rajab 9 A.H. to encounter a well armed, well disciplined Roman Army. The Muslim army encamped at a place called Tabook for twenty days. When the Roman army saw the great force their spirits dampened and they gave up their intention of invasion or war.

Witnessing the life, piety and devotion to Allah, the Christians were greatly impressed. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) concluded many peaceful agreements with certain Christian tribes and returned to Madinah. The expedition of Tabook ended the warfare and tribe after tribe began to embrace Islam. Within two years the whole of Arabia was united under the banner of Islam and the cry of Allah-hu-Akbar resounded from all sides.

THE FAREWELL HAJJ (PILGRIMAGE) 10 A.H.

The land of Arabia had seen many wars and killings for centuries. In the year 10 A.H. most of Arabia had embraced Islam. There were no idol-worshipping. In the month of Zil-Qadah 10 A.H. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) accompanied by 124,000 Sahaba (Companions) left Madinah for Makkah to perform the Hajj. On the 5th of Zil-Haj the Muslims entered Makkah and performed Umra, and on the 8th of Zil-Haj our beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) camped at Mina with the Sahaba. Riding on his camel Quswa, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) proceeded to the plains of Arafat, some 10 km from Mina. Here he delivered his final Khutba to the entire assembly of Muslims. He reminded them of their duties towards Islam, explained the rights and treatment of women that nobody should absorb the rights of each other's property and all Muslims should honor and respect each other. The slaves also received a declaration of just treatment. False superiority of race, nation and tribe was discouraged and interest (usury) was made Haraam.

That day the torch that brightened the Path of Truth was handed to the Ummat and Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) exclaimed to his people "O Lord have I conveyed the Message?" The whole assembly of Muslims replied in one voice: "By our Lord, Verily Thou Hast".

Our Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) also told his vast audience: "I leave behind amongst you two things. If you should hold fast to it, you shall be secure from vices and evil ways, i.e. the Holy Qur'aan and the Sunnah of Allah's Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

When the glowing message and the marvelous Mission saw the day of its grand achievement, the Holy Prophet Muhammad received the Divine Call thus : "This day have I perfected your religion and completed my favor on you and have chosen Islam as your religion." (Al- Quraan 3:5).

Thus giving this Divine Message he bid farewell to all the Muslims. Then performing other rites and performing the Fajr Salaat in the Ka'ba on the 12th Zil-Hajj, the whole gathering left for their homes and the beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) of Allah accompanied by the Muhajireen and Ansaar returned to Madinah.

THE PASSING AWAY OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH) S.A.W. RABIUAL-AWWAL 11 A.H.

After performing the farewell Hajj, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) left for Madinah. He wanted to say farewell to those martyrs who had laid down their lives for the cause of Islam. So he went to Uhad and made dua for those who had achieved martyrdom and everlasting life. After his visit to Uhad our beloved Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) visited the cemetery of the Muslims called "Jannatul Baqi" in Madinah and made dua for their departed souls.

In the month of Muharram 11 A.H. he fell ill with fever which became worse from day to day. When the illness became worse than Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) sought permission from his wives to spend his final days in the house of Hazrat Ayesha (R.A.) The last Salaat that he could lead in Jama'at was the Maghrib Salaat and when his health failed him he directed: "Let Abu Bakr (R.A.) lead the prayer". Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)'s house was adjoining Masjid-e-Nabwi and from his house he saw the Muslims engaged in Salaat. This pleased the Rasool of Allah very much. The health of our Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) got

worse and on Monday, 12th Rabiul-Awwal 11A.H. the greatest leader of mankind passed away.

Hazrat Fadal bin Abbas (R.A.) Hazrat Ali (R.A.), Hazrat Usama (R.A.) gave the body a ghusal (bath) and it was lowered into the grave in the very apartment of his wife Hazrat Bibi Ayesha (R.A.) where he breathed his last breathe.