



Seeratun Nabi (PBUH)– Part B Madani Period

Migration to Madinah

The brutality and maltreatment of Makkans were at their height and they were planning to assassinate Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). After receiving Divine Direction, he along with His companion Hazrat Abu Bakar Siddique (RA) secretly left their homes in Makkah and migrated to Yathrib, which was 320 km north of Makkah. Later, the city was called “*Madin-tun-Nabi*” which gradually turned into “*Madinah*”.

The event of Hijra had its importance in Islamic society as the society was turned into an Ummah. The basis of all discrimination, i.e. color, creed, nationality, wealth has vanished. Muslim society was established on equality.

Tribal identification and relation are very important to Arabs. If one’s link is broken from the tribe, he becomes a lost person with no reputation. He can be killed by anybody without any accountability. Migration means to cut off themselves from the tribes. This was the greatest sacrifice on the part of the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) and his followers since anybody could kill them without any fear. They made this sacrifice only to practice Islam.

Miracles During Migration

Many miracles took place during migration, including laying eggs at the door of the cave, spider web, grabbing of Suraqah Bin Maalik by earth, milking of the weak goat of Hazrat Umm-e-Ma’bad (RA) etc. There is an expression about the events in the Quran, Sura Al Toba, Ayat 40.

Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) stayed in the cave of Thor (Sour) for about 3 days during his migration to Madinah.

Foundation of Masjid-e-Quba

After eight days’ journey, the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) and Hazrat Abu Bakr (R.A) stopped on the outskirts of Madinah, called Quba where Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) constructed Masjid-e-Quba. After a few days, He proceeded to Madinah. It was 622, and the Muslim calendar started from the same event.

Threats to Mission of Islam and A New State

Mostly people were cultivators in Madinah except Jews who had three tribes who were powerful traders. People were divided into three groups: Jews, non-Muslim Arabs, and

Muslims. The Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) constituted peace and unity among the communities of Madinah. Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) generated a relationship between the immigrants from Makkah (known as Muhajirin) and Madinites (known as the Ansar, the helpers).

This helped the Ansaar to learn Islam quickly from Muhajirin as they learned in 13 years from the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) in Makkah.

There were few threats to the new Islamic society at that time. Few of them are discussed below:

1. The Hypocrites

A truce was to develop between the two tribes of Madinah (Aus and Khazrij) by a person named Abdullah IbneUbayy. He was somehow considered respectable by these two tribes and expected to be the leader of Madinah while suddenly Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) came there and He became the leader of Madinah as He was the Prophet of Allah, so Abdullah IbneUbayy envy Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) and therefore he became the leader of the hypocrites (Raees ul Munafiqeen).

Instead of accepting Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) as a leader, he accepted Islam just from the surface, but his heart was always against Islam and in planning with Jews to destroy it. Thus, ayahs in Surah Al-Munafiqoon and Surah Al-Baqarah came to describe the issue of hypocrisy.

2. Three Jewish Tribes

Jews were also settled in Madinah. Since ages, Jews were waiting for a prophet. They heard that the new prophet will be in the land of Arab so they started gathering there from Jerusalem. They were thinking that the prophet will be appointed from their clan and they were used to threat different tribes of Madinah (Aus and Khazrij who had a fight among themselves since generations) to destroy them with the help of that prophet.

So, as soon as they heard that the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) is appointed from the Arabs, they started to oppose him.

One of the wives of the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) named Hazrat Safiya (RA) was actually the daughter of the Jew leader of a clan. She later told the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) that when You came to Madinah for the first time, my father and my uncle went to see You and to find You that are You really a Prophet of Allah? They saw all the signs in You which were mentioned in our book.

They came back and my uncle asked my father, "Is He the messenger of Allah?". My father said, "Yes, He is". My Uncle asked, "How sure are you?", My father said, "I am 100% sure" then he asked, "What we are going to do now?" and then my father replied, "By Allah, we will oppose him till the day we die".

There were 3 Jewish tribes in Madinah at that time.

- Banu Nazeer
- Banu Qurayza
- Banu Qaynuqa

The Charter of Madinah (Meesaaq e Madinah), First Written Constitution

Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) laid down the foundation of an Islamic state by forming a treaty between Muslims, non-Muslim Arabs, and Jews of Madinah. After assuming a significant role in Madinah, the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) recognized a few pressing needs, which included:

- Determining the rights and responsibilities of the local population as well as the immigrants from Makkah
- Making agreements with the non-Muslim population of Madinah, especially the Jews, to ensure peace and harmony
- Creating a strategy and plan to defend the city against invasions
- Making resources available for the immigrants to make a living

This charter contains 47 clauses, which laid the foundations of a sovereign nation-state comprising of Muslims, Jews and Pagans, having equal rights and responsibilities under a common citizenship.

