

SEERAH (BIOGRAPHY) OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH)

LESSON:22 { IN ENGLISH }



Assalamu alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu



SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD (SalAllahu alaihi wa sallam)



LESSON NO : 22



TOPIC:



The Quraysh warn the pilgrims.



THE QURAYSH



WARN THE PILGRIMS



During those days, Quraysh had another serious concern; the proclamation of the Call had only been a few months old when the season of pilgrimage was soon to come. Quraysh knew that the Arab delegates were coming within a short time. They agreed that it was necessary to contemplate a device that was bound to alienate the Arab pilgrims from the new faith preached by Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam).



They went to see Al-Waleed bin Al-Mugheerah to deliberate on this issue. Al-Waleed invited them to agree on a unanimous resolution that could enjoy the approbation of them all. However, they were at variance. Some suggested that they describe Muhammad (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) as Kahin, i.e., soothsayer; but this suggestion was turned down on grounds that his words were not so rhymed.



Others proposed Majnuun, i.e., possessed by jinn; this was also rejected because no insinuations peculiar to that state of mind were detected, they claimed. "Why not say he is a poet?" Some said. Here again they could not reach a common consent, alleging that his words were totally outside the lexicon of poetry. "OK then; let us accuse him of practicing witchcraft," was a fourth suggestion.



Here also Al-Waleed showed some reluctance saying that the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) was known to have never involved himself in the practice of blowing on the knots, and admitted that his speech was sweet, his root is deep and his branches are fruitful.



He, however, found that the most plausible charge to be levelled against Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) was witchcraft. The ungodly company adopted this opinion and agreed to propagate one uniform formula to the effect that he was a magician so powerful and commanding in his art that he would successfully alienate son from father, man from his brother, wife from her husband and man from his clan.



It is noteworthy in this regard to say that Allah revealed sixteen ayaah regarding Al-Waleed and the cunning method he contemplated to manipulate the people expected to arrive in Makkah for pilgrimage. Allah says:



"Verily, he thought and plotted; so let him be cursed! How he plotted! And once more let him be cursed, how he plotted! Then he thought; then he frowned and he looked in a bad tempered way; then he turned back and was proud; then he said: 'This is nothing

but magic from that of old; this is nothing but the word of a human being!' " (74: 18-25) 



Having agreed upon this line of defense, the Quraysh formed small groups to spread the propaganda. They waited along the different paths leading the pilgrims to their destination and would caution every passer-by about the Prophet, with the result that almost everyone formed an impression of the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) without having seen or heard him.



When the days of Hajj came, the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) rose to meet the pilgrims in gatherings. He also called on them at their camps to invite them to Islam. He would say:



□ "O people! Say Laa ilaaha ilAllah and you will attain success."



The most wicked of the disbelievers and the sworn enemy of Islam and Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam), Abu Lahab, meanwhile, would walk behind the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam), belittling him and would shadow his steps crying aloud, "O men, do not listen to him for he is a liar; he is an apostate."



Thus, by the time the pilgrims returned from Hajj that year, all of Arabia knew of Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and his mission, either through his own efforts or those of his detractors. Nevertheless, Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) managed to create a stir in the whole area, and even to convince a few people to accept his Call.

To Be Continued...

