

# Life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH/SAW)

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Second Session (2/3)

NOVA Life-Long Learning (NOVA-LLI)

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# Life of Prophet Muhammad (in 3 sessions)

- Session 1: His life before becoming a prophet and the initial years of his prophethood in Makkah
- Session 2: His later years in Makkah and his migration to Madinah for establishing Islamic government
- Session 3: His traditions and legacy, his marriages, confrontations, and views about him

# Role of Christians and Jews in Makkah Period

- Positive reaction of two Christian monks to the prophet
  - Baheera and Waraqah
- Refuge of some Muslims (prophet's companions) to Abi Sinya (Ethiopia)
  - Having a just Christian ruler
  - After listening to Muslims (see text of speech in below) and to Qur'an
  - Granting political asylum to Muslims \*
- Reactions of Jews of Madinah
  - Their unique status among Arabs
    - Their waiting for the last prophet
    - Asking questions to verify claim of Prophet-hood
    - Getting answers to all questions from Qur'an
    - Their peculiar expectations

# Muslims' understanding of Moses and Jesus foretelling Prophet Muhammad

- It is reported that previous scriptures and scholars of those scriptures had good knowledge about coming of new prophet
- Muslims believe that coming of Prophet Muhammad was foretold by both Moses and Jesus
  - See Verse 61:6 of Qur'an about saying of Jesus in this regard, and Verse 7:157 referring to advent of Prophet Muhammad in Torah and Gospel (see next slide)
  - See how some Muslim scholars understand the Bible quoting Moses and Jesus at:  
<http://www.islam101.com/religions/christianity/mBible.htm> (appended in bottom of this slide)

# Jesus and Bible Foretelling Prophet Muhammad (in Qur'an)

- And [mention] when Jesus, son of Mary, said, "O children of Israel, indeed I am the messenger of Allah to you confirming what came before me of the Torah and bringing good tidings of a messenger to come after me, whose name is Ahmad." But when he (whose coming Jesus had foretold) came to them with all evidences of truth, they said, "This is clear magic." (61:6)
- (My mercy is for) those who follow the Messenger, the gentile and unlettered Prophet, **whom they find mentioned in the Torah and Gospel that is with them**, who commands them what is decent and forbids them what is wrong; who makes lawful for them all decent things and disallows them what is bad and impure; and who relieves them of their burden and the shackles which were upon them. So those who believe in him, honor him, help him, and follow the light which has been sent down with him, it is those who will be the successful. (7:157)

# Belief of Muslims in Prophets

- God selected some individuals throughout human history to be His prophets
  - God sent revelation/guidance to each one of them
  - So they can pass it and teach it to others
  - Also, they became practical embodiment of the guidance and role models for others
- Selection of Prophets
  - Allah selected the most noble individuals as His prophets (with His advance plan, but with no prior knowledge by those individuals)
  - At some point of their life, Allah sent an angel to inform them of their selection
  - After that, Allah continued to communicate with them until the end of their mission

# Belief of Muslims in Prophets

- Allah sent a prophet to every community of the earth throughout history until a certain point
- Adam: First human being and first prophet
- Other prophets: Noah, Enoch (Idris), Hud, Saleh, Abraham (Ibrahim), Lot (Loot), Ishmael (Ismael), Isaac (Ishaq), Jacob (Yaqub), Joseph (Yusuf), Job (Ayub), Jonah (Younus), Moses (Musa), Aaron (Haroon), David (Daoud), Solomon (Sulaiman), Zakaria (Zikria), John the Baptist (Yahya), Jesus (Eisa), Muhammad, etc.
- Five special prophets (known as prophets with high determination) are Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad
- Muhammad is the last prophet (and last messenger)
- Muhammad came about 600 years after Jesus with no other prophet between them
- Only 25 of them mentioned by name in Qur'an, but Qur'an confirms that many other prophets were sent who are not mentioned in it

# Some Common Attributes of All Prophets

All of the prophets ...

- Received revelations from a single and common source (God/Allah)
- Had the same mission and message, in general
- Taught the same tenets of belief to others
- Presented good news and warnings
- Confirmed and supported each other
- Were perfect examples and models for others
- While they performed in the best level, they received Allah's extra protection from any sins and deviations so they can be models
- Had great character traits, truthfulness, trustworthiness, integrity, nobility, etc. \*
- Had special leadership capabilities required for their mission, such as abundant wisdom, excellent memories, superb intelligence, etc.
- Had no greed for worldly gains, not asking for any wages, and not seeking any admiration from people
- Went through very difficult trials and extreme hardships
- Showed miracles and brought humanly unmatched message