The salient features of this charter include:

- All parties included in the charter, i.e. Muslims, people of the book (Jews and Christians) and pagans, had freedom to practice their religion
- All citizens of the state had equal rights and responsibilities and were protected against excess and oppression
- A system of financial aid was developed within each tribe and between tribes. Communal funds were set up which were used in times of financial need such as to pay ransom or blood-money
- In the event of a war or hostile attack from outsiders on one tribe, all tribes of Madinah (signatories of the charter) were required to come to the aid of the defending tribe.
- In the event of a dispute among the signatories, Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) was the final authority for settling the dispute.
- The *Quraysh* of Makkah were to be boycotted commercially by all signatories and nobody was to extend any support to them

This was the first written constitution of a State set down by the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) of Islam where social insurance was introduced.

But the tribe Banu Qurayza broke the trust as they went to the Quraysh and had a deal with them to support them in attacking the Muslims. Hence, the contract then was nullified.

Major Battles

As a result of breaking the contract by Jews and the conspiracies of non-believers of Makkah, few battles took place. A brief detail is discussed under.

- Battle of Badr 624 (Ramadan, 2 AH)
- Battle of Uhud 625 (Shawwal, 3 AH)
- Battle of the Trench (Khandak) 627 (Shawwal, 5 AH)

1. Battle of Badr

In this Battle, the Muslims army were only 313 in number and non-believers of Makkah were about 1000 in number. Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) made a dua to Allah (SWT), "O Allah please help us in this, as if we are gone then there will be no one to worship you". And as a result, Allah (SWT) sent 1000 angels, rank after rank as mentioned in surah Al-Anfaal, how those angels came down to help them.

2. Battle of Uhud

In this battle, the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) commanded some of his men to stand as archers and not to leave their posts, but those people when saw that the battle is almost over, left their positions and they came to collect the bounty of the war. At that time, Hazrat Khalid bin Waleed (RA) who then was a non-Muslim told his army that top post is empty. So, the non-believers turned around and re-attacked the Muslims.

This happened due to the disobedience of the order of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH).

Hazrat Hamza (RA), uncle of Prophet (PBUH) was martyred in this battle.

3. Battle of Trench

Hazrat Salman Farsi (RA) proposed the idea of digging a trench to fight with the army of non-believers as they were great in number because he had seen this war tactic in Persia. Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) accepted his suggestion and hence Muslims won the battle.

Treaty of Hudaibiyyah (628 (Dhu al-Qa'dah, 6 AH)

Six years after Hijra, in 628 CE, the Prophet Mohammad (peace be upon him) dreamt that he and his followers were entering Makkah and performing Tawaf. It was a good sign and hence He declared His plan to visit Makkah to perform Umrah.

Over 1,400 Muslims donned ihram with him from Madinah. They took 70 camels with them for sacrifice. As per the established practice, the Makkans were bound to allow pilgrims coming, but without arms to perform Umrah. But, alarmed by the huge Muslim presence, the Quraysh leaders decided not to allow them from entering the city and sent Khaled Bin Walid with 200 fighters to stop them defying the centuries-old Arab tradition.

The Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) changed the route of Taneem to avoid confrontation and came to a lesser-known place called Hudaibiyah on the western edge of the city.

Determined not to allow Muslims to enter the city, the Makkans sent Urwah bin Masud to negotiate with the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). Highly impressed with the scenes of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)'s love among His followers, Urwah said, "I have visited the royal courts of the Persians, Roman, and Ethiopian kingdoms, but I have never seen the kind of respect and high esteem as the followers of Mohammad have for him. They have come only for worship. Let them enter the holy city." But the Makkans were bent upon preventing the Muslims.

The Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) later sent Hazrat Uthman bin Affan (RA) who had good contacts in Makkah, but they detained him and spread a rumor to upset the Muslims that Hazrat Uthman (RA) has been killed. This was a great challenge. Though 400 km away from His city and having no proper arms to fight, He prepared for a warlike situation and called His followers to prepare for a fight until death. The people rushed to take an oath of allegiance on His pious hand and within a brief time, the news reached Makkah that 1400 volunteers were ready to fight until death. This broke their morale and Makkans agreed to discuss the terms of peace with him.

They released Hazrat Uthman (RA) and sent Suhayl bin Amr Al-Thaqafi to negotiate the terms of peace with the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). Suhayl (later embraced Islam) was very tough in dealings.

