



Life of Muhammad^{sa}

BY

**HADRAT MIRZA BASHIRUDDIN
MAHMUD AHMAD^{ra}**

Encounter with Banu Mustaliq

After the Battle of Uhud, there was a severe famine at Mecca.

Disregarding all the enmity with the Meccans bore against him... the Prophet (sa) raised a fund to help the poor of Mecca in their dire need.

The Meccans remained unimpressed... tribes which had so far been sympathetic towards Muslims also became hostile... One such tribe was Banu Mustaliq.

They had started preparing for an attack on Madina... when the Prophet (sa) heard of their preparations he sent men to find out the truth.

Encounter with Banu Mustaliq

The men returned and confirmed the reports... Accordingly he* raised a force and led it to the territory of Banu Mustaliq.


When the Muslim force met the enemy, the Prophet (sa) tried to persuade the enemy to withdraw without fighting. They refused.

Battle was joined and in a few hours the enemy was defeated.

The Holy Prophet (sa), however, decided to stay in the town of Banu Mustaliq for a few day.

*The Holy Prophet (sa)

Encounter with Banu Mustaliq



During his stay a quarrel arose between a Meccan and a Medinite Muslim over drawing water from a well.

The Meccan happened to be an ex-slave. He struck the Medinite, who raised an alarm, crying out for fellow-Medites—known as the Ansar or Helpers.

The Meccan also raised an alarm and cried out for fellow-Meccans— known as the Muhajirin or Refugees.

...Excitement prevailed. ... Young men on both sides drew their swords.

Encounter with Banu Mustaliq

'Abdullah bin Ubayy ibn Salul* thought it a God-send.

He decided to add fuel to the fire. [by saying this to Medinites]

"You have gone too far in your indulgence to the Refugees. Your good treatment of them has turned their heads, and now they are trying to dominate you in every way."

The speech might have had the effect which 'Abdullah desired. The quarrel might have assumed serious proportions.

* A hypocrite

But it did not.

Encounter with Banu Mustaliq

'Abdullah was wrong in assessing the effect of his mischievous speech... however... he went so far as to say: *Let us return to Medina. Then will the most honoured among its citizens turn out the most despised.*

By the most honoured citizen, he meant himself and by the most despised he meant the Prophet (sa).

As soon as he said this, believing Muslims were able to see through the mischief.

It was not an innocent speech they had listened to, they said, but the speech of Satan who had come to lead them astray.

Encounter with Banu Mustaliq

A young man stood up and reported to the Prophet (sa) through his uncle... 'Abdullah and his friends denied that they had taken any such part as had been attributed to them in this incident. The Prophet (sa) said nothing...

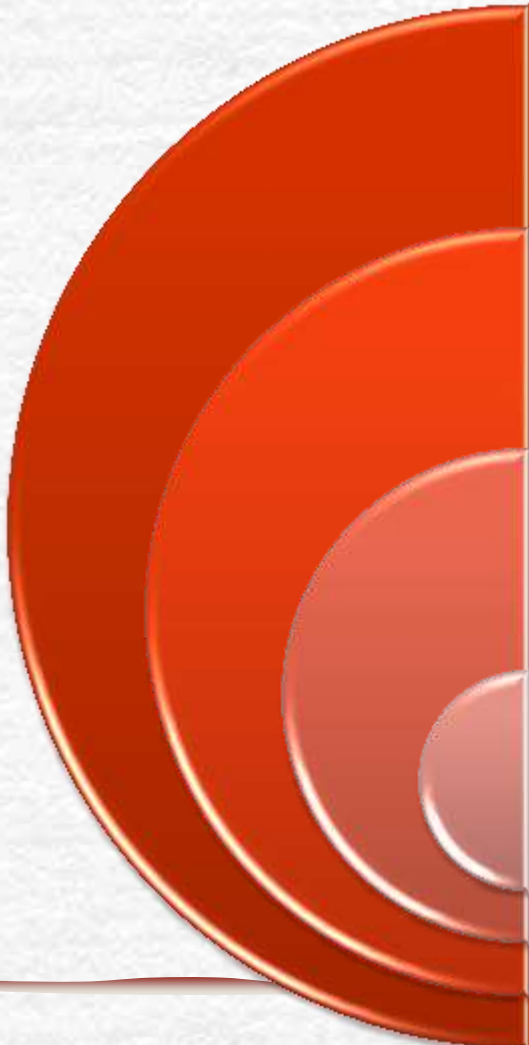
...In the course of time 'Abdullah bin Ubayy ibn Salul's own son, 'Abdullah (ra), also heard about it

When young 'Abdullah (ra) compared the disloyalty and discourtesy of his father with the compassion and kindness of the Prophet (sa), he made for Medina...

He stopped his father on the way and said he would not let him go any farther on the road to Medina until he had withdrawn the words he had used against the Prophet (sa)...

...'Abdullah bin Ubayy ibn Salul was ..frightened and said, "I agree, my son, that Muhammad (sa) is honoured and that I am despised." Young 'Abdullah (ra) then let his father go.

Encounter with Banu Mustaliq



...Two Jewish tribes who had to be banished out of Medina... Banu Nadir, one of the two, migrated partly to Syria...

Khaibar was a well-fortified Jewish centre in Arabia. The Jews, who had migrated there, began to excite the Arabs against Muslims...

...They planned to turn Banu Sulaim and Banu Asad against Islam. They also persuaded Banu Sa`d, a tribe in alliance with the Jews...

After a long intrigue a confederacy of Arab tribes was organized to fight the Muslims.