# Belief in all Prophets and their Examples

- Belief in all prophets (with no exception) is required for every Muslim
- All prophets are the best human examples for following God's teachings
- Muslims take all prophets as role models
- Some prophets have become role models in certain areas of life, for example:
  - Adam in seeking repentance to God and struggling with Satan
  - Noah in his steadfastness for the longest to invite people to God
  - Abraham in establishing oneness of God
  - Joseph (Yusuf) in fighting sexual temptations
  - Moses in struggling against a tyrant and oppression
  - Job (Ayoob) in showing patience during afflictions
  - David and Solomon as powerful and just rulers
  - Jesus in showing special powers of God and struggling with religious hypocrites
  - Prophet Muhammad as the final and full model

# Last Days of Prophet in Makkah

- Severity of persecution of Muslims in Makkah
- Loss of Prophet's tribal support
- Prophet exploring options to move out of Makkah
- His trip to Taaif, but facing a very painful and humiliating reaction
- Acceptance of Islam by some pilgrims from Madinah and immigration of some of his companions to Madinah, and invitations to prophet
- Conspiracy to kill the Prophet in his house
- But, leaving the house with miraculous protection

# Immigration of Prophet to Madinah

- Leaving Makkah
- Staying in Cave of Thawr



- Safe arrival of Prophet to Madinah
- After 13 years of calling and facing difficulties in Makkah, prophet migrated to Madinah in Year 622

# Welcome in Madinah

- His arrival to Madinah and welcome from all over the city
  - Everyone singing a song to welcome him (see the following YouTube videos for that song)
  - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxbmI\\_SXvDI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AxbmI_SXvDI)
  - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JaTP2PCI3jY>
- Building of first mosque (Qubaa) in outskirts of Madinah
- Variety of proposed guest houses, but his decision based on his camel sitting down on a land
- Building of his own mosque in that land
- Immigration of more Muslims from Makkah
- Start of Islamic calendar (Lunar)

# Establishing State in Madinah

- A new community and society
  1. Muslims: Immigrants (Muhajireen) and Natives (Ansaar)
  2. Non-Muslim Arabs: 12 tribes divided between *Aws* and *Khazraj*
  3. Jews: 10 tribes including *Banu Nazeer*, *Banu Quraiza* and *Bani Qainuqa*
- A pluralistic: multi-tribal and multi-religious society
- Prophet established leadership among all
- Founded first Islamic State

# Development of Constitution

- One of the oldest written constitutions in history
  - The Charter of Madinah (Meethaq-ul-Madinah or Şaheefat-ul-Madinah)
  - Precedes the English Magna Carta of 1215
  - Charter text is preserved in its entirety in more than one version
  - Has 47 clauses and 63 articles
  - Laid foundations of a sovereign nation-state and a central government

# Some Features of Constitution

- All parties included in the charter, i.e. Muslims, people of the book (Jews and Christians) and pagans had freedom to practice their religion
- All citizens of the state had equal rights and responsibilities and were protected against excess and oppression
- A system of financial aid was developed within each tribe and between tribes. Communal funds were set up which were used in times of financial need such as to pay ransom or blood-money
- In the event of a dispute among the signatories, Prophet Muhammad was the final authority for settling the dispute
- For more details, see
  - <http://www.constitutionofMadinah.com/>
  - <http://islamfactor.org/index.php?showtopic=3365>

# Transformation in Madinah

- Constitution transformed political, religious and social life
- Brought rival tribes together to form a polity and establishing peace among them
- Ended prevailing anarchy and protected life, liberty, property and religious freedom of all
- Created a state where equal rights and responsibilities were provided for all citizens
- Replaced traditional tribal kinship with a new social order and created a nation state with a new social fabric



# Plans of Attack from Makkah

- Pagan leaders of Makkah (Quraysh) were enraged with Prophet's safe arrival and progress in Madinah, and concerned about further expansion of the area controlled by the prophet
- Kept sending expeditions to create state of terror in Madinah
- Qur'an provided permission for Muslims to defend/fight
  - *"Permission (to fight back) is given to those against whom war is being wrongfully waged, and certainly Allah is powerful to give them victory. They are the ones who were expelled from their homelands in defiance of right for no other reason than their saying "Our Lord is Allah." Had Allah not been repelling some people by means of some others, the monasteries, the churches, the synagogues and the mosques where Allah's name is abundantly recited would have been demolished."* (22:39-40)
- Quraysh planned a major attack to Madinah with pretext of safety of their commercial caravan

# First Battle between Muslims and Pagans of Makkah

- **Battle of Badr in 623**
  - A strong and well-equipped army of over 1000 Quraysh led by famous leaders
  - An ill-equipped army of 319 Muslims led by Prophet Muhammad
  - Decisive victory of Muslims
  - Qur'an mentions participation of angels (verses 8:9 and 8:12)
  - Muslims took many prisoners of war - new humane ruling for POWs
- **Significant implications of this battle**

