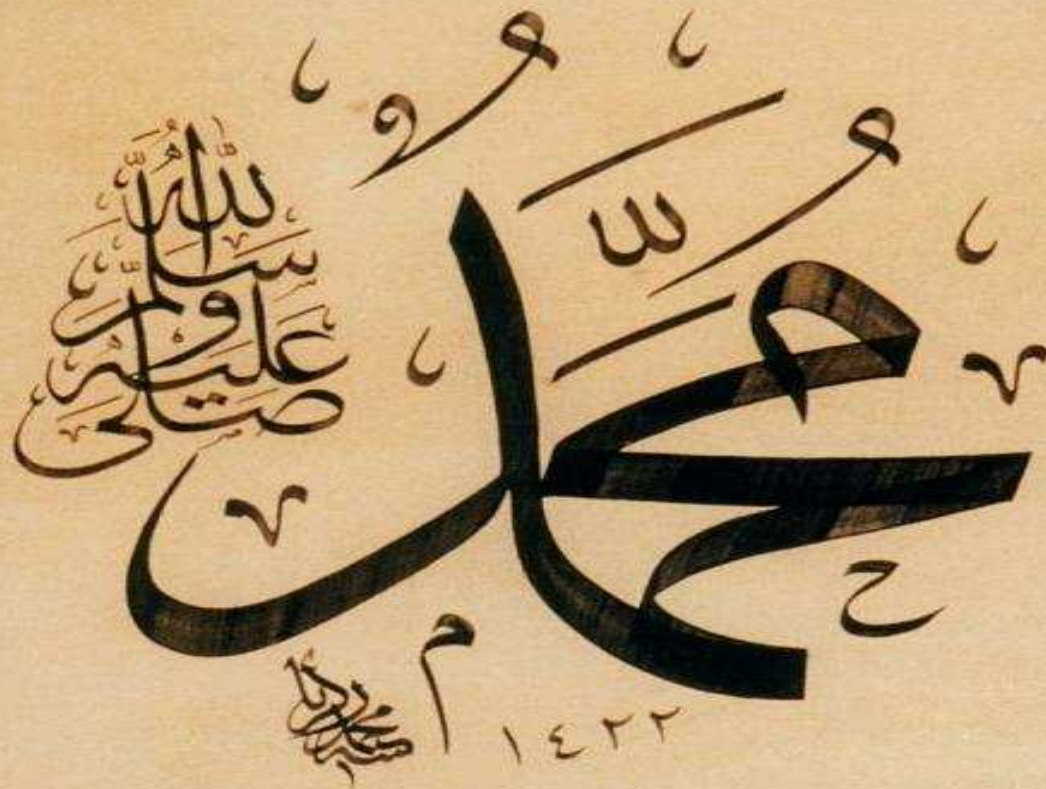


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The life of our beloved Holy Prophet
(peace be upon him)



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Journey to Taif

- Despite ill treatment of Holy Prophet by the Makkans, Holy Prophet did not stop spreading the word of Allah.
- He searched new ways and methods of spreading Islam and to reach those people who would listen to him and eventually benefit from his invitation.
- As Islam was constantly spreading in Makkah, he wanted to spread the message of Islam to other areas too.
- For his first trip, He decided to visit the city of Taif. Taif was around 120 miles away from Makkah and was inhabited by the people of Banu Thaqif clan. It was well known for its good climate, farms and gardens.



Journey to Taif

- Holy Prophet specifically chose Taif for his first trip as the people of Taif were more educated and Holy Prophet also had some relations there.
- He was hopeful that the educated people of Taif would respond favourably to his call.
- He made this journey in the 10th year of his prophethood, in the month of Shawwal.
- The only person accompanying him on this journey was his servant called Zaid bin Haritha.
- In Taif, Holy Prophet visited different people's homes, inviting them to Islam.



Journey to Taif

- He informed them regarding the oneness of Allah Almighty, teaching them the basic teachings of Islam and urging them to accept this religion.
- He stayed in Taif nearly a month. Yet no one answered his call.
- He did not receive any sign of encouragement from the people.
- The people of Taif refused to reflect on the teaching of Islam and kept following their own religion blindly.
- In fact, the people of Taif were arrogant, rude and ill-mannered towards Holy Prophet.



Journey to Taif

- In particular, when Holy Prophet visited three brothers who were the chiefs of Taif, they were extremely discourteous and vulgar towards Holy Prophet and his message.
- These brothers were called: Abd Yalil, Masud and Habib.
- One of them was also married to a woman from Quraysh, however, that did not stop them ridiculing Holy Prophet.
- The first one remarked: “I will tear down the cloth of Ka’ba if Gold has truly sent you as a Messenger”.



