


*LIFE OF THE  
HOLY  
PROPHET*

*Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him*


# *EARLY YEARS*

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- The Prophet (pbuh) was born in Mecca in 570 AD.
  - He was given the name Muhammad which means one who is praised
  - His father Abdullah passed away before he was born and he lost his mother Amina when he was only 6 years old
  - He was then raised by his grandfather Abdul Motalib for three years before he too passed away and the rest of his upbringing was completed by his uncle Abu Talib
  - So Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) faced a lot of hardship in childhood, losing his father, mother and grandfather so quickly
  - He lived in a society with poor morals, little education and no regard for the rights of women, slaves and orphans
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# *AL-SADIQ AND AL-AMEEN*

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- As the Prophet grew into a young man, everyone would marvel at his noble attributes
  - He was given the titles of Al-Sadiq meaning the Truthful and Al-Ameen meaning the Trustworthy
  - He also began work as a merchant and would interact with many different kinds of people
  - When he was 25, a successful businesswoman named Khadija entrusted him with the charge of a trade caravan to Syria
  - She was so impressed by his character that she made him a proposal of marriage
  - Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and Khadija had a blissful wedded life and had four daughters and three sons
  - Khadija was a great companion and friend to her husband
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# *PRAAYER*

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- The people of Mecca at the time of the Prophet (pbuh) were polytheist meaning that they worshipped many different gods.
  - Idol-worship was also common, a practice which the Prophet (pbuh) abhorred
  - From a very young age he was filled with love of God and love of His worship
  - He chose a spot two or three miles away for his worship and meditations.
  - The spot he chose was on top of a hill, a sort of cave shaped out of stone.
  - In the cave he would worship God day and night
  - It was there that something happened one night that would change the course of history forever....
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# REVELATION

- When he was forty years of age, he saw a vision ..
  - In this very cave he saw someone commanding him to recite
  - The Prophet said in reply he did not know what or how to recite
  - The figure insisted and at last made the Prophet recite the following verses:
  - *Recite thou in the name of thy Lord Who created, created man from a clot of blood. Recite! And thy Lord is the Most Beneficent, Who taught man by the pen, taught man what he knew not (96:2-6).*
  - These verses, the first ever revealed to the Prophet, became part of the Qur'an
  - The figure was the Angel Gabriel, who had brought the message from God
  - The Prophet's first reaction was fear. He thought: "Weak man that I am, how can I carry the responsibility which God proposes to put on my shoulders."
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# *THE FIRST MUSLIMS*

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- ISLAM literally means submission and peace. And MUSLIM is a person who submits to God.
  - The first person to accept the Prophet's message and become Muslim was his wife Khadija
  - The Prophet's cousin Ali became the first child to accept Islam
  - His friend Abu Bakr, the first man to accept his message
  - And Zaid, a freed slave was also one of the first to become Muslim
  - Slowly, the new religion began to take shape.
  - Muhammad (pbuh) taught a message of peace, love, justice and brotherhood and bit by bit his followers began to increase
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# WOMEN'S RIGHTS

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- Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was born in a society where baby girls were loathed
  - Women were treated as the property of men and had no legal rights
  - With the advent of Islam, all of this changed
  - Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) championed the rights of women and the status of daughters
  - Islam gives women the right to inheritance, to work, to choose who they marry, to divorce, to own property...
  - The Qur'an states: "Whoso does good whether male or female, and is a believer, shall enter Paradise and they shall not be wronged a whit." (4:125)
  - And the Prophet also added that "He who brings up his daughters well, and makes no distinction between them and his sons, will be close to me in Paradise."
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# *PERSECUTION*

- The tribal powers in Mecca felt threatened by the Prophet's message
  - They wanted to continue warfare and looting while he preached justice, they didn't want to give women and slaves more rights as this would reduce their own power so they opposed Islam's teachings of fairness and equality
  - So the Meccans began fiercely persecuting the Muslims
  - They were tortured, beaten, harassed and boycotted
  - And the Prophet (pbuh) himself had to face much hardship in this period
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# *MIGRATION*

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- When the persecution reached an extreme, the Muslims decided to emigrate to a town nearby called Yathrib now known as Medina
  - When he reached Medina, the Prophet found the people waiting impatiently. A more auspicious day could not have dawned for them. For, the sun which had risen for Mecca had come instead to shine on Medina.
  - News that the Prophet had left Mecca had reached them, so they were expecting his arrival. Parties of them went miles out of Medina to look for him
  - In Medina, the Prophet while continuing preaching his message was also asked to be a judge between the people on account of his fairness and equity
  - The Meccans launched many attacks on the Muslims in this period, and Muslims were given permission for self-defence only so that religious liberty would be established in the land and all would be free to worship as they wished
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# RETURN TO MECCA

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- When the Prophet eventually returned to Mecca triumphant, he did not use this opportunity to seek revenge
  - He declared peace for all, stating:
  - "Whoever takes shelter in the house of Abu Sufyan 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."
  - Abu Sufyan was the leader of the Quraysh and one of the fiercest enemies of Islam. Yet Prophet Muhammad wished only peace even on his fiercest enemy!
  - Many Meccans were fearful of what the Muslims might do to them now that the roles were reversed and the Muslims held power. But the Prophet declared general amnesty for all, even those who had killed his near and dear ones, declaring on the day he entered Mecca:
  - "By God, you will have no punishment today and no reproof"
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# FAREWELL SERMON

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- Two years later, the Prophet (pbuh) went on a pilgrimage to Mecca. On the day of the Pilgrimage, he received the revelation *"This day have I perfected your religion for you and completed My favour upon you and have chosen for you Islam as religion (5:4)."*
  - This verse said that the Message which the Holy Prophet (pbuh) had brought from God had been completed.
  - The Holy Prophet (pbuh) recited this verse in the valley of Muzdalifa, where the pilgrims had assembled and delivered an address:
  - *O men, what I say to you, you must hear and remember. All Muslims are as brethren to one another. All of you are equal. All men, whatever nation or tribe they may belong to, and whatever station in life they may hold, are equal.*
  - While he was saying this the Prophet (pbuh) raised his hands and joined the fingers of the one hand with the fingers of the other and then said:
  - *Even as the fingers of the two hands are equal, so are human beings equal to one another. No one has any right, any superiority to claim over another. You are as brothers.*
  - The Prophet having conveyed his message passed away a short time after in the year 632 AD.
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