



Assalamu 'alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu



SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD

(SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



LESSON 86



TOPICS:



Challenge to single combat.



The Battle of Badr begins.



Abu Jahl killed.



CHALLENGE TO

SINGLE COMBAT



The Quraysh's three best horsemen, Utbah bin Rabi'a, Shayba bin Rabi'a, and Waleed bin Utbah, stepped forward and challenged the Muslims to single combat. In response, three members of the Ansaar came forward, but the challengers were thirsty for the blood of the Makkan exiles and said, "We want our cousins." The Ansaar withdrew, and Ubaydah bin Harith, Hamzah and Ali came forward. Hamzah faced Shayba, Ali stood before Waleed, and Ubaydah accepted Utbah's challenge.



Hamzah and Ali both killed their opponents with ease, but Ubaydah and Utbah had wounded one another, and neither had the upper hand. Ali and Hamzah ran to Ubaydah's aid and killed his opponent, and then brought Ubaydah, who had lost his leg, back to their ranks. Later he died of this injury at Safra'a on the way back to Madinah.



THE BATTLE OF



BADR BEGINS



The Quraysh smarted at having lost three men before the battle had even begun. They charged at the Muslims, who, encouraged by their early success, faced the onslaught without flinching. Proclaiming Allah's Oneness, the Muslims cried out: "Ahad! Ahad!" [One! One!]. The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam), who was given an insight into the supernatural allies sent to him, turned to Abu Bakr and said,



□ "Rejoice, O Abu Bakr, Allah's help has come. This is Jibra'eel, moving ahead with his horse's bridle in his hand. His garments are besmeared with dirt and dust". Allah's help came in the form of one thousand angels.



The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) then marched forward toward the fray, and at that moment the following ayah was revealed:



"Soon will their multitude be put to flight, and they will show their backs." (54: 45). The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) took a handful of dust and threw it at the Quraysh saying, "Let their faces be disfigured." The dust flew into the eyes and noses of the Quraysh, as mentioned in the following ayah:



"It was not you who threw, but Allah." (8: 17)



The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) ordered his men to attack, crying out, "Rise!" The Muslims, outnumbered three to one, were inspired when they saw that the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) himself was present among them and ready to fight. Supported by the invisible army of angels, the Muslims swarmed over the Quraysh. The Quraysh fell one after another, and soon they retreated in disarray. The Muslims followed in pursuit, slaying some and capturing others. Shaytaan, who was also present in the guise of Suraqa bin Malik bin Ju'shum, saw the army of angels, and escaped by plunging into the Red Sea.



ABU JAHL KILLED



As befitting a general, Abu Jahl was well-protected during the battle by men carrying swords and spears. He was so well guarded no Muslim could even get near him. A young boy told Abdul Rahman bin Auf,



□ "Show me Abu Jahl." Abdul Rahman replied,



□ "What have you to do with him?"



□ "I have been told that he vilifies the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam). By the One in Whose hand my life lies, I shall kill him when I see him, or shall be killed by him!"



Another young boy told Abdul Rahman the same thing. Suddenly, Abdul Rahman spotted Abu Jahl on the battlefield and pointed him out to the two young boys. They attacked him fiercely with their swords, and Abu Jahl fell to the earth. After the battle, they both presented themselves before the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) each claiming to have killed Abu Jahl. He looked at their swords and proclaimed, "Both of you have killed him." The young boys were Mu'adh ibn Afra and Mu'adh ibn Amr. The first is said to have been martyred in the same battle, but Mu'adh ibn Amr remained alive till the Caliphate of Uthmaan. The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) gave him Abu Jahls belongings.



Abdullah bin Mas'ood, who found Abu Jahl dying on the battlefield, placed his leg on his old enemy's neck and caught hold of his beard to behead him.



□ "Hasn't Allah disgraced you, O enemy of Allah?" Even as he lay dying Abu Jahl was unrepentant.



□ "For what have I been disgraced? Is there anybody above the man you have killed? I only wish someone other than a farmer had killed me. Tell me, who was victorious today?"



□ "Allah and His Messenger," Abdullah said.



□ "O herdsman! You have mounted a very difficult place," Abu Jahl responded.



Abdullah then cut his head off and placed it before the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam).



□ "Allah is the Greatest! All praise is due to Allah," the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) cried.



□ "He has proven His promise to be true, helped His servants, and defeated the opposing army." Gazing at Abu Jahl's head before him, the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said,



□ "He was the Pharaoh of his nation."

To Be Continued...