Journey to Taif

- The second one shouted: “Didn’t God find anyone else other than you as His Messenger”.
- The third brother said in sarcastic manner:
- “I cannot speak to you.
- If you are really God’s Messenger as you claim to be, then you are above everything and I am not great enough to talk to you.
- However, if you are lying then you are not worthy of talking.”



Journey to Taif

- The whole Taif rejected Holy Prophet and his preaching.
- Not a single person came in front to accept this life-saving religion.
- Holy Prophet was deeply saddened by their inability to listen to him with unbiased heart and to ponder on this beautiful religion.
- Instead their rejected him totally and forced him to leave Taif.



Journey to Taif

- In case their rejection of Islam was not enough in itself, they set loose their youngsters and servants on Holy Prophet who chased him out of the city.
- The people of Taif were already hostile towards Holy Prophet while he was preaching in their city.
- However, this hostility and aggression reached its pinnacle when they forced him to leave Taif.



Journey to Taif

- While Holy Prophet was leaving Taif with his loyal servant Zaid, an angry mob chased them, throwing stones at them, kicking and pushing them to sides and ridiculing them.
- Holy Prophet's whole body started to bleed with the wounds of the stones.
- He bled so much that his shoes became full of blood flowing down his body.
- Zaid, his loyal servant, tried his best to cover his master to protect him from these flying stones but it was too much for him to cover.

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Journey to Taif

- People of Taif had lost all traits of humanity.
- In their hatred for the message of Islam and their love for their powerless idols, they had lost their senses of human values, forbearance and tolerance.



Journey to Taif

- When Holy Prophet left Taif, he took some rest in an orchard nearby. While resting, he offered one of the most heart-rendering and touching prayer to Allah Almighty. He raised his blood soaked hands and made this dua:
 - “O Allah, only to you I can complain of my weakness, lack of support and powerlessness.
 - O the most merciful, you are the Lord of the weak and You are my Lord.
 - In whose hands do you leave me? Do you leave me with a person who treats me with hostility? Or have you made my enemy more powerful over me.
 - If you are not displeased with me, then I do not mind the troubles that may befall me. In any case, I look forward to your mercy all the time.



Journey to Taif

- I seek refuge in the light of Your face, that dispels the darkness of this world and enlightens the life of this world and the Hereafter, from incurring your wrath or being the subject of your anger.
- I seek your pleasure until you are pleased with me.
- I am powerless and without your permission no one can help me and remove these calamities.”



Journey to Taif

- While Holy Prophet was resting in the garden, a cloud appeared above him.
- When he looked up, he recognised that it was Hadrat Jibrail.
- Hadrat Jibrail appeared before Holy Prophet and said:
 - “O the most beloved prophet of Allah, Allah knows how the people of Taif have treated you and He has listened to your dua. Allah Almighty has sent with me the angel of the mountains.”
- At this stage, the angle of mountains came forward and conveyed his salam to the Holy Prophet and said:
 - “Allah has ordered me to come to you and to obey whatever you order me to do so. If you wish I can order the mountains around the city of Taif to come together and to crash the people in between and to destroy the city altogether.”



Journey to Taif

- It sounds like a fair punishment for the people of Taif for disrespecting Holy Prophet. If Holy Prophet wanted to he could order the angle to turn the city upside down and not leave a single person alive in that area.
- However, Holy Prophet was seeing very far ahead.
- He was a man of farsightedness.
- He was not sent to this earth to punish people but rather to turn them away from receiving punishment.
- The angle was waiting for Holy Prophet to give him thumbs up to destroy the city.
- Yet Holy Prophet was patient.



Journey to Taif

- He remarked:
 - “I believe the children of these people will turn to Islam. They will not worship anyone except Allah.”
- Instead of taking revenge on the people of Taif for the suffering that they caused him, he wanted to enlighten their lives with the light of Islam.
- He wanted to give them time so their children could have the opportunity of embracing Islam and worshiping no one except Allah Almighty.
- On witnessing this kindness of this merciful, the angel could not help but to remark:
 - “You are truly gracious and merciful, like you have been named by Allah Almighty.”



Journey to Taif

- The journey of Taif left bitter memories to the Holy Prophet.
- Once Hadrat Aisha asked him if there had been any occasion more sorrowful than the events of battle of Uhad (when the Muslim army suffered many casualties from the Makkan army).
- Holy Prophet replied:
 - "the treatment of the people of Taif was more severe than the mournful events of battle of Uhad".