

LESSON 9: Battles of Early Islam

GOALS:

- Gain insight into the treatment of the Muslims by the Quraish after the advent of Islam
- Appreciate the nature and role of war in early Islam (i.e. defensive)
- Understand the:
 - o Causes
 - o Conditions
 - o Main facts; and
 - o Outcome
 of the three largest battles in Islamic history

TIME	ACTIVITY	SUGGESTIONS	RESOURCES
5 min	Ice breakers Use this time to check in with the Convert(s). see how things are going and address any concerns	Ask about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - significant happenings - family - questions/queries 	Nasirat Syllabus
15 min	Read pages to the Converts	Try alternating the narrator to avoid loss of attention of the audience	Pg. 111 - 118
15 min	Provide the Converts with a template table (appended below) Secretary to read out facts and the Convert should identify where it belongs in the template table (appended below)	An alternative is for the Convert to fill out the table as the passage is being readout	Pg. 111 - 118

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APPENDIX: BATTLES OF EARLY ISLAM

BATTLE	DATE/CHRONOLOGY	CAUSES	FACTS/FIGURES	SIGNIFICANT HAPPENINGS	OUTCOME

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BATTLE	DATE/CHRONOLOGY	CAUSES	FACTS/FIGURES	SIGNIFICANT HAPPENINGS	OUTCOME
BADR	First battle 18 months after Hijrah	Increased animosity against Muslims Makkan army travelled to Medina under the pretense of protecting a trade caravan returning from Syria	Short battle Muslim camp based near a brook in an area of sand Muslim army comprised: 313 men 70 Camels 2 Horses Makkan camp on firm ground Makkan army comprised: 1000 men 700 camels 100 horses	Threatening letter sent to the leader of Medina asking for Muslims to be thrown out otherwise to be prepared for an attack The divine revelation that time has come to defend the faith with the sword Holy Prophet (PBUH) sincere prayer to Allah for help during the battle Rain overnight causing sand to become hard and solid and firm ground to become wet and slippery	Muslim army victorious Makkans fled after suffering losses 70 members of Quraish died 70 members of Quraish taken prisoner 14 Muslims martyred (8 Ansar and 6 from Makkah)
	Second battle 1 year after Battle of Badr	Planned attack Revenge attack	Makkan army comprised: 3000 men 700 of them in armour 200 horses. Muslim army comprised: 700 men 100 of them in armour	Holy Prophet (PBUH) dream foreseeing losses and personal injury Central war fund set up in preparation for revenge attacks	Severe losses on the Muslim side Lots of wounded

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			2 horses	<p>Former leader of Medina withdrew his 300 men from Muslim side on the morning of the battle</p> <p>Holy Prophet (PBUH) posted 50 men on the rocky hill.</p> <p>Some of the men posted on hill left post when thought battle had been won by the Muslims</p> <p>Makkans conquered few remaining men on the hilltop and used it the place to attack the Muslim army below.</p> <p>Holy Prophet (PBUH) injured – losing teeth and helmet embed into his cheeks</p>	

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				<p>Hazrat Talha (ra) shielded the face of the Holy Propet (PBUH) with his hand. His hand was struck by arrows.</p> <p>Holy Prophet (PBUH) prayed for forgiveness for the Makkans for their attack</p> <p>Holy Prophet (PBUH) lost consciousness and rumour spread amongst Makkans that he had lost his life</p>	
DITCH	<p>Last battle</p> <p>5 years post-Hijrah</p>	<p>Makkans confederate army decided to attack the Muslims and marched towards Medina</p>	<p>Makkan army: Over 20,000 men</p> <p>Muslim army: 3000 men</p> <p>20-day long battle</p>	<p>Hazrat Salman Farsi (ra) suggested digging a ditch</p> <p>Holy Prophet (PBUH) struck large rock three times each time saying 'Allahu Akbar'</p> <p>Holy Prophet (PBUH) saw the future glory of Islam</p>	<p>Makkan army withdrew</p> <p>Few deaths/martyrs</p>

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				<p>Evenings cold and near freezing. A one-night strong wind blew out fires. Fires blowing out considered a sign of bad luck for Makkans so they withdrew.</p> <p>Holy Prophet (PBUH) received a revelation that the enemy had fled</p>	