

Lajna Ima'illah UK Ta'lim Lesson Plan

Month: APRIL 2022

(Term -2 February 2022 to May 2022)

Learning Objectives:

- ∞ To learn the key points from History of Islam
- ∞ To learn the key points from History of Ahmadiyyat
- ∞ To understand the key points on 'Testimony of the Holy Qur'an' written by the Promised Messiah^{AS}

ACTIVITY HISTORY OF ISLAM

RESOURCE: The Life & Character of the Seal of Prophets^(SA) – Vol. II by Hazrat Mirza Bashir Ahmad, M.A. ^(RA) Pages 449 –481
<https://www.alislam.org/library/book/life-character-seal-prophets-vol-2/>

Chapter X: Siege of Madīnah and Delicate State of the Muslims, Failure of the Disbelievers and Reality of Miracles

Battle of the Confederates or Battle of the Ditch - Shawwāl 5 A.H. (February/March 627 A.D.)

Now we enter that period of Islāmic history, when the animosity of the Arabian tribes against Islām not only reached its heights, rather, they gathered their strength and firmly resolved to uproot Islām with a unified plan. However, divine power was manifested in such a manner that this very unity bore the seed of failure. This edifice was still being constructed when its foundations became hollow and began to crumble...

When the people of Banū Naḍīr, which was a Jewish tribe, were exiled from Madīnah due to their treachery and sedition, their chieftains forgot this noble, nay, benevolent treatment of the Holy Prophet^{sa} and proposed among themselves to collect the dispersed forces of the whole of Arabia at one place in an attempt to expunge Islām. ... This army began to march towards Madīnah in Shawwāl 5 A.H., i.e., February or March 627 A.D.

...when the Holy Prophet^{sa} received news, upon which he gathered the Companions and sought counsel in this regard. ... a sincere Companion from Iran named Salmān^{ra}... proposed that a long and wide ditch be dug around that part of Madīnah, which was insecure, in order to defend themselves. ...

Reality of Miracles

...those miracles which are manifested for the guidance of non-believers and as the completion of proof against them, are covered with more obscurity. ...

...The second category is of such miracles as are manifested upon those believers, who have already derived light from the first category of miracles and taken the right path. For such people, the level of concealment is naturally decreased. Often, they are shown such miracles, which are not as clear as plain sight, but the veil of concealment is relatively less than in the first category. ...

...the phenomenon of miracles is based solely on the Will and Wisdom of God, and He manifests miracles when and how He chooses through a Messenger. Although the concentration and prayer of a Messenger absorbs and brings about the occurrence of miracles, but the actual command to manifest a miracle remains with God...

Remaining Events Relevant to the Ghazwah of the Ditch

After the continuous labour of more or less twenty days, or in light of one narration, after six days of work day and night, the ditch was completed. The Companions were absolutely exhausted as a result of this extraordinary effort and labour. However, as soon as this work was completed, the Jews and idolators of Arabia dawned upon the horizon of Madīnah, intoxicated by their number and strength, with their army and baggage. Before anything else, Abū Sufyān advanced towards the mount of Uḥud. Upon finding this place deserted and abandoned, he marched towards that part of Madīnah, which was best suited for an attack upon the city, but had now been surrounded by a ditch. When the army of the disbelievers reached this place, upon confronting the hindrance of a ditch on their route, everyone was left astonished and confounded. They were compelled, therefore, to setup camp on the plain beyond the ditch.

...the Holy Prophet^{sa} divided the Companions into various detachments and positioned them to stand guard on different posts in appropriate locations at the ditch and on the other fronts of Madīnah. The Holy Prophet^{sa} stressed that be it day or night, this security should not fall weak or inattentive. At the opposing end, when the disbelievers noticed that due to the barrier of the ditch, it was now impossible to fight a battle in an open field or wage an all out attack on the city, they surrounded Madīnah in the form of a siege and began to search for opportunities to exploit the weaker sections of the ditch.

... During the course of war, due to constant engagement and distress, many a time, the Holy Prophet^{sa} and his Companions were made to face starvation. One day, the Companions came to the Holy Prophet^{sa} and submitted to him the pains they were suffering due to starvation saying, “We have been walking about with stones tied to our stomachs for many days.” At this, the Holy Prophet^{sa} lifted the cloth upon his own blessed stomach, which had two stones tied to it. ...

... by God’s design, it so happened that after these occurrences, fierce winds struck at night, and as the encampment of the disbelievers was situated in an open plain, this resulted in a fierce storm.... These spectacles shocked the superstitious hearts of the disbelievers, which were already shaken due to the hardship of this prolonged siege and the bitter experience of mutual distrust among the confederates, that they were unable to regain themselves thereafter. Before dawn, the horizon of Madīnah was cleansed of the dirt and dust of the disbelieving army.

... The battle of the ‘Ditch’ or ‘Confederates,’ which came to an unexpected and sudden end, was a very dangerous war. Until that time, the Muslims had never been faced with a crisis of such magnitude, nor were they ever subjected to such tribulation thereafter in the life of the Holy Prophet^{sa}....

