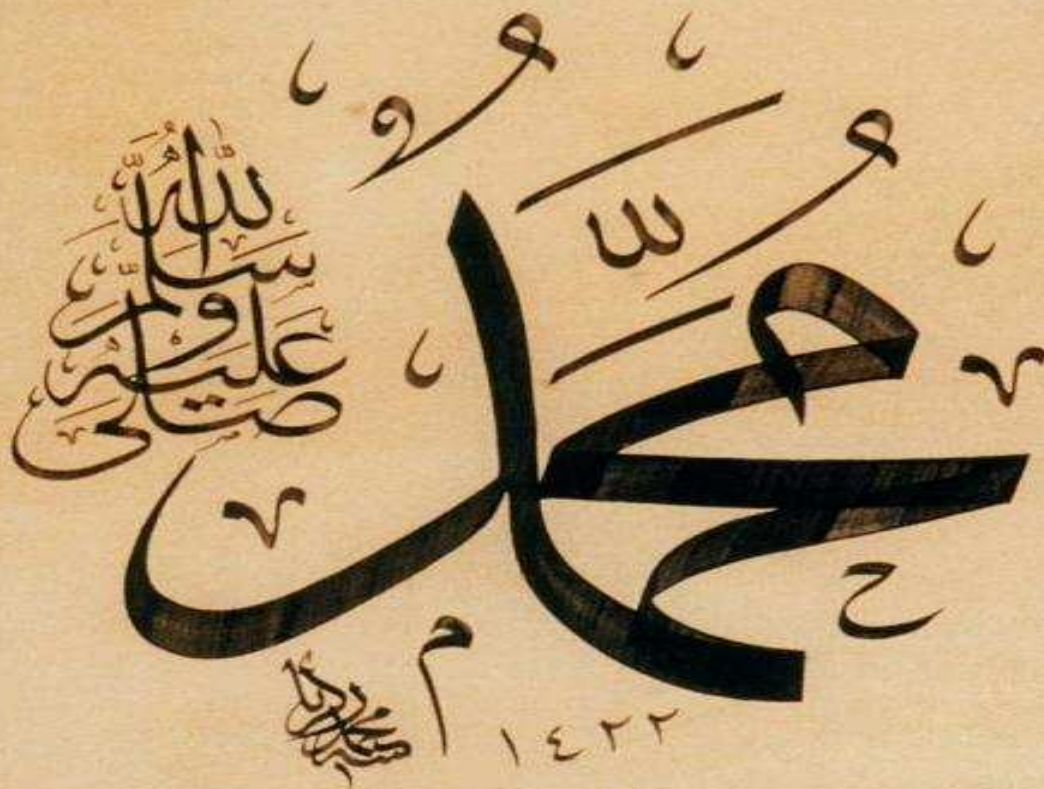


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The life of our beloved Holy Prophet
(peace be upon him)



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One of the core objectives of Deen Foundation is to spread knowledge and educate the world on different religious, social and professional matters by publishing books, articles, video presentations and holding conferences.

Remembering Allah

- Holy Prophet kept a distance from other Makkans.
- The talk of most Makkans revolved around idols and other vain pursuits and this is why Holy Prophet did not mingle with them.
- There was an intellectual gap between him and the people of Makkah, but this did not stop him gaining the respect of the people.
- Holy Prophet started spending more time in the worship of Allah in seclusion.

Mount Hira

- Specially, he would spend the whole month of Ramadan in the mount Hira which was 3 miles away from Makkah.
- But now the city of Makkah has expanded, so the mount Hira has become closer to the city.
- He also took food and drink supply with him.
- When his supply ran out, he would come back and take more supply with him.
- At the end of the month, he would come back to Makkah, first visit the Ka'abah and do its tawaf and then go home.

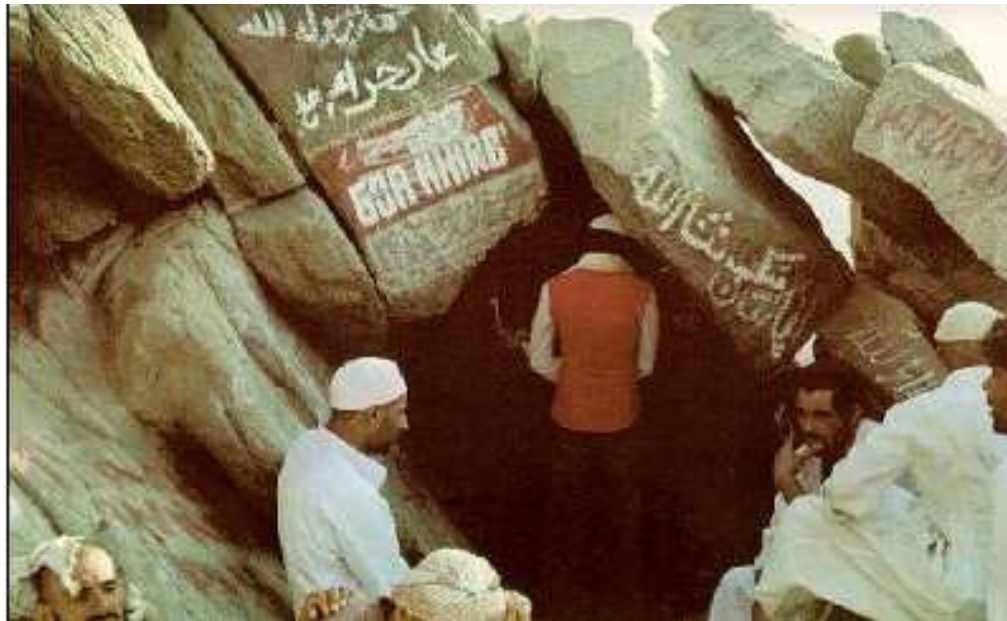


Cave Hiraa

- Cave Hiraa is a small cave with only one entrance.
- The cave has only enough space to accommodate one person.
- It is about 2 meters high. Inside, the surface is flat but the ceiling slopes downwards until it reaches very low towards the end.



