

CSSC(2016)

Q: Describe the characteristics of Military strategist in the light of Seerah of Muhammad (PBUH) with arguments.

→ At the time of holy Prophet (SAW), army was comprised of:

1. Chief of Army Staff.
2. Commandos.
3. Administrative Officers.
4. Flag Holders
5. Recce and Patrolling Officers.
6. Spies
7. Guide
8. Booty and Prisoner Officers
9. Ammunition & Cavalry Officers
10. Body Guards.
11. Setting of fighting plan.

HOLY PROPHET AS A ROLE

MODEL FOR MILITARY STRATEGIST

In context of Islam, our beloved Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) explained

Jihad as:

1. Jihad for Allah
2. Victory by Allah.

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Jihad Fi Sabeel Lillah:

The word "Jihad" means "Utilizing one's all strength for the sake of Islam". Jihad can be through knowledge or as war against non-muslims. Jihad can only be considered actual if it is for the sake of Allah.

"A man asked the Messenger of Allah about fighting in the way of Allah (the exalted and Majestic), a man who fights out of rage or out of pride".

He raised his head towards him and said: "Who fights that the word of Allah be exalted, fights in the way of Allah"
(Al-Hadith)

Victory by Allah

- Holy Prophet (S.A.W) emphasized that a win in the battlefield will only be the grace of Almighty Allah.
- Holy Prophet (S.A.W) continue to pray during battle and also asked his companions to pray continuously during battles.
- It can be seen from "Battle of Badr", in which Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) continues to pray until and unless the battle continues and despite of being

fewer in quantity Muslims won the battle.

Strategies:

1. Advisory Council:

Before the war, Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) used to consult his companions and hold a great meeting (Shoora). In which companions used to give new strategies.

a. Battle of Badr = In battle of Badr, Prophet (S.A.W) asked his companions "whether to fight or not?" because it was unplanned battle. But companions agreed to fight and battle continued.

b. Battle of Uhud = likewise, Holy Prophet (S.A.W) inquired from companions before "whether to fight inside or outside Madina". Majority replied to fight inside the Madinah.

c. Battle of Khandaq = A huge number of enemies were coming to fight with Muslims. So, Holy Prophet (S.A.W) asked from companions "How to tackle a large number of enemy". Then his companions suggested to dig a huge trench.

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1. Espionage and Intelligence Activities
Spy is common technique to know the movement of enemy. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) established an effective spy system. Before the Battle of Badr, Holy Prophet (S.A.W) acted as spy himself. In the battle of Khandaq he sent Huzaifa R.A as spy to Abu Sufyan.

3. Holy Prophet Vigilance:
The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) was vigilant and he never describes his routes except to his closest companions.

4. A staunch believer in Meritocracy:
* The commanders appointed were always those who had expertise in military expeditions, even if they accepted Islam late, such as Khalid bin Walid & Amar bin Aas (R.A)
* Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) appointed Usama bin Zaid R.A as a commander of an extremely important battle even though he was 18 years old and the army consisted of many senior companions.

5. Use Of Trickey in war:
Holy Prophet (S.A.W) acknowledged the fact that the use of trickery is valid in war:

"War is deception"
(Al-Hadith)

This is one of the main reasons behind the victory in Khandaq.

6. Prior War Preparations:

Holy Prophet (S.A.W) commanded material preparation for war:

"Prepare against them whatever force you can, and the trained horses, whereby you fight Allah's enemy and your own enemy"

(Al-Quran)

The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) called for donations before Tabuk expedition and all the companions of prophet presented whatever they afford.

7. Praised his companions:

Holy Prophet (S.A.W) used to praise his companions who fought bravely. In the battle when Sa'ad bin Abi Waqqas throw (arrows) to enemies. The Prophet S.A.W said:

"O Sa'ad throw (arrows)! Let my father and mother be sacrificed for you."

5. Innovation:

Holy Prophet (S.A.W) accepted innovative ways of battle even if they were invented by non-Muslims. The digging of trench in Khandaq and use of catapult during the siege of Taif.

9. Teaching Manners Of War To His Companions:

Holy Prophet (S.A.W) taught manners of wars to his companions. These manners are:

- To stand firm.
- To remember Allah.
- Obedience to Allah by his messenger (S.A.W)
- Do not dispute
- Have Patience
- Do not boast
- Do not confront women, children & old people.
- Do not confront those who surrender
- Do not cut down trees and ready crops.
- Do not mutilate the enemies bodies.
- Do not attack at night.