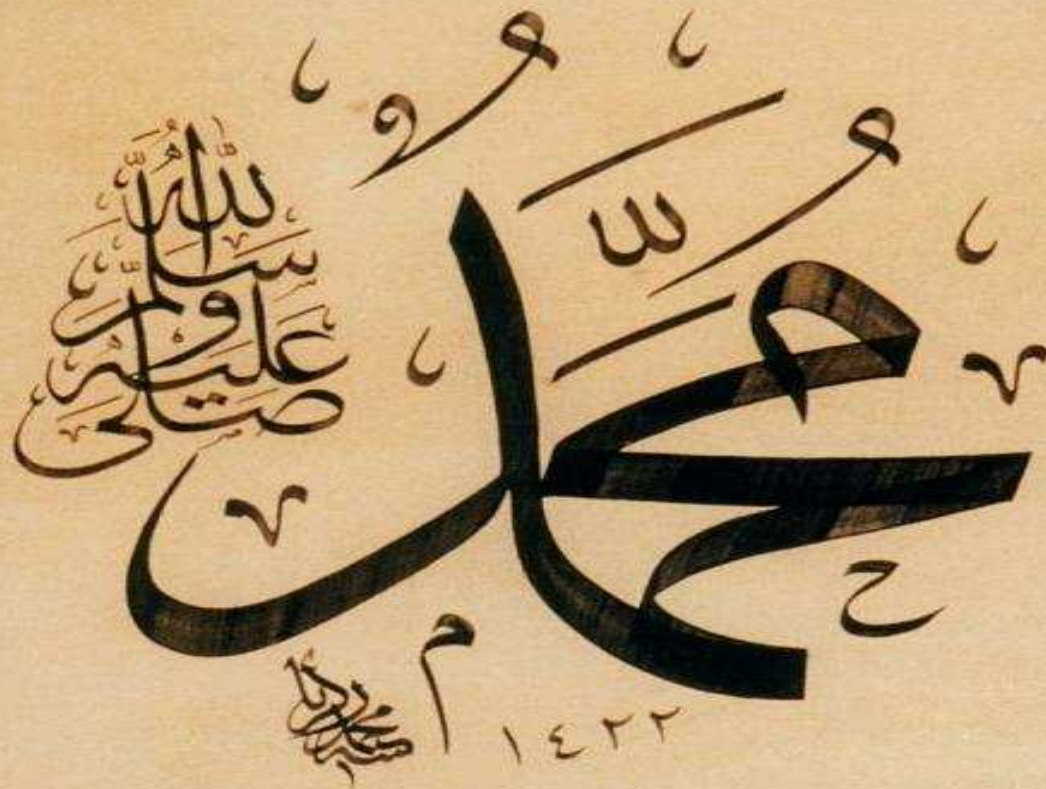


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The life of our beloved Holy Prophet  
(peace be upon him)



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# **Social Boycott of Muslims**

- The Makkans were unsuccessful in Abyssinia.
- Two of their great chiefs, Hadrat Hamza and Hadrat Umar had converted to Islam.
- The Makkans were under the pressure to stop Holy Prophet from preaching.
- Under pressure, they even decided to murder Holy Prophet.

# Social Boycott of Muslims

- When Hadrat Abu Talib became aware of their plans, he gathered the Banu Hashim tribe and took them to She'abe Abi Talib.
- She'abe Abi Talib was a passage between mountains that belonged to Hadrat Abu Talib.
- Hadrat Abu Talib took an oath from his people that they will do everything in their powers to defend Holy Prophet.
- Everyone agreed except Abu Lahab. Instead of supporting his people, he supported the Makkans.

# Social Boycott of Muslims

- Not all the family members of Banu Hashim tribe were Muslims, yet they supported Holy Prophet through their love for him and family ties.
- Hadrat Abu Talib loved Holy Prophet the most.
- He was very worried about his safety.
- Most often while Holy Prophet was sleeping on his bed, Hadrat Abu Talib would ask him to relocate to another place and would ask one of his own sons to lie down at the place of the Holy Prophet.
- This was as a safety precaution. In case someone attacks the sleeping place of Holy Prophet, he would still be safe.

# Social Boycott of Muslims

- When the Makkans saw that the whole Banu Hashim tribe was defending Holy Prophet and they would not give up their support for him, the Makkans decided to hold a total social boycott of the whole Banu Hashim tribe.
- The Makkan chiefs held a meeting and passed a resolution that they will cut off all ties with Banu Hashim tribe.
- They will not buy or sell anything to them.
- They will not have any sort of relations or connections with them.

# **Social Boycott of Muslims**

- They will not marry to them or from them.
- They agreed to strictly abide to this social boycott with the Banu Hashim till they give up their support for the Holy Prophet and hand him over to Makkans to be persecuted.
- They wrote down this resolution on a scroll, signed it and hanged it on the inside wall of the Ka'abah.