Cave Hira



- At the end of the cave, there is a small opening which ensures good ventilation.
- If the person stands at the entrance to pray, he is able to see the Ka'abah through this opening. This is the reason why Holy prophet chose this particular cave.

Way to the prophethood

- 6 months before he started receiving Quranic revelations, Holy Prophet started having dreams during night time and during the day, all these dreams would become true.
- He also heard the stones and trees calling him by his name and sending Darood on him.
- Holy Prophet had these experiences to prepare him to take on the message of the unseen.

Receiving the first revelation

- Once, during the month of Ramadan, when Holy Prophet was 40 years old, he received the first revelation in the cave Hira.
- Archangel Gabriel came to Holy Prophet and said 'Read'. Holy Prophet replied 'I am not a reader.' Angel Gabriel held Holy Prophet, pressed him hard towards him and then released him. Gabriel asked again 'Read'. Holy prophet again replied 'I am not a reader.' Gabriel pressed him for the second time and then asked again 'Read'. Again Holy Prophet replied 'I am not a reader.'
- For the fourth time, Gabriel help Holy Prophet and pressed him and released him.
- Then he asked 'Read in the name of your Lord Who created. It is He Who created man from clots of blood. Read! Your Lord is the most bounteous; Who has taught the use of pen. He has taught man what he did not know.' [Surah Alaq]
- Holy Prophet repeated these verses with angel Gabriel. Then angel Gabriel left.
- This was the first Quranic revelation sent to the Holy Prophet.

Receiving the first revelation

- Obviously, this was spiritually uplifting and moving experience for Holy Prophet.
- This was his first encounter with an angel. He was shaken with the power of the Quranic revelation.
- He returned home immediately. He was still shivering so he asked his wife to wrap him with a piece of cloth.
- Concerned, his wife Hadrat Khadijah, asked him what had happened.
- Holy Prophet narrated what he had seen and heard.
- Hadrat Khadijah said: 'Relax and be calm because you have nothing to fear. Allah will not let you suffer humiliation because you are kind to your relatives, you speak the truth, you assist anyone in need, you are hospitable to your guest and you help in every just cause.'

Waraqah bin Nawfal

- Hadrat Khadijah took Holy Prophet to Waraqah bin Nawfal.
- He was an old person who had lost his eyesight. He had converted to Christianity and was a scholar of Bible.
- Holy Prophet narrated his story to Waraqah. When Waraqah heard the Holy Prophet, he instantly realised that he was a prophet.
- Waraqah said 'It is the same revelation that was sent to Moses. I wish I was a young man so that I might be alive when your people will turn you away from your city.'
- Holy prophet was surprised to hear that he will be driven out of Makkah by those people who love him so much.
- So he asked 'Would they turn me away?'
- Waraqah said 'Oh yes, no man has preached a message like yours who was not met with enmity. If I live that day, I will certainly give my support to you.'
- But Waraqah died soon after this meeting.

Revelation stopped for a while

- After the first revelation, Holy Prophet stopped receiving new revelations for some time.
- For a period of 1 – 4 weeks, he did not receive any new message.
- The purpose of this was to allow the Holy Prophet to have some time to himself in which he could understand the new situation and become mentally prepared for the new task.
- The task of prophethood requires a lot of patience, strength and perseverance and Holy Prophet already had all these in plenty.

Second Quranic revelation

- The process of revelation resumed after some weeks. The second revelation sent to the Holy Prophet was the beginning verses of Surah Muddathir [Q.74]
- From these verses the messenger-ship of Holy Prophet began.

O you (Prophet Muhammad) wrapped up in garments

Arise and warn people about their actions

And praise and magnify your Lord

And keep your garments purify

And (like before) keep away from idols

And don't favour others in order to receive anything back

And be patient for the sake of your Lord

يَا أَيُّهَا الْمُدَّثِّرُ

قُمْ فَأَنْذِرْ

وَرَبِّكَ فَكَبِّرْ

وَتِيَابِكَ فَطَهِّرْ

وَالرُّجْزَ فَاهْجُرْ

وَلَا تَمُنَّ بِتَسْتَكْبِرُ

وَلِرَبِّكَ فَاصْبِرْ

Receiving revelations

- The process of receiving revelation was very burdensome & heavy.
- If Holy Prophet was riding on his she-camel and he received the revelation, his she-camel would instantly sit down because she could not take the burden of the revelation.
- We cannot imagine how it feels to receive the revelation. Hadrat Aisha narrates that when Holy Prophet received revelations, he always sweated in cold days.
- Holy Prophet received the revelations in different forms.
 - Seeing true dreams
 - Receiving a direct message on his heart, without the angels
 - Angel Gabriel would come in the form of a man. Other companions could also see this man.
 - Receiving revelation in the form of a ringing bell. This was the hardest form of revelation as it required a lot attention.
 - Angel Gabriel would come in the shape of an angel.
 - Allah would speak directly to Holy Prophet

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Praying

- After the revelation, Holy Prophet was asked to worship Allah Almighty by offering 2 daily prayers:
 - one in the morning before sunrise
 - second in the evening before sunset
- Archangel Gabriel took Holy Prophet to a valley.
- He struck his wing on the earth and water sprung up from a hole.
- Gabriel performed wudu (ablution) and Holy prophet followed him.
- They then offered 2 rakah prayer there.