



Life of Muhammad^{sa}

BY

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MAHMUD AHMAD^{ra}**

PERSECUTION INTENSIFIES



Their devotion to the One God was on the increase

Persecution became more and more serious and more unbearable



But Muslims swerved not a bit from the path they had chosen



An Elementary Study of Islam

PERSECUTION INTENSIFIES



The conflict had become more serious than ever.



The Meccans .. resolved on an all-out boycott of the Muslims:



They were neither to buy from them, nor to sell them anything.

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The Prophet^{sa}, his family and a number of relations .. were compelled to take shelter in a lonely place



Without money, without means and without reserves, the Prophet's^{sa} family and relations suffered untold hardships under this blockade.



For three years there was no slackening of it.



Then at last, five decent members of the enemy revolted against these conditions.



They went to the blockaded family, offered to annul the boycott, and asked the family to come out.

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The boycott was over, but not its consequences



In a few days the Prophet's^{sa} faithful wife, Khadija^{ra}, met her death, and a month later his uncle, Abu Talib.



Their passing away naturally also resulted in the loss of some general sympathy.



Abu Lahab, another uncle of the Prophet^{sa}, seemed ready at first to side with the Prophet^{sa}.



[Later] Abu Lahab decided to oppose the Prophet^{sa} more than ever

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Relations between Muslims and Meccans had become strained



Meeting and preaching seemed impossible



General antagonism apart, the Prophet^{sa} now found it impossible to appear in any street or public place



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Once he returned home,
his head covered with dust



A daughter wept as she
removed the dust.



The Prophet^{sa} told her not
to weep for God was with
him



Ill-treatment did not upset
the Prophet^{sa}. He even
welcomed it as evidence of
interest in his Message