



# **Life of Muhammad<sup>sa</sup>**

**BY**

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MAHMUD AHMAD<sup>ra</sup>**

# BATTLE OF HUNAIN

The Prophet's<sup>sa</sup> entry into Mecca was sudden. Tribes in the vicinity of Mecca, especially those in the south, remained unaware of the event until sometime later.

On hearing of it, they began to assemble their forces and to prepare for a fight with the Muslims.

There were two Arab tribes, the Hawazin and the Thaqif, unusually proud of their valiant traditions.

They took counsel together and after some deliberation elected Malik ibn `Auf as their leader.

# BATTLE OF HUNAIN

They then invited the tribes round about to join them.


Among the tribes invited was the Banu Sa'd. The Prophet's<sup>sa</sup> wet-nurse, Halima, belonged to this tribe and the Prophet<sup>sa</sup> as a child had lived among them.

Men of this tribe collected in force and set out towards Mecca taking with them their families and their effects.

Asked why they had done so, they replied it was in order that the soldiers might be reminded that, if they turned back and fled, their wives and children would be taken prisoners and their effects looted—

so strong was their determination to fight and destroy the Muslims.

# BATTLE OF HUNAIN




This force descended in the valley of Rautas most suitable base for a battle, with its natural shelters, abundance of fodder and water, and facilities for cavalry movements.

When the Prophet<sup>sa</sup> got to know of this, he sent 'Abdullah bin Abi Hadwad<sup>ra</sup> to report on the situation.

'Abdullah reported that there were military concentrations in the place and there was determination to kill and be killed.

# BATTLE OF HUNAIN




The tribe was renowned for its skill in archery, and the base they had selected afforded a very, great advantage to them.


The Prophet<sup>sa</sup> approached Safwan<sup>ra</sup>, a prosperous chief of Mecca for the loan of suits of armour and weapons.


Safwan<sup>ra</sup> replied, "You seem to put pressure on me and think I will be overawed by your growing power and make over to you whatever you ask?"

The Prophet<sup>sa</sup> replied, "We wish to seize nothing. We only want a loan of these things, and are ready to give a suitable surety."

# BATTLE OF HUNAIN

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- Safwan<sup>ra</sup> was satisfied and agreed to lend the material.

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- Altogether he supplied one hundred suits of armour and a suitable number of weapons.

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- The Prophet<sup>sa</sup> borrowed three thousand lances from his cousin, Naufal bin Harith<sup>ra</sup> and about thirty thousand dirhams from 'Abdullah bin Rabi'a

# BATTLE OF HUNAIN

When the Muslim army set out towards the Hawazin, the Meccans expressed a wish to join the Muslim side. They were not Muslims, but they had agreed to live under a Muslim regime.

- Accordingly, two thousand Meccans joined the Muslims. On the way, they came to the noted Arab shrine, Dhat Anwat. Here was an old jujube tree, sacred to the Arabs. When Arabs bought arms they first went to Dhat Anwat and hung them in the shrine to receive its blessings for their arms.

When the Muslim army passed by this shrine some of the soldiers said, "Prophet<sup>sa</sup> of God, there should be a Dhat Anwat for us also."

The Prophet<sup>sa</sup> disapproved and said, "You talk like the followers of Moses<sup>as</sup>. When Moses<sup>as</sup> was going to Canaan, his followers saw on the way people worshipping idols, and said to Moses<sup>as</sup>, '**O Moses<sup>as</sup>, make for us a god just as they have gods'**" (Qur'an 7: 139).