# Social Boycott of Muslims

- The Makkan chiefs enforced this resolution onto other ordinary Makkans and outsiders.
- They enforced shopkeepers not to sell any items to the Muslims and their supporters.
- When outside traders came to Makkah to sell their items, the Makkan chiefs agreed to buy their goods with prices as high as ten times.
- This was to prevent the traders from selling their goods to the Banu Hashim tribe.

# **Social Boycott of Muslims**

- Muslims would hear about a new trader coming to Makkah and they would leave their crying children to purchase food and other stuff from him.
- When they used to reach him and enquire about the prices, he would tell them such inflated prices that no Muslim would have been able to pay that much and they would return to their crying children empty handed.

# Social Boycott of Muslims

- Makkan chiefs prevented others from helping the Muslims.
- They placed guards around She'abe Abi Talib so no one could take any food to the Muslims and their supporters.
- Still there were some soft-hearted non-Muslim Makkans who took efforts to help the needy.
- One such person was Hisham bin Amr.
- Although he had not accepted Islam at that time, he used to take camels loaded with food to the Banu Hashim tribe.
- When Makkan chiefs found out regarding this, they asked him to stop taking foods to the Muslims.
- Some threatened to kill him. Despite all this, he continued helping the Muslims.

# Social Boycott of Muslims

- This social boycott did not last for months but full three years.
- This social boycott period was the most difficult for Holy Prophet and his followers.
- With no food to eat for themselves and their children, with no connections and relations with the outside world, it was their biggest trial.
- Most often they had to survive on the leaves and grass.
- Their children would cry so loud out of hunger, it could be heard from far away.

# Social Boycott of Muslims

- Sa'ad bin Waqas says:
- “One night, I stumble upon something wet and took hold of it. I was so hungry I did not even bother to check what it was. I put it in my mouth and swallowed it quickly. Till this day, I still don't know what I ate on that evening.”
- Similarly, another companion says:
- “once I found a dry camel skin. I washed it and boiled it in water. I kept eating this camel skin for three days.”

# Social Boycott of Muslims

- Indeed these were the most difficult and heart-breaking times for the Muslims.
- Yet they were resilient.
- They were patient through this challenging and hard times.
- They never complained to Allah or Holy Prophet once.
- They trusted Allah more than anything else and knew He would remove this testing time from them.

# Social Boycott of Muslims

- Despite all these heart-breaking times, Holy Prophet (PBUH) persisted in his ways and his determination and courage never weakened.
- He continued going to Ka'aba and praying there.
- He used every opportunity to preach to the Makkans and the outsiders who visited Makkah for business and or on pilgrimage.

# Ending of the social boycott

- Makkan chiefs had hanged their contract inside the Ka'abah and they were forcing this contract onto others.
- When Allah had tested the Muslims and they showed resilience and high spirit during this testing time, Allah removed this troubling times from them.
- Allah ordered white ants to eat up and destroy the contract.
- The white ants ate the whole of the scroll except the part where the name of Allah was written (the disbelievers of Makkah did believe in the godhood of Allah).

# Ending of the social boycott

- Then Allah Almighty informed His beloved prophet about the destructing of the contract, except the name of Allah.
- After Holy Prophet was informed, he went to his uncle, Hadrat Abu Talib and gave him the same news.
- His uncle was surprised to hear this news.
- He could not believe that a person who had been away from Ka'abah for three years was giving him this news.

# Ending of the social boycott

- Holy Prophet requested his uncle to go back to Makkans and inform them too. When Hadrat Abu Talib reached Ka'abah, the Makkans were surprised to find him there.
- Initially they thought perhaps Hadrat Abu Talib has come to negotiate the handing of his nephew to them so they could be released from this boycott.
- Hadrat Abu Talib said to the Makkan chiefs:
- “for three years you have been binding to your contract. Now a time has come to end this contract. I will offer you a very fair deal.”

# Ending of the social boycott

- The Makkans were very eager to negotiate.
- They were also getting fed up with their own actions and their treatment of their own people.
- Hadrat Abu Talib carried on saying:
- “I have been informed by my nephew that the agreement that all of you have signed and hanged inside Ka’abah has been eaten up by white ant, except the name of Allah.
- If this news is true, you will give up your boycott.
- And if this news is not true, we will give up supporting Muhammad.”

# Ending of the social boycott

- The Makkans were quite happy with these terms.
- They thought that a person who has not been inside Ka'abah for three years, how he would know what has happened to the contract.
- But when they opened the door of the Ka'abah and brought the contract out, the only thing that remained was the name of Allah.
- This clear and open sign of the prophethood of Holy Prophet could not soften the hearts of the Makkan chiefs.
- They attributed the destruction of the contract to magic again.