

SEERAH (BIOGRAPHY) OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH)

LESSON:35 { IN ENGLISH }



Assalamu alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu



SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD (SalAllahu alaihi wa sallam)



LESSON NO : 35



TOPIC:



Persecution begins (continued).



Polytheists avoid openly abusing the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



PERSECUTION BEGINS

(CONTINUED)



In the eyes of the Quraysh, slaves who became Muslim were rebels to be tortured to death. Their low social status left them vulnerable to all kinds of abuse. Nevertheless, not even wealth and social standing guaranteed complete immunity to anyone who became Muslim.



Uthman bin Affan (radiAllahu 'anhu) was a well-to-do person in the community, but he too was tortured in various ways. Once his uncle wrapped him up tightly in a mat and burned incense from below.



Abu Bakr and Talha bin Ubaydullah (RadiAllahu 'anhuma) were also harassed. Naufal bin Khuwaylid, and, it is said, Uthman bin Ubaydullah, trussed both of them with the same rope so that they could not pray and practice their new faith. However, both Abu Bakr and Talha were found praying, the rope having been mysteriously untied. Since both of them had been fastened with the same rope, they came to be called Qarayn, which means "joined together."



Abu Jahl, who is referred to several times in the Qur'an for his implacable hatred of Islam and his arrogance, was one of the prominent Makkans who had made it his mission to fight Islam and its followers. His hate and ire grew every time he heard of someone becoming Muslim. If the new Muslim held a high position in society, Abu Jahl would rebuke him and threaten him with the loss of property and honor. If someone from a lower station accepted Islam, Abu Jahl would beat him severely and incite others to do the same.



As a general policy, the polytheists persecuted any new Muslim, often to the point of death, especially if the convert belonged to a weaker section of tribal society. If, however, they saw a prominent person accept Islam, they proceeded more cautiously, as only polytheists of the same social status could challenge the convert.



POLYTHEIST AVOID OPENLY ABUSING THE PROPHET



(SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



Because the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) had enjoyed great prestige and belonged to a highly respected tribe, his opponents did not dare mistreat him the way they did the slave converts to Islam. In addition to being from a noble tribe, he also enjoyed the protection of his uncle, Abu Talib, who was venerated as a great chieftain.



Abu Talib was a towering personality from Banu Abdu Munaf, a family that had gained the respect of not only the Quraysh, but also the whole of Arabia. The people of Makkah held him in high esteem and no one would even think of dishonoring him by harming his nephew. For these reasons, the pagans had to be quite careful in how they opposed the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam).



They decided to hold talks with Abu Talib—talks in which they would hint at what might befall Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) if he continued opposing their religion.

To Be Continued...

