

# SEERAH (BIOGRAPHY) OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH)

## LESSON:58 { IN ENGLISH }



**Assalamu alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu**



**SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD ( SalAllahu alaihi wa sallam)**



LESSON NO: 58



TOPIC:



The Quraysh petition Abu Taalib.



The year of sorrow.



THE QURAYSH



PETITION ABU TAALIB



A few months after the boycott ended, Abu Taalib fell ill. He was over eighty years old, and the Quraysh did not expect him to recover. While this appeared to be good news for the Makkan pagans, the Quraysh felt that it made the situation even more complicated. How would it look to the other tribes in the peninsula, they asked themselves, if we punished Muhammad (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) after his uncle died?



It would be more prudent, they decided, if they approached Abu Taalib with a proposal:



□ "Ask your nephew to keep silent about our gods, and we'll hold our peace about his religion." Abu Taalib, knowing that he would not live much longer, was certainly interested in finding some way to ensure his nephew's safety after his death. He heard the proposal from the Quraysh and called his beloved nephew to his bedside.



The Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) listened and then turned to Abu Taalib.



□ "Uncle!" He said. "I ask them only one thing. And if they accept this thing, the whole of Arabia will be under their control, and the non-Arabs will pay them tribute."



□ "Only one thing?" the Quraysh asked. "We are prepared to accept ten such things. What is it?"



□ "La ilaaha illAllah" said the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam), There is no deity except the One God, Allah."



□ "What!" The Quraysh exclaimed, marveling at this statement. "He has fashioned only one god out of all of them. This is very strange."



### THE YEAR OF SORROW



Abu Taalib's illness worsened, and as the hour of his death drew near, the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) went to his side. He found Abu Jahl and Abdullah bin Abi Umayya sitting beside his dying uncle. Undeterred by their presence, the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) urged Abu Taalib to make the declaration of faith, "La ilaaha illAllah. "



□ "My uncle, say La ilaaha illAllah. This is a simple phrase, and if you say it, I'll plead with Allah for your salvation."



The two pagans, however, refused to sit in silence.



□ "Abu Taalib," they cried. "Will you shun the religion of Abdul Muttalib?" They continued talking to the dying man until the last words that were heard from Abu Taalib were: "...on the religion of Abdul Muttalib."



Still, the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) refused to give up on his uncle. "I will ask Allah to forgive you until I am forbidden to do so." Soon after that, however, the following ayah was revealed:



"It is not fitting for the Prophet and the believers that they should pray for forgiveness for

pagans, even if they are kin, after it is clear to them that they are companions of the Fire." (9: 113) 



Another ayah was also revealed:



"It is not for you to guide whomever you like, but it is Allah who guides whom He wishes, and Allah

knows those who are guided."  (28: 56)



Abu Taalib died in the month of Rajab, ten years after the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) began his mission. Although he had supported the Prophet and protected him from his enemies, he died clinging to the faith of his forefathers.



Abbas (RadhiAllahu 'anhu) one of the Prophet's (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) uncles, once asked the Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam),



□ "How could you be of any service to Abu Taalib, the one who supported you and rebuked others for your sake?" The Prophet (SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said,



□ "He is lying in a shallow part of Hell. Had I not been there, he would have been sent to a deep ditch in Hell."

To Be Continued...

