



Life of Muhammad^{sa}

BY

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

Fall of Mecca

Abu Sufyan^{ra} must have been thinking furiously. ...And now as leader of the Meccans, what was he going to do?

The Prophet^{sa} saw this agitated Meccan leader. He told 'Abbas^{ra} to take him away and entertain him for the night, promising to see him in the morning.

In the morning they called on the Prophet^{sa}. It was time for the early morning prayers.

The bustle and activity which Abu Sufyan^{ra} saw...was quite unusual...He had not known...such early risers as Muslims had become under the discipline of Islam.

He saw all the Muslim campers turned out for...morning prayers. Some went...in quest of water for ablutions, ...

.... others to supervise the lining up of worshippers for the service.

Fall of Mecca

Abu Sufyan^{ra} could not understand this activity early in the morning. He was frightened. Was a new plan afoot to overawe him? "What can they all be doing?"

Abu Sufyan^{ra} then saw thousands of Muslims lined up behind the Prophet^{sa}, making the prescribed movements and devotions at the bidding of the Prophet^{sa}

"What could they be doing now?" asked Abu Sufyan^{ra}. "Everything the Prophet^{sa} does, is done by the rest." Muslims would do anything at the bidding of the Prophet^{sa}— give up food and drink for instance."

"True," said Abu Sufyan^{ra}, "I have seen great courts. I have seen the court of the Chosroes and the court of the Kaiser, but I have never seen any people as devoted to their leader as Muslims are to their Prophet^{sa}"

Fall of Mecca

Filled with fear and guilt, Abu Sufyan^{ra} went on to ask 'Abbas^{ra} if he would not request the Prophet^{sa} to forgive his own people —meaning the Meccans.

The morning prayers over, 'Abbas^{ra} led Abu Sufyan^{ra} to the Prophet^{sa}. Said the Prophet^{sa} to Abu Sufyan^{ra}.

"Has it not yet dawned upon you that there is no one worthy of worship except Allah?"

"Has it not also dawned upon you that I am a Messenger^{sa} of Allah?"

While Abu Sufyan^{ra} hesitated to acknowledge the Prophet^{sa} as Messenger of God, two of his companions...became Muslims.

A little later, Abu Sufyan^{ra} also joined, but his inner conversion seems to have been deferred until after the conquest of Mecca.

Fall of Mecca

*Hakim bin Hizam^{ra} asked the Prophet^{sa} if the Muslims would destroy their own kith and kin.

"These people," said the Prophet^{sa}, "have been very cruel...They have gone back on the peace they signed at Hudaibiya They have made war in a place which had been made inviolate by God."

Abu Sufyan^{ra}, who had been listening, now asked the Prophet^{sa}: "If the Meccans draw not the sword, will they have peace?"

"Yes," replied the Prophet^{sa}, "everyone who stays indoors will have peace."

* A new convert to Islam from Mecca

Fall of Mecca

"But O Prophet^{sa}," intervened 'Abbas^{ra},
"Abu Sufyan^{ra} is much concerned
about himself.

He wishes to know if his rank and
position among the Meccans will be
respected."

"Very good," said the
Prophet^{sa}:

"Whoever take shelter in
the house of Abu Sufyan^{ra}
will have peace.

Whoever enters the Sacred
Mosque will-have peace.

Those who lay down their
arms will have peace.

Those who close their doors
and stay in will have peace.

Those who stay in the
house of Hakim bin Hizam^{ra}
will have peace."

Fall of Mecca



Saying this, he called Abu Ruwaiha^{ra} and handed over to him the standard of Islam.

Abu Ruwaiha^{ra} had entered into a pact of brotherhood with Bilal^{ra}, the [African] slave.

Handing over the standard, the Prophet^{sa} said, "Whoever stands under this standard will have peace."

At the same time, he ordered Bilal^{ra} to march in front of Abu Ruwaiha^{ra} and announce to all concerned that there was peace under the standard held by Abu Ruwaiha^{ra}.