He reached the following terms:

- In the name of Almighty Allah. These are the conditions of Peace between Mohammad, son of Abdullah and Suhayl ibn Amr the envoy of Makkah.
- There will be no fighting for ten years.
- Anyone who wishes to join Mohammad and to enter into any agreement with him is free to do so. Anyone who wishes to join the Quraysh and to enter into any agreement with them is free to do so.
- A young man, or one whose father is alive, if he goes to Mohammad without permission from his father or guardian, will be returned to his father or guardian. But if anyone goes to the Quraysh, he will not be returned.
- This year the Muslims will go back without entering Makkah. But next year Mohammad and his followers can enter Makkah, spend three days, perform the tawaf. During these three days, the Quraysh will withdraw to the surrounding hills. When Mohammad and his followers enter Makkah, they will be unarmed except for sheathed swords.

Apparently, it was an agreement that went against the wishes of the Muslims, but later it turned out to be a great victory for Muslims. When the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) returned from Hudaibiya, He received the Divine revelation that Almighty Allah (SWT) had put a seal of honor on this treaty and called it "Fatah Al-Mubeen" (Manifest Victory) in the Qur'an. (48:01). The following year when the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) returned to perform Umrah, there were 2,000 pilgrims with him instead of 1400 earlier. One of the

companions Hazrat Abu ZarGhaffari (RA) accepted Islam along with his family and the whole clan.

Conquest of Makkah 630 (Ramadan, 8 AH)

Both the Muslims and non-believer of Makkah adhered to the treaty initially. However, two years later there was a violation of the agreement. One of the tribes allied with the Makkans attacked and killed some members of a tribe allied with the Muslims. This incident dissolved the treaty.

By this time, the Muslims had become a formidable force and so in 630 C.E. the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) decided to take an army of 10,000 towards Makkah. Once the Muslims had reached Makkah, the leaders of Quraysh surrendered. As a result, the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) announced:

“Those who shelter in the Ka’ba are safe; those who shelter in the house of Abu Sufyan are safe, and those who remain confined to their houses are also safe”.

The Makkans were afraid about the impending conquest of their city because the Arabs had lived by the law of retaliation and there was a fear that Muslims would take revenge for the persecution of the Muslims and the losses in subsequent battles. When the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) and the Muslims entered the area of the Kaaba, He announced clemency to everyone in Makkah who no longer wished to fight the Muslims:

“I speak to you in the same words as Yusuf (AS) spoke to his brothers. This day no reproach shall be on you. God will forgive you; He is the Most Merciful of the Merciful. You can go away!”

Many of the Makkans, who was expecting some sort of punishment, were surprised by the Prophet’s Mohammad (PBUH) statement and some decided to become Muslim. Thus, the conquest of Makkah was bloodless and ended years of warfare and violence between Quraysh and the Muslims.

Quran described the conquest of Makkah as:

“Truth has come and falsehood has perished. Surely! Falsehood (by its nature) is bound to perish.” [Surah Al-Isra:81]

Completion of Islam and Last Pilgrimage

Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) started to prepare for the Hajj in the same year (632) and told everyone to join him. He made his famous speech, known as the Farewell Sermon, to a crowd of over 120,000 companions in the Arafat valley in the afternoon.

In His speech, after praising and thanking Allah (SWT), Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said that all people are servants of Allah (SWT), that they all descended from the same mother and father, all people are equal, regardless of their race, color, language, and class; the measure

of superiority is their piety before Allah (SWT). Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) generally mentioned the human rights. He emphasized the security of life, property, and chastity. He ordered that people should be careful about human rights, avoid cruelty and haram (religiously forbidden) food and protect trusts; he threw light on the mutual rights, obligations, and duties of the husband and wife. The Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) also stated that all Muslims are brothers and sisters, and he emphasized the importance of unity and cooperation. He ordered people to perform the prayer, fast, pay zakat, and perform Hajj, as well as telling them to obey the moral rules. He mentioned some concepts and traditions from the Age of Ignorance, and he announced that interest and blood feud were now forbidden, and he invalidated the institutions and practices of the Age of Ignorance related to the administration of Makkah and the Kaaba.

He frequently asked, "Have I conveyed the message?" to his Companions to confirm his words. Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) ended his sermon by saying, "O Allah, be my witness!

As part of this sermon, the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) recited to them a revelation from Allah (SWT), which he had just received, and which completed the Quran, for it was the last passage to be revealed:

"This day have I perfected for you, your religion and fulfilled My favor unto you, and it hath been My good pleasure to choose Islam for you as your religion".

[Surah Al-Maidah:3]

As Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "I may not be able to meet you here again after this year", and died shortly after, this hajj is known as "The Farewell Hajj" and this sermon as "The Farewell Sermon".

ⁱ More information can be taken from the reference books.

ⁱ *Ar-Raheeq al-Makhtoom* – "The Sealed Nectar" by S. Mubarakpuri
"When the moon split" – by S. Mubarakpuri