ACTIVITY

HISTORY OF AHMADIYYAT : Friday Sermon

RESOURCE: Feb 15, 2013 <https://www.alislam.org/friday-sermon/2013-02-15.html>
Feb 22, 2013 <https://www.alislam.org/friday-sermon/2013-02-22.html>

Below section is the English Summary by Wakil Ala for the purpose of lesson plan only. Please note that to fully understand & achieve full benefit, you must listen to the Friday Sermon.

Friday Sermon: 15th Feb 2013

- * Hudūr^{ABA} said that today will be the last sermon in the series consisting of narratives of the Companions of the Promised Messiah^{AS}. It is a happy coincidence that these sermons are ending in February, and that this last sermon pertains to Hadrat Musleh-e-Mau‘ud^{RA}. As we know, Musleh-e-Mau‘ud^{RA} day is commemorated on 20th February. In these narratives, the Companions have related how Allāh removed their doubts regarding Hadrat Musleh-e-Mau‘ud^{RA} and how those who had not pledged Bai‘at to Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh II^{RA} finally came back to the fold of Ahmadiyyat.
- * Hadrat Shaikh Muhammad Ismail Sahib relates: When Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh I^{RA} was still alive, I saw in a dream that I placed my hand on the hand of Mirzā Mahmood Ahmad Sahib and professed that I was his foremost servant. He replied that he did not understand what I had said, upon which Hadrat Shaikh Yaqoob Ali Irfani Sahib clarified that he had been told through dreams and revelations that God has made Mahmood the Khalīfa.
- * Hadrat Amīr Khan Sahib relates: In a dream I saw a tree from which some big and dry branches were hanging, and they made such noise with their rustling that it was impossible to hear anything else, but God sent down rain and all the dry branches were shed. I then heard Hadrat Musleh-e-Mau‘ud^{RA} say that the house of satan had been destroyed, now the earth would bring forth a new crop which would dominate and bear fruit. This dream came true word for word at the time of the election of Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh II^{RA}, when Maulawi Muhammad Ali, who had created a clamour against Khilāfat, left the Jamā‘at along with his followers; and the Jamā‘at spread all over the world under the leadership of Hadrat Musleh-e-Mau‘ud^{RA}.
- * Hadrat Khair Din Sahib relates that in a dream he saw that the hand of Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh II^{RA} was more than fifty feet long. This meant that Allāh would grant him extraordinary powers which no one would be able to overcome.
- * Hadrat Rahm Din Sahib, son of Jamal Din Sahib relates: During the time of Khilāfat thania, I saw in a dream that Maulawi Muhammad Ali Sahib was sitting on a chair while Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh II^{RA}

was standing by his side. All at once Maulawi Sahib's face and body started to grow smaller and smaller until it became like a small child, while Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh II^{RA} started growing taller and taller and more and more glorious. I was very surprised to see this, but when I woke up in the morning all my doubts had disappeared and pledged Bai'at to Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh II .

- * Hadrat Mian Sohne Khan Sahib relates: I saw in a dream that I was looking at two moons in the sky. The first moon was very bright while the second, which was square-shaped, was faint. But as I watched, the second moon also grew brighter until it shone as brilliantly as the first. Then I heard a voice saying that the first moon was the Promised Messiah and the second was Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh II^{RA}.
- * Hadrat Khalīfatul Masīh II^{RA} says: Divine movements are always accompanied by trials and tribulations, but one must never be perturbed on their account. God Himself will bring victory to that which He has established. Allāh will protect what belongs to Him. This is a Divine movement; God has always protected it and will always do so.
- * At the end of the sermon, Hudūr^{ABA} informed the Jamā'at of the sad demise of Sardar Bakhsh Sahib Bharwana and led his funeral prayer in absentia after the Friday prayers.

Friday Sermon: 22nd Feb 2013

- * Hudūr^{ABA} said that Allāh had blessed Hadrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud, Khalifatul Masih II^{RA} with extraordinary knowledge, wisdom and insight. The collection of his books, speeches and articles has so far been published in 23 volumes, each of them comprising up to 600 pages. More volumes are under process. Similarly, 24 volumes of his sermons have already been published. These works are also being translated into different languages under Fadle Omar Foundation. It is a priceless treasure that he gave to the Jamā'at during his 52 year long Khilāfat. When we read these words, we can understand the meaning of the prophecy that Allāh would endow him with worldly and spiritual knowledge.
- * Hudūr^{ABA} quoted some extracts from Hadrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud's Friday Sermon of 10th April 1942 in which he says that when one prays one must have full faith in prayer, without faith a prayer is not accepted. God only listens to the muztar... , or the anguished heart. Muztar is one who, for example, finds himself surrounded by fire and sees only one way out of it, and that one way leads towards God. Muztar is one who realizes that he has no sanctuary apart from God and that only God will come to his aid in every hour of difficulty.
- * Hadrat Musleh-e-Mau'ud^{RA} says that everything comes from God, man can do nothing by himself. So remember that unless prayers are offered with true anguish they do not find acceptance. The turning of the hearts and emotions is not in the hands of anyone but God. He has the power to transform man's innermost and latent emotions. Therefore, a prayer is not accepted unless one gives up all other hopes and turns to God with absolute faith. When a person truly becomes muztar, his prayers reach the Divine throne and are invariably accepted.
- * Hudūr^{ABA} said: If we wish to bring about a transformation in our lives, we must turn to God who possesses all power. He alone is our help and He alone has the power to turn the hearts. May Allah enable us to offer such prayers.
- * At the end of the sermon, Hudūr^{ABA} informed the Jama'at of the sad demise of Azim Sahib of UK.

