

SEERAH OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD(PBUH)

LESSON:99 (IN ENGLISH)



Assalamu 'alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu



SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD

(SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



LESSON 99



TOPICS:



Digging the Trench (continued).



Across the Trench.



DIGGING THE TRENCH

(CONTINUED)



On one occasion, Jabir bin Abdullah could not bear to see the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) assailed by severe hunger. He slaughtered an ewe, and his wife ground about 2 1/2 kilograms of barley. He then went to the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and discreetly invited him and a few of the Prophet's Companions. The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) accepted the invitation, but brought everyone along—all one thousand of them.



Everyone ate until he was full, but the pot remained replete and the bread continued to bake unchecked. Similarly, once the sister of Nu'man bin Bashir took a handful of dates for her father and maternal uncle. The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) took the dates and scattered them on a cloth. He then called all the men as they worked away at the trench. Each of them ate to his fill and left, but the dates kept multiplying and could barely be contained within the cloth.



The soil the men encountered was rocky and obdurate. Jabir and his group struck a particularly rocky patch that failed all their efforts. The problem was brought to the notice of the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) and as he struck it with his pick, it crumbled into a mound of pliant sand. Other obstacles became oracles with Allah's grace.



Bara'a and his unit came across a large rock. The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) knelt and said Bismillah before he used his pick. A piece of the rock came loose with a light emerging from it. The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said,



□ "Allahu Akbar! The keys of Syria have been given to me, and right now I see its red castle."



The Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) then struck a second blow with his pick and received tidings of the imminent victory over Persia; the last blow signified the conquest of Yemen. In this way the entire rock was demolished, with each blow bringing the Muslims hope.



ACROSS THE TRENCH



While the Muslims concentrated on defense, the Quraysh and their followers arrived with an army of 4000 men, 300 horses and 1000 camels. Abu Sufyan rode proudly as the commander-in-chief of the allied forces and their standard bearer was Uthman bin Talha Abdari. They camped at a spot between Jarf and Zaghaba.



Opening another front, Banu Ghatfan and their 6000 followers, the men of Najd, pitched camp at the end of the Naqmi valley in the foothills of Mount Uhud. The arrival of two large armies so close to the walls of Madinah posed an enormous threat to the Muslims. Allah mentions the mammoth military coalition in Surah Al-Ahzaab:



"Behold! They marched upon you from above and below, and then your eyes spun around and your hearts leapt to your throats. You began to doubt Allah's plan, yet in this was a trial for the believers

and an immense jolt."  (33: 10-11)



But Allah Almighty kept the believers firm on that occasion. He says:



"When the believers saw the confederate forces, they said: "This is what Allah and His Messenger promised us, and Allah and His Messenger have told us the truth." And it only increased their

faith and their submission to Allah."  (33: 22)



However, the Hypocrites among the Muslims were fearful and querulous. They said:



"Allah and His Messenger have promised us nothing but delusions."  (33: 12)



Once again the Prophet (salAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam) appointed Ibn Umm Maktoom caretaker of Madinah and sent the women and children to take shelter in forts. He then set out with 3000 men and fortified his troops, keeping their backs to Mount Sal'a. In front was the trench that stood between the Muslims and unbelievers. The pagans arrogantly advanced towards Madinah and the Muslims.



As they approached, they caught sight of the trench and stopped in confusion. "A novel device, a wily ruse!" Abu Sufyan exclaimed in amazement. "This trick is totally unknown to the Arabs." Overwhelmed with fury, the pagans set about trying to find a point where they could cross the trench, but the Muslim archers kept them at bay. A hail of arrows showered the pagans so that they could neither leap across the trench nor fill it with earth.

To Be Continued...

