

# SEERAH (BIOGRAPHY) OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH)

## LESSON: 137 {IN ENGLISH}



Assalamu 'alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakaatuhu



SEERAH OF MUHAMMAD

(SalAllahu 'alaihi wa sallam)



LESSON 137



TOPICS:



The Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) mourns three Deaths.



Ghazawat.



Abu Bakr performs Hajj.



THE PROPHET MOURNS



THREE DEATHS



In Rajab, 9 A.H., the month of the Prophet's (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) return from Tabuk, As-huma bin Abjar, the king of Abyssinia, passed away. He had given the Muslims refuge when they were weak and oppressed by the Makkan pagans. Later, when he recognized that Islam was a continuation of the teachings of Ibraheem, Musa and 'Isa ('alaihim as-salaam), he embraced Islam.



Although he was not buried in Madinah, the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) offered funeral prayers for him when he received the news. Then in Sha'ban of the same year, the Prophet's daughter, Umm Kulthoom (radhiAllahu 'anha) also died. The Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) led her funeral prayer and buried her in the graveyard at Madinah, Baqi.



Deeply saddened at her death, the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) recognized the grief of her bereaved husband, Uthmaan (radhiAllahu 'anhu), and said to him,



□ "If I had a third daughter, I would have given her to you in marriage." A couple of months later in Dhul Qa'dah, Abdullah bin Ubayy died.



Ever merciful, the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) prayed for his forgiveness and even led the funeral prayer. Umar (radhiAllahu 'anhu) asked the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) not to lead the prayer for the dead leader of the Hypocrites, but the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) would not be dissuaded. Later, however, Allah revealed ayaah instructing the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) not to offer funeral prayers for the Hypocrites.



## GHAZAWAT



During the Age of Ignorance, the Arabs regarded war as a chance to massacre the weak, plunder their goods, destroy their villages and cattle, and rape their women. Islam, however, changed the concept of war. War became a way to rescue the oppressed and punish the oppressors.



The ultimate aim of fighting battles (Ghazawat) was to save people from the worship of idols and false gods and to bring them to Islam, the worship of Allah. Furthermore, before the advent of Islam, war was a way of life for the desert Arabs. The war between the tribes of Bakr and Taghlab lasted over forty years and resulted in the deaths of seventy thousand men.



Similarly, the war between the Aus and Khazraj tribes lasted more than one hundred years, with neither side willing to surrender. It was the nature of the Arabs to prolong wars rather than to bow to their enemies, even when the wars were fought over trifles. When the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) brought Islam to the Arabs, they responded in the way instinctive to them: they fought him.



Nevertheless, the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) first set out to conquer their hearts before resorting to the sword. In all the battles that the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) fought, the total number of people who died, Muslims, pagans, Jews and Christians combined, was about one thousand. Moreover, these battles spanned no more than eight years.



In this short span, with so little bloodshed, the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) brought almost the entire Arabian Peninsula under his sway. Many historians inaccurately attribute the Prophet's (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) success to mere military prowess.



When we consider how fond the Arabs were of fighting, and how willing they were to sacrifice thousands of their men no matter how insignificant the cause, we realize that the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) had weapons greater than the sword.





ABU BAKR



PERFORMS HAJJ



The pagan Arabs considered themselves followers of the religion of Ibraheem ('alaihi-salaam). Indeed, they had inherited Hajj (pilgrimage to the Ka'bah) from Ibraheem, although they had added many innovations to the rites. When the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) conquered Makkah, he put Atab bin Usayd (radhiAllahu 'anhu) in charge.



Everyone, Muslims and polytheists included, performed Hajj under his authority, but they performed it in the same manner as during the days before Islam. In the year following the conquest of Makkah (9 A.H.), the Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) sent Abu Bakr (radhiAllahu 'anhu) to lead the pilgrims in performing Hajj. Abu Bakr set out for Makkah with three hundred Muslims from Madinah at the end of Dhul Qa'dah.



He took twenty of the Prophet's camels and five of his own for sacrifice. After Abu Bakr left, the opening ayaah of Surah Al-Taubah were revealed. These ayaah contained an important announcement for tribes that had covenants with the Muslims. Any covenant that had not been honored would be broken, and any tribe that did not have a covenant with the Muslims would have a grace period of four months.



Covenants that had been honored would remain valid. The Prophet (SalAllaahu 'alaihi wa sallam) sent Ali (radhiAllahu 'anhu) to Makkah to inform everyone of the new ayaah. On the day of the sacrifice, Ali recited the new ayaah to the pilgrims. Abu Bakr then sent a band of people to announce that from the next year, polytheists would not be allowed to perform Hajj, nor would anyone be allowed to practice the perverted tradition of circumambulating the Ka'bah in the nude.

To Be Continued...