ACTIVITY BOOK OF PROMISED MESSIAH^{as}

RESOURCE: Testimony of the Holy Qur'an by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Sahib^{AS} Pages 105-125

Please note that to fully understand & achieve full benefit, you must read the complete text. Here, the key points are reproduced in the words of the Promised Messiah^{AS}.

This month we will study the third point of issue i.e. Proof that the Promised Messiah who has been mentioned at various places in Holy Quran and *ahadith* is this humble one?

- ☞ ...a person from among this ummah must come in the name of Masih, peace be upon him. It is necessary for three reasons:

1. The first is that the complete and perfect resemblance between our Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, and Hadrat Musa [Moses], peace be upon him,
 - ☞ Implied by verse, “Verily, We have sent to you a Messenger, who is a witness over you, even as We sent a Messenger to Pharaoh” (*Surah al-Muzzammil*, 73:16).
 - ☞ ...just as Hadrat Musa^{as} was a witness over the good and evil deeds of his ummah, so is our Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, a witness. But Hadrat Musa’s^{as} being a permanent witness was not possible except through *khilafat*; i.e. God Almighty established a series of *Khulafa’* for 1,400 years to fulfil this purpose.
 - ☞ ... Allah the Lord of Glory has made the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, a witness over the whole Muslim Ummah...
 - ☞ ...the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, remained for only twenty-three years in his ummah. Then the question as to how he can be a witness over his ummah forever, has only one answer, and that is through *khilafat*. ...

2. The second reason is that the complete and perfect resemblance of the *Khilafat* of Muhammad, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, to the Mosaic *Khilafat* necessitates the coming of the Promised Messiah,
 - ☞ as is understandable from the following verse, “Allah has promised to those among you who believe and do good works that He will surely make them Successors in the earth, as He made Successors *from among* those who were before them (*Surah an-Nur*,24:56)
 - ☞ It clearly tells that it is essential that a *Mujaddid* in the name of Hadrat Masih [Jesus] will appear in the 14th century. This is because the Muhammadan *Khilafat* and the Mosaic *Khilafat* can be considered to have complete and perfect resemblance only if their first age and last age have mutual resemblance of the highest level.
 - ☞ And the resemblance in the latter age was to be on two accounts: first, the decline in the ummah’s condition, weakening of worldly power, and a shift in their integrity, honesty, and piety;
 - ☞ and second, the appearance of a *Mujaddid* in that particular age, who would come with the name ‘Promised Messiah’, and would restore the condition of the faith. ...
 - ☞ ...since Hadrat Masih appeared 1,400 years after Hadrat Musa, it also has to be accepted that the Promised Messiah must appear in this age because God does not go against His promises. ...
 - ☞ ...out of the 200 million Muslims living in the lands of Syria, Arabia, Iraq, Egypt, India, etc. in these times which according to the Signs given the Holy Quran and Hadith is the age of the Promised Messiah, only one person has claimed to be the Promised Messiah. Rejecting this claimant who has appeared at his appointed time, therefore, amounts to the rejection of the prophecy itself.
 - ☞ ...the first argument for the truthfulness of this humble one is that the time when this claim was made is the very time that was specified for the appearance of the Promised Messiah by the Chief of the Messengers, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, the Noble Quran, and the visions of the *Auliya’*.

3. The third point at issue is that if, indeed, a Promised Messiah was to come in this ummah, then what is the proof of my humble self being the same Messiah?
 - ☞ ...it should be understood that if my humble one is from God Almighty, and is true in his claims, God Almighty will demonstrate my truth with His special succour. And through His special Signs, He will enlighten the world that I am from Him and not by my own designs. ...
 - ☞ ...prophecies are no ordinary matter, nor a matter that humans can manipulate. Rather, they are the exclusive prerogative of the Glorious God. If one is a seeker after truth, let him wait for the stipulated time of these prophecies. These three prophecies together encompass the three chief nations of India and the Punjab. That is, the first is related to the Muslims, the second to the Hindus, and the third to the Christians. The prophecy relating to Muslims is a grand prophecy, since it comprises the following elements: (1) that Mirza Ahmad Baig of Hoshiarpur will die within the stipulated time of three years; (2) that his son-in-law— the husband of his eldest daughter—will then die in two-and- a-half years; (3) that Mirza Ahmad Baig will not die until the marriage day of his eldest daughter; (4) that his daughter will not die before she marries and becomes a widow and remarries; (5) that this humble one, too, will not die until all these events come to pass; (6) that his daughter will be married to this humble one.
 - ☞ Obviously, a mere mortal cannot have control over all these elements. ...