# Two Other Attacks by Pagans of Makkah

- Pagan leaders of Makkah got more frustrated and seeking revenge
- Rise and role of hypocrites in Madinah
- Second Battle: Uhud in 3<sup>rd</sup> year
  - 3000 Quraysh soldiers vs. 700 Muslims
  - Quraysh inflicted some losses on Muslims
  - Even, the prophet himself suffered head injury and his front teeth were broken. While the blood leaking from his head, Omar told him, O Messenger of Allah, curse those infidels! The prophet replied: "I wasn't sent (by Allah) to curse, but I was sent as a mercy." Then he said: "O Allah, Guide my people!"
  - Loss caused by disobedience of orders by some Muslims
  - Qur'an explained its lessons
- Third Battle: Trench/parties (Ahzaab) in 5 A.H.
  - Attack from all opposing parties and tribes – 10,000
  - Digging of trench around Madinah to defend
  - Siege of Madinah for several days
  - Retreat and defeat of all invaders by a strong wind and invisible troops (33:11)

# Peace Treaty with Quraysh

- Peace Treaty of Al-Hudaibiyah (6 A.H.)
- Wide spread of Islam during this peace period
- Sending and receiving delegates and letters to
  - Leaders of all surrounding areas
  - Governors of other states, and
  - Emperors of Persia and Rome
- Conquest of Khaiber in North (7 A.H.)
- Minor Pilgrimage (Umrah) of Muslims
- Battle of Mu'tah with Byzantines Army

# Conquest of Makkah

- Breach of treaty by Quraysh
- Conquest of Makkah (8 A.H)
  - A bloodless conquest
  - No destruction or chaos
  - Entering victorious, but in humbleness
  - Removing idols from Ka'ba
  - Forgiving all enemies in spite of all past persecutions
  - No revenge
- Battle of Hunayn
- Battle of Tabook (9 A.H) with Roman empire
  - 30,000 Muslims versus 200,000
  - But no fighting took place
- Acceptance of Islam by large groups
- Farewell pilgrimage (Hajjatul Widaa')

# Last Sermon of Prophet

This sermon was delivered on the Ninth Day of Dhul Hijjah 10 A.H. in the valley of Mount Arafat' (in Makkah) and attended by 124,000 Muslims. After praising and thanking Allah, he said:

- **"O People, lend me an attentive ear, for I know not whether after this year, I shall be amongst you again. Therefore listen to what I am saying to you very carefully and TAKE THESE WORDS TO THOSE WHO COULD NOT BE PRESENT HERE TODAY.**
- **O People, just as you regard this month, this day, this city as Sacred, so regard the life and property of everyone as a sacred trust. Return the goods entrusted to you to their rightful owners. Hurt no one so that no one may hurt you.**
- **Remember that you will indeed meet your LORD, and that HE will indeed reckon your deeds.**
- **ALLAH has forbidden you to take usury (interest), therefore all interest obligations shall henceforth be waived. Your capital, however, is yours to keep. You will neither inflict nor suffer any inequity.**
- **Beware of Satan, for the safety of your religion. He has lost all hope that he will ever be able to lead you astray in big things, so beware of following him in small things.**
- **O People, it is true that you have certain rights with regard to your women, but they also have rights over you. Remember that you have taken them as your wives only under Allah's trust and with His permission. If they abide by your rights, then observe their rights, provide for them, and show kindness. Do treat your women well and be kind to them for they are your partners and committed helpers.**

# Last Sermon of Prophet - Cont'd

- **O People, listen to me in earnest, worship ALLAH, offer your five daily prayers (Salah), fast during the month of Ramadan, give the poor due (Zakat), and perform Hajj, if you can afford to.**
- **All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over black nor a black has any superiority over white except by piety and good action.\*\***
- **Learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim and that the Muslims constitute one brotherhood. Nothing shall be legitimate to a Muslim which belongs to a fellow Muslim unless it was given freely and willingly. Do not, therefore, do injustice to yourselves.**
- **Remember, one day you will appear before ALLAH and answer your deeds. So beware, do not stray from the path of righteousness after I am gone.**
- **O People, NO PROPHET OR APOSTLE WILL COME AFTER ME AND NO NEW FAITH WILL BE BORN. Reason well, therefore, O People, and understand words which I convey to you. I leave behind me two things, the QURAN and my example, the SUNNAH, and if you follow these, you will never go astray.**
- **All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly.**
- **Be my witness, O ALLAH, that I have conveyed your message to your people".**

# Death of Prophet

- Sickness and fever for a few days
- His death at Aisha's lap
- June 8th 632 CE (12th day of Rabi al-Awal, 11 A.H.)
- His age was 63
  
- People in the mosque filled with deep grief
- Abu Bakr went out and spoke gently to them and added "All praises belong to Allah! O people, whoever worshipped Muhammad, Muhammad is dead. But for him who worships Allah, Allah is living and never dies"
  
- Abu Bakr was chosen as the next leader of the state (Caliph)
- Nearly all of Arabia had accepted Islam by then